A Treasury of A.A. Allen's Best Sermons

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A Message from Don Stewart

I have been in a Miracle Ministry since 1959. As a child, I was influenced by the Latter Rain Revival and the Healing Revival of the 1940's & 1950's. I attended the Revivals of many of the Healing Evangelists of that era, including William Branham, Oral Roberts, Clifton Erickson, and others. In 1958, I started traveling with A. A. Allen who mentored me.

I have been privileged to work very closely with Brother Allen and to know him well. This man of God pointed thousands of souls to the Lamb of God. He led multitudes of sick and dying to the feet of Jesus Christ, the Great Physician.

As Joshua held up the hands of Moses, I have humbly and proudly held up the hands of this man of God. As Elisha followed Elijah and asked only for a double portion of his spirit, I have followed A.A. Allen, and I've asked for and received a double portion of his spirit.

In fact, as Allen himself said in an issue of Miracle Magazine, *"The spirit of this ministry which I have is also...in Don Stewart. Often while Brother Stewart is preaching, singing, or receiving the offering, some of the greatest miracles of healing and financial blessings take place. When Brother Stewart prays for the sick, he does so with the same anointing that is upon me when I pray. When Don Stewart...ministers and meets the needs of the people, (he) does so with the same anointing that is upon me."*

He sent me out on my own from 1961 to 1964. That's when I had my own tent, truck, etc. In 1962, I was arrested in Charleston, S.C. for not segregating my meeting. For the next couple of years, I had great meetings all over the south, sometimes ministering with my friend, Dale Davis.

In 1964, A.A. Allen called me back to become an associate evangelist with him. For six years before his death in 1970, I ministered with him, Kent Rogers, and the great Gospel singer, Gene Martin. Upon A.A. Allen's death in June of 1970, I picked up his mantle and continued the ministry.

On September 11, 1971, I was the first Healing Evangelist to go to the new Madison Square Garden in New York City, where 22,000 people attended and 7,000 souls were saved. Dale Davis was involved with me and was in charge of Pastoral Relations. This crusade was called "Compassion Explosion." It was covered nationwide by the press. The Associated Press and many others news outlets, including "Rolling Stones" magazine, in the November 15, 1971 edition.

We continued great tent and auditorium meetings throughout the U.S.A. until 1975. Then we launched our international ministry to 86 different countries – different countries in Africa, Asia, South and Central America and Europe. In 1982, we had the largest crusade in the Philippines up to that time. According to the local police, there were over 500,000 people there.

In 1996, we came back to America and started a TV ministry because I felt that God was going to move in America again in Supernatural ways with Signs, Wonders and Miracles. The TV ministry has grown. Presently, we cover the U.S.A. nationally, on BET and the Word channels. As well as local stations. We are also on the Vision channel, covering all of Canada. Several stations cover Europe and the Philippines. We are witnessing the same hunger and miracles that we witnessed during the Healing Revival and during the 1960's with A.A. Allen.

I was touched by a number of the Healing Revival Evangelists, but the greatest impartation came from A.A. Allen, of course. I was around him for 12 years, six of those years, I was practically with him night and day. We all lived in trailer homes on the tent lots. Needless to say, he was my favorite, my spiritual father, my mentor.

My desire is that through these sermons you would receive, just as I did, an impartation of A.A. Allen's powerful Miracle anointing.

The Gift of Hope,

Don Stewart

Memories

Rev. Asa Alonso Allen

One of my favorite pictures

He delivered the Word with such power!

Me & AA preaching under the big Gospel Tent

Me in the '60's

My spiritual "Dad" -- A.A. Allen

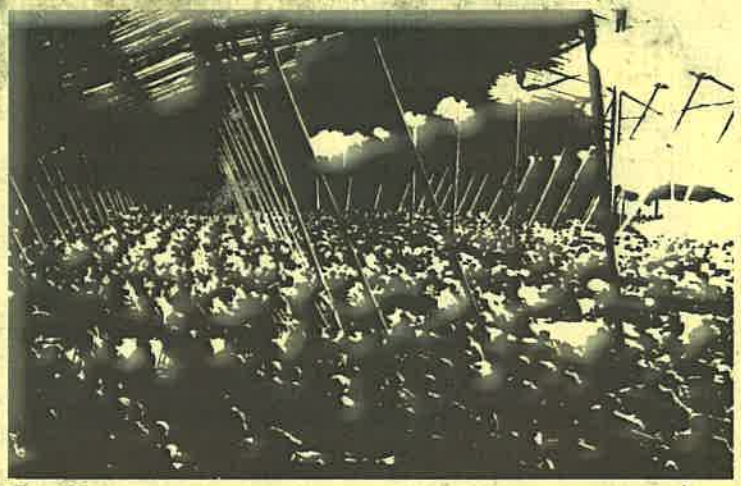
AA & I, giving a check to a Native American leader

One of the Gospel Tents

ground or otherwise savor
in time, the deep thub-
an's foot pedals flies away

58, is the nation's topmost
evangelical roarer. Though he's a blood-and-thu
fundamentalist, Allen is at least a practical

"LOOK" magazine Oct. 7, 69



The Tent was big enough to seat 22,000 people!

She came on a stretcher...

God healed her!

On the set of my "Power & Mercy" TV program

Madison Square Garden

Nearly 5,000 people came to the Altar

Thank You Jesus!

Signs, Wonders, Miracles

Hundreds of thousands of Africans attended each service

A Treasury of A. A. Allen's Best Sermons:

WILT THOU NOT REVIVE US AGAIN?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1959)

"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" **– Psalm 85:6**

In this verse of scripture, David is begging the Lord to send revival once more. Some people say, "Lord, what I want to see is revival, so people can get saved, healed and delivered." There are those who picture a revival as being nothing more than a healing campaign, a place where people get healed. While others lean backwards on what we might call a Revival of Deliverance. They talk about deliverance every time they preach. That's good!

There are some preachers who have an idea that revival is special music, special singing, or a robed choir. Some people call revival nothing but a series of lectures. Revival is not a lectureship; revival is not music only. It can include that, but a revival according to God's Word isn't a thing in the world but God's people praying through until they once more get a shout of victory, a shout of triumph, and can rejoice once more.

When God's people in the Church pray through to old-time revival, to where they can again rejoice and shout the praises of God, everything else in the world will take care of itself.

David here is saying, *"Wilt thou not revive us again; that thy people…"* may what? Go to church and hear a lecture? That thy people may go to church to listen to a robed choir? That thy people may go have a chicken dinner?

Some people call a revival nothing more than a gathering in the basement, where chicken or turkey is served, where ice cream is dished out, or watermelon is cut. Revival isn't watermelon cutting, or dishing out ice cream. Revival isn't putting a lace apron on the preacher and having him take your fifty cents for a turkey dinner. Revival isn't having a pie supper, raffling off Frigidaires, Plymouth automobiles, or giving away new bicycles on Sunday morning. No, revival is not any of the things I have just mentioned.

Revival is where God's people meet Him in such a way that the joy of the Lord fills their hearts until their grieving and mourning, their heavy spirit, as referred to in Isaiah 61, is lifted!

Isaiah said, *"…To give unto them…the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness…and the oil of joy for mourning…"* That is revival!

Joel declared in the 1st chapter, verse 10, *"The land mourneth."* The reason the land mourns is because it is in bondage, in captivity.

Too often now, we find the Church being robbed of her garment of praise. She is bowed down with a spirit of what I call "heaviness," which isn't a thing in the world but the pressure, the nervous tension that's binding millions of God's people today. There's only one thing in the world that will lift that spirit of heaviness, and that is: TO PUT ON THE GARMENT OF PRAISE!

If we could see the Church of Jesus Christ put on the garment of praise, be revived until she could shout and rejoice once more, could dance in the spirit like David of old, I would call that revival! David said, *"I went with them into the house of the Lord with…"* – with what? Not with a pie, not with a covered dish, not with a watermelon! No, he went

to shout the praises of God! Some churches can only get a crowd when they have a watermelon supper, and ice cream social, or a carnival.

Let me tell you this: Revival isn't a carnival; it isn't an auction block! Some people seem to think this scripture reads, "I went with them to the house of the Lord, with one of my home-made quilts to see if I could sell chances on it." That isn't revival!

When a church has a real revival, the women in the church are going to find something more important to do than make quilts. That may be all right in itself, as a way to spend your time, especially for those who are too old (as some think) to pray and too old to do personal work, if such a time ever comes. But my Bible tells me Miriam was still beating the tambourine, and leading the women up and down the shores of the Red Sea when she was past 90…about 92 years old! She was not leading them with a quilt in her hands; she didn't have a covered dish, and she hadn't announced a pie supper. She wasn't raffling off a thing. Do you know what she was doing? She was worshipping and praising God!

I believe until you get to be 90, or as old as Miriam was, you can still beat a tambourine and led the women in old-fashioned revival. What were they doing? They were shouting! They were beating their timbrels and dancing up and down the shores of the Red Sea. Do you know why? Deliverance had come! Revival had come to the church! Why? Because she was no longer in bondage; she was no longer in captivity! She was no longer under Pharaoh's whiplash!

Some people are still under Pharaoh's whiplash. All they know about a church is that it's a mere form of religion. Some dear consecrated ladies spend all their time making quilts. I say again, that is all right in itself; but if you are going to make quilts, why don't you give them to the poor in your church, instead of using them to raffle off in an attempt to help put money into the church treasury, because most of the people in the church are generally so backslidden in their souls they won't pay their tithes, they won't bring their offering to support the pastor and the church. Sometimes the preacher, himself, is so backslidden in his soul he's afraid to get up and preach a sermon on tithes and offerings, or to encourage the people to bring their offerings. Too often, he is afraid to take his stand for the Bible way to finance a church.

I would like to see an old-fashioned revival break out and continue until all the preachers pray through and preach the truth, until the women in the churches can be set free to worship and serve God as He intended. Instead of spending their time down in the basement laboring over a cook stove, frying chicken to sell, so the church can pay its bills, I'd rather see them pour a little water in that cook stove in the basement and move out into the upper room, and pray until the fire falls in the upper room. God give us more Holy Ghost fire in the upper room, and not so much fire in the supper room!

I'm going to tell you what real revival is. Revival is not music only; though, great music usually accompanies revival. Revival is not preaching, altogether; but in every real revival there will be great preaching…Holy Ghost anointed preaching! Revival is not merely going to church. Some people go to church year in and year out and never know what revival is. Revival isn't delivering intellectual sermons. **Revival is the power of God moving and working again in the hearts of God's people, until people can rejoice in God once more!**

Hear me! The people who go to church these days are not starving for chicken dinner, turkey dinners, oyster stews, watermelon or ice cream. The Church today is starving to death for green pastures…supernatural pastures. God said, *"I will feed my sheep."* But there is only one thing that will feed God's sheep and that's the same thing

that the New Testament church fed its sheep. The same thing the church in the wilderness was fed.

David said, *"Wilt Thou not revive us again? That thy people may rejoice in thee."* (Psalm 85:6).

I have told you what revival is not. Now I'm going to tell you what revival is! Most people have the idea that revival is the salvation of the lost, having men and women being saved. No, that's just the result of revival.

I'm all out for revival, old-fashioned Holy Ghost filled revival where the Spirit and the power of God moves, works, and operates. But we will never have revival in many of our churches across the nation until we somehow get rid of some of these things in the basement that I've referred to; until we get rid of some of our programs; until we get rid of some of our anthem-singing choirs and some of our special music.

One preacher said, "Brother Allen, the only reason I have the trio, the duets, and the solos, the quartets and the choir is just in the event God doesn't move. If the Spirit of God doesn't move, I at least have a beautiful program lined up."

I said, "Do not plan to have them and you will find that the Spirit of God will move!" Why? Not because those things in themselves are sin, but the reason he had them lined up was that he didn't believe God was going to move. That was the problem!

You don't come into my meetings every night and find that I have everything lined up – a solo, a duet, a trio, a quartet or a choir, just in the event God doesn't do anything!

If you line all those things up to take the place of God and the power of God and revival, God will let you go through without Him. You don't need Him. God will let you go ahead and have the soloist sing, the duets perform, the trio harmonize, and the quartets sing. Your audience may be entertained, but seldom will they feel the power of God.

It is sad but, too frequently, we find today that the Church is not a soul-saving station any more, where the power of God falls and God heals the sick; where demons are cast out. Too often the Church is not a thing in the world but a place of entertainment, where they feature beautiful music, lovely choirs, a book review or maybe a poem or two.

Why? Because the people can't stand the Word of God. It is a lot easier to read a poem than it is to bring down the power of God and the anointing of the Holy Ghost – to preach a sermon that will convict old Jezebel and Ahab.

God wants His people to have some social activity and to have some fellowship. But the best place for fellowship isn't around a table in the church basement.

When I pastored a church, I found that the best fellowship the church had was around an old-fashioned altar bench where the power of the Holy Ghost was falling; where men and women were receiving the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, speaking in other tongues; where God was pouring out His Spirit, and manifesting Himself through the various gifts of the Spirit; where the sick were being healed and demons were being cast out.

The greatest fellowship of all is when God's children have the blessing, the power, and the glory of God in their lives and unite in eating the "meat" that comes from heaven. I'm talking about that *"meat that you know not of"* – the fatted calf the Lord provides. I refer to that meat Jesus Himself puts on the table, which consists of all the good things for body, soul, mind and spirit.

You hear some pastors say, "We've got to have some kind of activity for the young people."

The best activity you can have for the young people is an old-fashioned prayer meeting that will last until midnight, or until 1:00 in the morning, around an old-fashioned altar. Of course, there are a lot of people who don't agree with me, but I know this to be a fact: when revival comes into your soul, when you become aflame with the power and the fire of the Holy Ghost; when you begin to get a vision of what true revival is, you will lose your former ideas of what you thought was revival. You will then want to go to work for God the scriptural way.

You will then want to spend your time in the upper room, where the fire of God is falling and God is doing something for your soul!

David said in Psalm 85:6, *"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?"* In Psalm 51:12, he said, *"Restore unto me!"* Why? Because David had lost it! *"Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation..."* Then he said, *"...Uphold me with thy free spirit."* Then...what? *"Then I will teach transgressors thy ways,"* and then, *"sinners shall be converted unto thee."*

I believe if it worked for David, it will work for the Church today. What is it? *"Restore unto me* (restore unto the Church*) the joy!"* What is "the joy?" Restore revival, because revival is nothing more than the joy of the Lord restored to God's people. David knew the importance of the joy of the Lord being restored in order that souls might be saved!

Revival is not feasting, dinners, music, singing, or preaching. Though it may include some of those things, Revival is exactly what David said – the rejoicing of God's people who have prayed through once more. Revival is the power of God coming down into the lives of the people who have opened their hearts toward God and to the need which they know exists in their own church or life, or individual Christian experience.

Souls getting saved at an altar isn't revival; that is only the result of revival. You may hear someone say, "Have you heard about the big revival down here?" I could say, "I don't know whether it's a revival or not. Is there any old-fashioned joy of the Lord there? Are the people rejoicing in the Lord? Is the power of God falling? That is your test of revival.

I say, "What have you been doing if you haven't been teaching transgressors His ways?" He has been doing something else, and I'll tell you why: because he doesn't have the joy of the Lord! He once had it, but he lost it!

I say again, the reason the Church of today has lost her joy is because she has neglected the fire of the Holy Ghost. Joel said, *"The new wine* (the Holy Ghost! That's the joy of the Lord) *is dried up! The vine is withered."* What? The grape vine that produces the new wine, the Holy Ghost of Acts, chapter two, which to us typifies the joy and the gladness of God – the garments of praise and rejoicing.

David said, "I need something, Lord," then again, "If you'll give it to me, I will teach transgressors the ways of God" Why David? You used to teach transgressors God's way. What have you been doing now?

Here's one of the greatest secrets of the Bible, and it concerns what Joel said in chapter one, *"The new wine is dried up...and the vine is withered...the land mourneth."*

Isaiah 61 refers primarily to a certain church age in which a spirit of heaviness has come upon the people. Joel calls it "mourning." David said, "We haven't been able to teach transgressors the ways of God nor to see sinners converted to God because there is not sufficient joy in my heart nor in the hearts of the people."

Do you know what Joel said? Chapter one, verse 12. He said: *"The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple*

tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men."

This is a picture of the Church that ought to be out reaping the whitened harvest field and taking salvation to the lost and deliverance to the captive! She is bearing no fruit! Joy has withered away from the hearts of God's people, not only from those sitting in the pews, but from those ministering in the pulpits.

You may ask, "What does joy have to do with reaping the whitened harvest field? That is what David meant! I'm giving you the Word of God for it. One of the first evident signs of backsliding is when you lose your gladness, your joy, your shout of victory, and your shout of triumph!

In Joel 1:13 God has called His ministers together and said, *"Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl, ye ministers of the altar: come, lie all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of my God..."*

Why? Because joy has withered away from the hearts of the sons of men. Not only are sinners failing to come in, but much of the harvest of the field has already perished! The fig tree (which means healing for the people) "languisheth." The pomegranate tree has withered and died, which means the miraculous that should be operating in the Church is no longer operating. Today, there are so many people who are sick, afflicted and bound.

Revival is not a soul getting saved, a body being healed, or a demon coming out. Those are results of revival. Philip, one of the deacons in the early Church, went to Samaria and had a great city-wide revival, and the Bible says that *"unclean spirits, crying with loud voices, came out of many that were possessed of them"* (Acts 8). Read the entire account of that great revival in Samaria and you will find that the entire city was happy and there was great rejoicing!

I'm talking about the joy of the Lord in connection with the salvation of the lost, the healing of the sick, the diseased and afflicted. If you want to find the reason for sickness, disease, and infirmity, according to the Word of God, look in the 28th chapter of the Book of Deuteronomy. In that chapter, God has listed all the sicknesses, all the diseases, all the infirmities that have ever come upon mankind. Among them, he lists blindness, itch, scab, and the botch of Egypt.

Read the 45th verse: *"Moreover all these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed; because thou hearkenedst not unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded thee; And they shall be upon thee for a sign and for a wonder, and upon thy seed for ever."*

Why do these curses come upon them? Read the 47th verse: *"Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God WITH JOYFULNESS, AND WITH GLADNESS OF HEART, for the abundance of all things."*

God said (read it in verse 45), *"...All these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed."*

There has never been so much sickness, so much disease, and so much infirmity in the Church, and among church people. Never have there been so many people coming out to our meetings to be delivered, healed, and set free. Never before have we heard from so many people who are listening to our radio broadcasts. People who listen to our radio programs are being healed as they hear of the miraculous things that are happening in our services. When they hear us describe how blind eyes are opened, or tell of the lame walking again, and of the deaf hearing, their faith rises to where they, too, can believe

God for a miracle. They have watched our telecasts and have seen miracle after miracle performed and they know it is real. These things inspire their faith until they say, "I'm going to attend an Allen Campaign; there, God is going to open my eyes; God is going to let me walk again! I'm going to get out of my wheel chair!"

Some who have not been delivered had failed to remove the cause of their sickness or affliction. They had failed to serve God with joyfulness!

Some people criticize the music in our services. We like lively music because our experience is alive, and we are alive! God said, *"I will give thee the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness."*

When the spirit of heaviness lifts, gladness comes into our hearts and we serve God with gladness. Then we want glad music. That is why the Lord said in Psalm 100:1, *"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."* Why? Because we're joyful in our spirits. Because we are serving the Lord with gladness!

I repeat, God said the reason there is so much sickness, disease, and infirmity is because *"thou servedst not the Lord thy God with joyfulness and with gladness of heart..."* (Deuteronomy 28:47).

I have mentioned ordinary sickness, disease and infirmity, which could be your cancer, many types of sickness, disease, etc., but I want to refer now to Deuteronomy 28:18: *"The Lord shall smite thee with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart. And thou shalt grope at noonday, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways: and thou shalt be only oppressed and spoiled evermore, and no man shall save thee."*

Here is the verse I want you to read carefully (Deuteronomy 28:48). God is speaking here of a yoke of iron that shall be about thy neck, THAT NO MAN CAN BREAK! "Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee...and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck!" He goes further to tell us the reason in verse 47: *"Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things."*

Let's consider all these together. The Lord said, "Thou shalt be smitten with madness, thou shalt be only oppressed continually (mentally oppressed)...Thou shalt have a yoke of iron about thy neck" which means bondage and captivity – the mental sickness and disease (the nervous disorders) of today.

Why? Because there is no joy in your heart, no gladness in your soul. Contrast this with Isaiah 61:3, where the Lord promised to give *"the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness...and the oil of joy for mourning."*

The Word of God says that mental sickness has crept upon the world as a curse; that people are being smitten with madness and are oppressed continually; they have a yoke of iron about their neck!

But, Praise the Lord, IT CAN BE BURNED OFF, IF YOU GET ENOUGH HOLY GHOST FIRE!

I'm praying for everyone of you hearing this message, "God send the oil!" I'm not speaking of the oil that can be seen on the hands, something to be seen on the head. I'm speaking of that something which can be felt – THE OIL OF JOY! THE OIL OF THE HOLY GHOST!

Oil, all the way through the Bible, as well as wine, has typified the joy of the Lord. I say again, God send joy once more. Let the anointing come upon God's people. Send the wine; send the new wine! Send the Holy Ghost! Send a Holy Ghost Revival! Put a fire once more in the upper room. Destroy the fire in the supper room.

Oh Lord, Give us once more an old-fashioned, Holy Ghost revival from heaven, that will anoint God's people; that will break the yokes off the necks of His people!

God, send revival that will bring gladness and joy to the hearts of God's people, that transgressors can be taught once more the ways of God, and sinners brought to God! Dress us up with the garments of praise! Lift that spirit of heaviness form your Church. Lift the foul curse of madness!

Lord, give us the oil of joy for our mourning!

SILVER AND GOLD HAVE I NONE

(A. A. ALLEN – 1959)

When I first entered the ministry, it was the desire of my heart to pastor a New Testament Church – the kind that Paul and Peter preached to, where the gifts of the Spirit, healings, miracles, prophecy, and faith were being exercised.

I began to make a study of the great miracles and healings in the New Testament after the Holy Ghost had fallen on the day of Pentecost. I was amazed how many times I found such expressions as: *"They were all with one accord;" "They were all of one mind;" "They were of one heart and one soul;" "They were all in one place."*

I examined the first apostolic miracle. Just before Peter and John performed that first miracle, they had come from a meeting where all the believers were *"of one accord, in one place."* They had one purpose, one thing to do, one thing in mind. Everybody wanted the same thing at the same time, for the same reason. And Peter said to that lame man at the beautiful gate of the Temple, *"In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."*

If that same Apostle were to come back to earth today, and had to preach in the kind of atmosphere some of you preachers have to preach in, he might not have a bit more success than you have had. The atmosphere is important. It's up to the congregation to provide the right atmosphere for miracles; and it's up to the minister to lead them. I don't care who you are, or what church you pastor, if you will preach the truth (and you can if you are not afraid of losing your pulpit) and if your people will believe and accept it, and back it up with old fashioned prayer and consecration, God will make it a New Testament Church with signs, wonders, and miracles.

Most churches today are providing a supper room atmosphere instead of an upper room atmosphere. They've come down from the "upper room" and built a fire in the kitchen stove in the basement. They are serving fried chicken, apple pie, and ice cream.

They've put a pink apron on the preacher and have made him a waiter. He gets a dollar for every plate he carries out. That was never God's way of providing for the church. God had another way!

Some of the good old "saints" say piously, "I don't believe in gambling. The law ought to close up all those gambling dives in Nevada!" There just isn't very much difference in putting a dollar or a quarter into a slot machine for the jackpot at Las Vegas, and paying a dollar or a quarter to a priest, or a "sister," or some other religious person, for a chance on an automobile, bicycle, Frigidaire, or quilt. Gambling is gambling, whether you do business with a church or a "one arm bandit" in a tavern or a casino.

With that kind of atmosphere in the church, no wonder blind eyes are not opened! No wonder demon spirits don't come out! No wonder sickness and disease continue to increase, and the church is powerless to do anything about it! No wonder the very pastors in those churches fight and oppose anyone who is exercising the power of God! Their "kingdoms" are threatened!

According to scriptural precedent, even Christ could do nothing in such an atmosphere. "HE COULD THERE DO NO MIGHTY WORK." At Nazareth, where He had grown to manhood, Christ could do no mighty works, save that He laid His hands on

a "few sick folk" and healed them (Mark 5). And He went around their villages teaching. He marveled at their unbelief.

But in the third chapter of Acts, a mighty miracle – the first apostolic miracle – took place. The chapter just before closed with these words, *"And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men as every man had need"* (Acts 2:42-45).

One man didn't say, "I am rich," while another didn't have necessary bread. You didn't find one man with a big bank account while his neighbor was broke. The early church wasn't like that. They had all things common.

"And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:46-47).

Now, turn to chapter four*: "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: Neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common"* (Acts 4:32). They didn't say, "This is MINE." They said, "This is OURS."

They sold their farms and their ranches, their homes and their cattle, and they brought what they had received and laid it at the Apostles' feet. They divided unto every man as he had need. There was such love among the brethren that nobody said ought of the goods that he possessed were his own. That was old time religion and brotherly love!

What a wonderful atmosphere for healing the sick! How wonderful it would be if the church today could say, "We are all in one accord. We only want one thing for the glory of God." Miracles come from an atmosphere of unity, consecration, and brotherly love.

When Peter and John stopped there at the temple gate on the way to a prayer meeting, and saw that man impotent in his feet from the time he was born, and asking alms, Peter could honestly say, *"Silver and gold have I none."* You say, 'How could He? All those people had just brought all that money and piled it at his feet. How could he say he didn't have any?"

Here was a man who was the pastor of a huge church – three thousand added one day and five thousand the next – all paying tithes and giving liberal offerings, and even beyond that, selling their land, good, possessions, and piling the money from the sale of their possessions at the Apostle's feet (the Bible says it). Yet Peter claimed NONE OF IT as his own. He was an honest man. He did the right thing with God's money.

We need preachers who, when the people have placed their sacrifices on the altar, will be big enough to leave them there, instead of piling them up in their own bank accounts or buying income properties with them.

When the Church has preachers like Peter who, although they could have access to millions, yet can honestly say, "Silver and gold have I none," we will see more miracles. Peter wasn't interested in money. There was only one thing he was interested in – doing the will of God!

Preachers, when money truly means nothing to us, when we want God more than gold, when brotherly love means more than lands, then God will work with us, confirming His Word with signs following!

Saints, when you want the power of God to move and work and operate through you more than you want beautiful homes and deep rugs, lovely furniture, business success and social position – when you want the power of God in your life and in your church more than you want bank accounts and financial security, then you are going to have GOD!

The time is here when God is going to perform the miraculous. God has said, *"I will do a new thing."* He has said that He will restore the years the locust has eaten, and whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered. For in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, shall be deliverance.

The time has come when we are going to have deliverance the same as in the early church, but we will never have it until we pay the same price. We will not have it until once again the church – pastors and people – puts everything on the altar. The saints are going to have to be so concerned for the lost, the sick, the bound, and the oppressed that they will put God's work ahead of their lands and possessions. And the ministers will have to consecrate their all for the salvation of the lost, to bring men and women to God.

One time, a rich young man came running to Jesus. It seemed that surely he meant business with God. The Bible says he fell at the feet of Jesus. Surely this young man was going to pray through and rise with shouts of victory. Bystanders might have said, "Behold his zeal! Such conviction! Such earnestness! He's really going to take the blessing home with him."

The rich young man asked a question of Jesus: *"What must I do to be saved?"* Jesus pointed hi back to the law: *"Thou knowest the commandments,"* and He began to enumerate them.

The young man said, *"Lord, all these things have I kept from my youth up. WHAT LACK I YET?"* (Luke 18:18-23). (You will never make it to heaven by the things you DON'T do!)

Jesus had an answer. He said, *"One thing thou lackest."* (Could it be that some who hear me today are lacking the very same thing?) Jesus said, *"Go, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give it unto the poor. And come take up thy cross daily* (every day) *and follow me."*

The young man rose from his knees, turned and went away sorrowful. He had so wanted salvation. But there was something else he wanted more. The poor could starve to death before his eyes, but he would not part with his possessions. Christ had placed his finger upon the young man's idol!

What would YOU do? What have you DONE, when Jesus asked for your all on the altar? I'm not just talking about the power of God in operation in the church to perform the miraculous. I'm talking about salvation, about inheriting eternal life, about the very thing that would keep you from the gifts of the Spirit and the power of God in your life here and now.

The Bible says that young man was grieved *"because he had great possessions."* He need not have been. Like those in the early church just after the day of Pentecost, he could have been a happy, powerful Christian. His grief was caused by the fact that he would not give up his riches, even for the salvation of his soul. Was this too much to ask, when a man had such great possessions?

Jesus was rich once (II Corinthians 8:9), yet He became poor for our sakes that through His poverty we might be made rich – not in money, bank accounts, lands and goods, but rich in spiritual things. God wants His people to be rich in spiritual power, rich

in faith, rich in spiritual gifts, rich in the Holy Ghost, rich in the miraculous power of God!

The Church has never been so grieved before. She has great possessions; she has fine edifices, and robed choirs. Her parking lots are full of late model cars. Her members vie with one another for the most elegant dress. The poor are pushed aside, and sent to a little mission down in the slums. The Church boasts, *"I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing,"* and knows not that she is *"wretched and miserable, and poor, and blind and naked."* (See Revelation 3:17).

It was for this reason that Joel declared, *"The land mourneth."* But God said, *"I will give you the garments of praise for the spirit of heaviness, and the oil of joy for mourning."*

But in all the world today, the Church is groaning and moaning, bound, tied, fettered, powerless! The curse of madness is upon the world, because she loves her money more than she loves God. People who call themselves Christians won't give a dollar for God's work unless they get a turkey dinner in exchange. They won't pay their tithes. Even in a nationwide magazine, a great boast is raised when a congregation decides to be so liberal as to give God one percent. God have mercy upon professing saints who have made the Church a second hand store, or a tax-free restaurant, or a gambling den! These things are on open shame!

Jesus is not coming back for that kind of Church! The Church He will come back for as His bride is a Church like the one He left – a Church full of the Holy Ghost, full of brotherly love, where not one will say that the goods he possesses are his own. The Church Jesus will come for will have ministers big enough not to take advantage of the simple liberality of God's consecrated saints for personal gain, but will see that it is used in the right channels.

What did Jesus ask you for? Has God asked you for anything lately? Or has He already learned that you would only say "no." Have you already hardened your heart against such a call?

I want to talk right into your heart and tell you about an experience I have had recently. Night after night in the Philadelphia campaign, as I stood to take the offering, God would speak to my heart. He said, *"Silver and gold have I none."* I would look up and say, "Lord, I don't have a big bank account. I just keep enough in the bank to pay my tithes by check so I can have a receipt for my income tax return, and to make my monthly payments."

In the New York campaign, God would speak to my heart and say, "Son, I want you to stand up and say like Peter, 'Silver and Gold have I none'." I said, "Lord, I don't have any money. I send all I get to Miracle Valley to help build the training school there." I got a love offering in Philadelphia, but I sent it all to Miracle Valley. The love offering I got in Greensboro went to Miracle Valley the next day. I said, "Lord, I don't have any money."

God said, "You've got a Cadillac. You can't say 'Cadillacs have I none.'"

Down through the years I used to declare that I would never have a Cadillac, but my colored friends in Oakland made the first one possible. A big, red one, with gold wheels. I thought, "Lord, You gave it to me, and why shouldn't I keep it?"

I drove it for a while and got under conviction. Too many people found fault. I don't want anything that will cause anyone to stumble. So I traded it off. I said, "God, I'll never have another one." And I meant it.

But in Tulsa this year, God gave me another one. It was a pretty thing – six-way power seat, electric windows, air-conditioned. You didn't even have to dim the headlights. They dimmed themselves. I didn't have time to drive it. I had it three months and didn't drive it more than a few miles. But every time I got up to take an offering, I saw that big, gold colored Cadillac.

In Chicago, God said to me one night, "I want you to give that Cadillac away." I said, "Lord, I want to be sure it's You!" I tell you, you want to be awfully sure when you give away something worth six thousand dollars.

I prayed about it all that night, and all through the next day. I had a clear title to it. It had only a few thousand miles on it – just like new! I said, "God, to whom do You want me to give it?" He told me a name.

After the service that night, I asked one of the brothers to come over to the office. I found God had been working there, too. This brother had an old beat-up Buick, with almost a hundred thousand on it. They had shopped and shopped for a car, but God wouldn't let them buy one. God knew He was going to give them one!

I said, "Brother, here is the title to my Cadillac. Tomorrow I want to stand up in the pulpit when I take the offering and say like Peter, silver and gold have I none!"

I don't know what God will tell you to give. I don't know what He will tell you to do. But I know this, if you want to go through with God – if you want to have God's power in your life – if you want to inherit eternal life – whatever He tells you to do, you had better do it!

Remember this: NOTHING THAT YOU POSSESS IS YOUR OWN! You are not even your own. You were bought with a price, not of silver or gold, but the precious blood of Jesus. You have nothing that He did not give you. You have it in your possession because He has put it there. You are His steward, to use it according to His will. You may say with your lips, "It is all His. Silver and God have I none." But God knows your heart. Are you using it as though it belongs to God…or to you?

My friend said, "You can't mean it! Why are you giving me your Cadillac?" I said, "I do mean it! Because God told me to do it!"

The devil told me I was crazy, but God blessed my soul, for now I could say from my heart, "Silver and gold have I none." I mean to keep it that way, for I have learned that the preacher who can say from his heart, "Silver and gold have I none," can also say, *"In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"*

I sat down on the platform one night and my eyes fell upon a pair of cuff links. They were beautiful, but not expensive. I had bought them in Manila for 75 cents in American money. But they looked expensive. They were large diamond shaped links with a topaz in the middle. Some people might think they were worth $150.00.

God said, "I want you to take them out of your sleeves. If you can wear those in your cuffs, you have no business preaching about earrings in women's ears. You are wearing those gaudy things for the same reason the women wear the earrings and beads around their necks."

People give me a lot of those pretty things – and I appreciate their beauty. But I cleaned out my box. I don't want to do anything that will cause another to stumble, to be offended, or to be made weak. I want to go through with Jesus!

When He came riding in to Jerusalem, He came riding on a borrowed ass. The garments on His body had been given to Him – hand-me-downs! He said, *"The birds have nests, the foxes have holes, but the Son of Man hath no place to lay his head."* For His prayer room, He went alone into the mountain and prayed all night long. They buried

Him in a borrowed tomb. There was never a time when Jesus couldn't say, *"Silver and gold have I none."*

Year after year, He was so poor so that we could be rich. He suffered for us, leaving us an example that we should follow His steps!

Some people imagine that evangelists who have big tents, trucks, office equipment, schools, are worth fortunes. I want to tell you something. My wife and I had more money for our own use when we were holding meetings in local churches. Last fall, when there was not enough to buy food for the students at Miracle Valley, my wife mortgaged her old Oldsmobile for all she could get on it, so the students would have food. She is still paying it out – a payment every month.

These things are on my heart. None of these things are my own. They belong to God. I am giving my life for them, because they are God's! Like Hannah of old – when Eli accused her of being beside herself – I have poured out my soul.

Jesus is coming back for a Church – coming for her to be His bride. He has told us what she is going to be like. He has not declared that a group of people who have chosen this name or that name for themselves will be His bride. But He has described her. Her heart and soul will be one filled with His! She will be clean, righteous and holy. She will be filled with love, and adorned with good works and the gifts of the Holy Ghost. She will be earnestly looking forward to His coming and preparing for her life with Him – not preparing for many years of comfort on this earth.

I intend to be in that bride! Do you?

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)

SIGNS, WONDERS, MIRACLES

Yesterday, Today, and Forever!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1959)

"He hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." **- Isaiah 61:1**

God has a multitude of people today who need to be liberated and set free. Down through the ages God has never allowed His people to stay in bondage and captivity when they wanted to be liberated, loosed, or set free.

If you are not free from everything, you are bound by something. And, if you are bound by any little thing, you are not free from everything.

Jesus is coming back for a delivered Church – not a Church that is still under Pharaoh's (Satan's) whiplash. Jesus is coming back for a Church that has come out of bondage – out of captivity.

The Israelites began to realize that they were in bondage, in captivity, and cried out for deliverance. God heard their cry and raised up a man to deliver them. It took God forty years to get a man ready. Eighty years, rather – for after Moses decided he wanted to liberate his people, he spent 40 more years at the backside of the desert in training for the great work God was preparing him to do.

When he returned to Egypt, he went immediately to Pharaoh and said, "Let my people go!" Pharaoh was not ready, however, to let God's people go. God had decreed that Pharaoh was not going to rule His children any longer. He was no longer going to stand over God's children with a whiplash. Pharaoh was as determined not to let them go. He said, "I will not let them go!"

God performed miracle after mighty miracle to set His people free. After the Lord took the first-born of every Egyptian family in death, Pharaoh released God's people and let them go.

Many people say they don't believe in miracles for today. The greatest miracle of all is when God stands over the devil and says, "Let that man go! Let that woman go! Take that whiplash off that man or that woman, and let them go!"

I do not have time to quote from every book in the Bible, but God's Word tells us there was a mighty liberation – a mighty coming out – a mighty coming away – out from under Pharaoh's whiplash, when God set His people free.

As is always true of the devil, Pharaoh decided he wanted them back and he sent his army to pursue the children of Israel, after they had been liberated. They had been his slaves. He was going to take them back and put them in bondage again.

When the children of Israel got to the Red Sea, it looked as though there was no way for them to go – the sea was in front, 20 miles wide; mountains were on either side of them and Pharaoh's host was behind them. But God told Moses to do something. He was going to perform another miracle. He said, "Moses, stretch out thy rod over the Red Sea." When Moses obeyed Him, lo and behold, that Red Sea parted and they ALL marched through on dry ground.

The skeptic, modernist, and the infidel don't like to admit that God performs miracles today. But, if you follow God's children all the way from bondage, out of their captivity and on out through the Red Sea, you will see that miracle after miracle was performed. We are told that where God opened the Red Sea was at the deepest place. It was eighty-four feet deep and nearly twenty miles across. When God parted that water, there arose two solid walls of water like a large clear piece of glass.

When God performs a miracle and makes a way for you, you have to start walking! There are some people today who, if God led them out of Satan's bondage and captivity, would be afraid to start walking. Many would be afraid the waters would fall back in on them before they got across to the other side and that they would be drowned on the way. That is why many people stay in bondage and captivity. They have seen the miracles God has performed, but are afraid to keep walking. Many today, after God has performed a miracle in their life, have lost their healing because they fear to keep on walking with God. They hear some one say, "It might not hold good; it might not be from God, or of God; it might not be from heaven," and they begin to doubt God and lose all they have received.

Many people see miracles under our gospel "Big Top" night after night, but have listened to "old slew foot" so long they will not believe God. Many have seen miracles God performed and knew it was miraculous, yet, they were afraid to step out with the rest of God's children and enjoy it. They were afraid to start marching.

When people get sick and tired of their bondage and captivity, tired of seeing the devil so close on their trail; when God opens their eyes and shows them that they are defeated if they turn around and go back…then they're going to start walking!

Those Israelite walked miles through that Red Sea, with hundreds of feet of water on either side of them and, bless your hearts, it didn't even roll in on them. For the Bible says, *"They walked upon dry land!"* Glory be to God!

What a miracle! They didn't even get their feet wet! That was an awful lot of water for them to come through dry shod! God lets a lot of things happen when we start out on our pilgrim journey, to test our faith. Right through that path in the sea, close behind them, came Pharaoh (a type of the devil). Everything that happened in the Old Testament has a spiritual application in the New Testament Church.

There came Pharaoh's host – all of his army, all of his horses. Some of those Israelites said, "Oh, my God, he's coming after us to take us back. He's coming after us! I told you it wouldn't work!"

Do you know what God did? Right in the midst of it all God said to Moses, "Do something!" Moses did something, and another miracle took place.

When God performs a miracle, He always tells somebody to do something! Whatever it is that God tells you to do, if you will do it, in faith and obedience to God, a miracle will take place. Every step of the journey from Egypt to Canaan was a miracle!

When Moses did what God told him to do, what happened? The waves of the Red Sea began to roll in and the enemy became powerless! Every one of them, Pharaoh's host and Pharaoh, died in the midst of the Red Sea. They sank to the bottom like stone, according to the fifteenth chapter of Exodus. And the children of Israel saw the mighty work that God had performed upon Pharaoh and his army. When they were safe on the other side, little old Miriam grabbed her tambourine, started shaking it, beating it, and singing. All the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances, because they saw that GREAT WORK which God had done upon the Egyptians.

For the Israelites, the way got dark. Sometimes, when you begin to follow Jesus, it may get dark, but don't worry, the light is coming – even if God has to send a supernatural miracle from heaven to lighten the way. He'll send the fire by night, and the cloud by day. Up in the sky, there was a mighty pillar of fire that watched over the whole camp of the Israelites, a symbol of the power of God.

Why was it there? To let the people of God know that they were on the right path, and to show to those people around them that He was watching over His own! He was showing that He was with them, and that they were not to be afraid. When they looked up through the dark night, they could see that pillar of fire. When daylight came, they saw a cloud hovering over the camp. Every eye could see it. You may ask, where did it come from? It came from heaven! It came from God! It was something supernatural, something miraculous from God, so the people would not doubt His leading!

Of course, there were some in the camp that said, "I wish I was back around those old flesh pots in Egypt. I tell you, folks, I think we had better go back. I'm afraid our shoes are going to wear out and I don't know of any shoe factories around here."

They didn't have any rubber soles to wear, or foam rubber cushions to sit on all day, or any hydromatic automobiles to drive as we have now. They didn't have a streetcar or bus. Nothing but their own little old feet to carry them along.

What a marvelous thing God did! In all those forty long years, not one of them wore a hole in the bottom of his shoes! Why? Because God performed miracle after miracle after miracle to show them that He was with them.

You say, "I would be a little careful in saying that cloud was from God! I've seen clouds before. Oh, I'll confess that it is a little peculiar in shape and it does seem funny that it follows us everywhere we go, but, I would wager, if I was a betting man, that some of you people have just become rain fanatics – keeping your eyes on this cloud, shouting, hollering and yelling. Come on, let's settle down here. Every time you see something a little strange and peculiar, you holler your heads off. You had better watch out, for you know in the last days the devil is going to show lying signs and wonders!"

One will reply, "But this is God. Why, look at my shoes! I've worn them for thirty years! Look, they are as good as new. You mean that is not God? Why, I've worn these same shoes over all those mountains. Do you mean to tell me that's not God?"

The skeptic replies, "Oh, well, some things just happen. They would have probably worn that long anyway. Why attribute that to God? It could be the devil was making your shoes wear so long. I would be a little careful about saying that God was doing all these things. You know, the devil does things like that, too, and you know, I'm just scared to death of these people."

When night came again, the children of Israel saw that strange fire appear over the camp. The people around them heard people shouting and rejoicing. God had said, "This is the way, walk ye in it." This is God's path…the path God provided for them. In the morning, quails came around the camp. Someone asked, "Where are all those birds coming from?" Another answered, "God sent them!" Another replied, "Everyone knows there are no quails in or around this camp. Anyone knows there are no quails in this part of the country."

God must have created them! They came up around the camp every day! My, what a miracle! And for what? To feed God's people!

When morning came, everybody went out early to gather light bread from heaven. I said, "To get manna from heaven!" There was something mighty strange about that manna. That light bread had to be gathered at a certain time, and it lasted only so long. If

you didn't get it when you were supposed to get it, it spoiled. You couldn't get enough to last day after day. It was something that had to be gathered fresh every morning. Some of them tried to store up enough for several days, but when they did, it always spoiled.

I am sure some of them said, "Maybe this is miraculous, but I don't like the strangeness of it. Some of these things are so strange and peculiar, it just makes me wonder if it's God."

Can't you just hear the skeptic talking? Here comes a man down off the mountain. He's been with God. He's been talking to God and God has been talking with him. There is such glory and power, and such a glow about him. They even had to put a veil on his face. Nobody could look on his face because of the glory and the power of Almighty God that shone from his face.

All the way through the Bible – whether it was the people or the preacher – this has been God's way to lead and care for His people down through the ages. Miracle after miracle was performed, yet there are people who say, "Oh, we don't need miracles today. You know, we have God's Word now!"

My friend, you can't even receive the gospel without accepting the miraculous! I said, you can't take a journey from bondage to freedom without taking the miraculous along with it!

The children of Israel got out on the desert and found they had no water. You may ask, "Why didn't God make it come out of the ground?" Now, anybody knows that the natural thing and the natural place for water to come from is out of the ground. Why didn't He just show them where to dig a well?

People will say, "I tell you the thing that's peculiar about this, and the thing that's hard for me to believe, is why God would tell someone to speak to an old rock."

They say, "Now that's what makes me wonder if it's not of the devil – getting water out of a rock. Why would God tell somebody to get water out of a rock? If He had told him to get it out of the ground, it would have been more natural and easier for me to understand. That would correspond to reason and appeal to man's intellect. But getting it out of a rock? I'm telling you, you had better watch these people who have an old canvas over their heads and something made out of badger skins – talking about lasting for forty years! You had better be careful about these people who are telling these strange tales about quails coming around the camp every night, and light bread coming from heaven every day!"

They say, "You had better be careful about this crazy bunch of fanatics who talk about a strange cloud coming down in the tent or over a congregation of people, who talk about a flame and a fire every night. Why don't they just settle down and be nice folks?" They probably said, "I could have taken some of it, but I don't know whether I could take this business about water coming out of a rock. These people keep talking about all these supernatural things. I don't understand it. How do they say they got it? Now who ever heard of such a thing as speaking to a rock? What will they be talking about next?"

Another said, "Did you hear the new one I heard this morning, that many in the camp got snake-bitten and were about to die? Do you know what they did? They took an old stick out there and put a serpent of brass on it and stuck it up out there in the desert and told all who were sick to look on it and live!" (See Numbers 21:8-9).

"Everybody started looking at it! What will they do next? Do you know what they told? They said that everybody that looked at the brazen (brass) serpent got healed. That's another one of those healing campaigns that's got something new, I guess."

Some of their officials probably said, "If I catch you down at that Moses' tent, I'm going to 'church' everyone of you. Don't let me hear that any of my saints have been down there to that place, looking at a brass snake on a pole to get healed!"

Then he said, "Do you know what they told me last night? I wouldn't feel so badly about it if they would do it nicely – be dignified and quiet about it, you know. They could just call it sort of a public epidemic and treat it quietly, but they tell me they put that old pole out where everybody can see it. Millions of people can see it!"

He continues, "I think they ought to do it quietly, back in the prayer room, and say, 'Father, if it be Thy will, You will heal this precious, dear sister.' Now, we believe in prayer for the sick, and we believe in healing and miracles, but there's one thing we'll never go for and that's people looking at an old stick with a serpent hanging on it to get healed. I told you it was going to go from bad to worse. I don't know what these people will be doing next!"

Another replied, "I tell you, folks, I'm scared to death. I believe we ought to have a council; get these chief scribes and the chief elders together. We need to come to some kind of decision about this man who has taken all these people out of bondage. You know he has a mighty following now."

The first man said, "Do you know why they keep following? No? Well, when the people begin to get discouraged, they see something strange again (another miracle). If it's not water coming out of a rock, it's something coming out of heaven and everybody says they are getting food down there, and they are eating!"

Didn't God say, "I will feed my sheep"? God can send manna from heaven and God still knows how to make quails. He'll give water in the wilderness and open rivers in the desert. He'll give drink to His chosen. Glory to His name!

Another said, "What will they be telling next? Now, I've really heard it. You know what? I'm scared to death for my people to go down there. Every time they come home they tell me something different. They said there was a little old widow lady down there last night. The poor little thing had just a hand full of meal left in her meal barrel, and only a few droops of oil in her oil cruse. And do you know what that preacher told her? That preacher told that woman, if she would make him a cake first, that old barrel of meal never would go empty and that cruse of oil would never fail. And do you know what? That little old lady didn't have any more sense than to scrape out every last bit of that meal she ought to have been feeding that little boy of hers. Then, you know what she did with it? She gave it to that old fellow that calls himself a prophet."

"Oh, no!"

"Yes, she did! But, of course, they tell a strange tale it, but I don't believe the rest of it. I might believe part of it, but I sure don't believe the rest of it. That's more than I can swallow."

"What do they tell about it?"

"They said that little old widow came back this afternoon and testified that she had found more meal in that old barrel, and she turned that oil cruse over and oil started running out. She says it's a continuous miracle, because she scraped it out and gave God's man the last cake!"

"But do you know, some of my most intelligent people are believing that stuff…some of my intellectuals. I'm amazed! Surprised! Sometimes, I'm even tempted to believe it myself. But, I dare not believe it because if I do I'm ruined. You know, certain ones have failed to stamp their approval upon this. They're out to destroy it. You would

never hear any of our big preachers, general overseers, or District Superintendents ever tell a tale like that!"

"Another story they tell is about that little old fellow that God has out there in the wilderness. Do you know what he had the audacity to tell, and, when he told it, that bunch of people jumped up and shouted and yelled like maniacs. They said they believed it. He said that a raven came over every day and parachuted him down some meat and bread…that God fed him food from heaven every day."

Another said, "I think it's time my people settled down. It's time our people come home and quit roving. I think we'll settle down and become more Sunday School minded. We need to be a little more educational minded…a little more solid. I tell you, this is rank fanaticism! If it's not quails coming up around the camp, it it's not light bread coming down from heaven, they're talking about water running out of a rock, or ravens dropping food down, or people looking at an old serpent made of brass stuck up on a pole and getting people healed! Did you ever hear of such a thing?"

Can't you just hear those skeptics talking? They said, "I tell you, these people couldn't be of God because they are telling too many strange tales, too many strange stories, and I don't know if we shouldn't just discourage our people from the whole thing."

Another said, "A fellow came to see me yesterday and told me the strangest thing – of course, that man can't be found (he's probably just hiding somewhere – they probably hid him – I think it's all a trick, mass psychology), they said they had looked for him everywhere. They said that he and his friend were crossing the river (You ought to hear them. They'll have it on the radio tomorrow. Just listen! The thing that burns us preachers up is that we can't – Oh, we've got it off a few radio stations – but we just can't keep calling the stations and telling them the people don't believe that stuff. Why do they want to run that kind of program anyway?), and one of the men told the other – the one who was performing miracles – that he would like to have a double portion of his spirit, and do you know what that man told him? He was crazy enough to tell him that he could have it under certain circumstances. He said, *'You have asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if you see me when I be taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee'* (II Kings 2:10).

"And do you know what he told? I heard him testify to it right down there in that bunch of people. He said they were walking along and, suddenly, (you know, you never know what they will tell next, and the pitiful thing about it is that gang of people down there believe everything those preachers tell) while they were walking along, (mind you, anybody with common sense at all would never believe a bit of it) a chariot of fire came down out of heaven, and took that old fellow to heaven…ALIVE!"

The other man said, "Men, I tell you, this is the last straw! I don't know what they're going to be telling next. I tell you, we preachers are getting together, we religious leaders. We just can't stand it any longer. Too many of our people are going down there and falling for that stuff! I tell you, they're falling for it. Some of them have become miracle minded. They even go down there on Saturday night and then they come to my church on Sunday morning and ask me, 'Why don't we see those things in our church?'"

Listen, my friends, Moses had a miracle church! From the beginning of their liberation, all the way through to Canaan, God performed miracle after miracle! Why did He do it? To let His people know they were on the right track; that they were His people and that He was still with them. He was telling them, in that way, that He had not deserted them; that they were not to become discouraged. He reassured them again and

again. In chapter after chapter, He said: *"Be strong and of good courage, be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed..."* (Joshua 1:9).

As God reassured His people then and told them not to be afraid, filled with fear, so does He tell His people today. We have seen the miraculous and have seen enough healing and miracles that everybody should be shouting and happy, and taking their stand for the miraculous. Just as God performed the miraculous for His people being led out of bondage by Moses, so is He performing the miraculous – signs, wonders and miracles – for His people who are being led out of bondage and captivity today!

However, in spite of all these marvelous manifestation of the mighty power of God, some are still bound by fear. Some are still afraid that this cannot be God. Why? Because somebody is fighting it; somebody has said it is not real!

Jesus is coming back for a miraculous Church that has a miraculous deliverance, that has walked in the supernatural since the time Pharaoh lad down the whiplash; from the time doors opened until God set them free – set their bodies free, their spirits free – and took them on into the promised land!

And the very thing that God is doing for the New Testament Church today to let them know they are on the right track is the very thing that religious leaders today are trying to discourage among God's children, and try to make them believe that, in so believing, they are on the wrong path.

I am going to say it again! The very thing that God used in Bible days to let people know they were on the right track is the very thing that religious leaders today are opposing. They are trying to discourage God's people and make them believe they are not on the right track when they accept and believe in the miraculous.

They might as well tell God He didn't have any business doing some of the things He did in the Old Testament to prevent His people from being fearful. The devil is using these opposing forces as he has never used people before, to discourage God's people from having and seeking God's best. The devil doesn't want you to come out of bondage and captivity. He doesn't want you to believe in the miraculous.

Why?

Because Jesus Christ is coming back for a Miracle Bride, a Supernatural Bride, a Bride that believes in the miraculous power of God. And if the devil - it matters not who he uses - can discourage you from believing in the miraculous and the supernatural today, he is going to do it to keep you from being a part of the Bride of Christ. The devil doesn't want you to be a part of the Bride of Christ!

Again I repeat, the very thing that God did for His children in the Old Testament, He is doing ten thousand times over for the New Testament Church today! Remember the instance of the little woman in the 4th chapter of John who said, *"Come, see a man* (I want you to see a man, she told all the people) *which told me all things that I did"(*John 4:29)?

Take your Bible and start with the ministry of Jesus. Read all the things He began both to do and to teach (Acts 1:1). Then read of the ministries of Peter and John.

Here comes a man who said he had never walked...from his mother's womb. We read where he came running and leaping right into the church (Acts 3:8).

Paul turned around when he was being followed by a demon possessed woman, and said, "Come out of her, you devil!" (Acts 16:18)

Again we read in Acts where Philip went down to Samaria and cast the unclean spirits out of those possessed with them. They came out, crying with loud voices, screaming as they came out of men and women (Acts 8:5-8).

I am sure there were many then who said, "You had better stay away from Philip's meetings. There are too many people talking about demons over there."

It doesn't matter whether you read in the Old Testament or in the New Testament, it all tells of the ministry of the miraculous. Turn in your Bible to Hebrews 2:4, and read, *"God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to His own will."*

We see here that God was bearing them witness. He was letting the multitudes know that He was with them! Then, *"the disciples went everywhere, preaching the Word, and the Lord worked with them, with signs and wonders"* (Mark 16:20).

What did He do, and what did His disciples do wherever He or they went? The Bible says, *"God was with them, BEARING THEM WITNESS, BOTH WITH* – (WHAT?) – *SIGNS AND WONDERS!"*

God let the skeptics, the infidels and the gainsayers know that Jesus Christ was there because He performed miracles. He demonstrated the power of God with signs and wonders. That is the reason God is performing signs and wonders and doing miracles today. For the same reason He did it back in the Old Testament when He led His people out of bondage and captivity. Today, He is doing the same miraculous work, to bring His people of our day out of their bondage and captivity. God is again empowering His servants and His people to perform the miraculous to set His Church free and enable them to march on into the promised land, free from their shackles of sin and Satan's dominion!

Don't tell me God would do that for the Old Testament saints and not do the same thing for His Church today, when we are coming nearer and nearer to the rapture of a Church, which is miraculous and supernatural!

Again, let us read it. The Bible says, *"He bore them witness, both with signs and wonders and with divers miracles."*

There is only one way to identify the right group, according to the scriptures; only one way I can know I am in the right crowd, and it is if I can see some signs, wonders and divers miracles. When I see that, then I can say, "Bless God, this is God performing these things to let us know this is the right crowd!" And I don't care what the skeptics, the modernists and the infidels say, I am going to cast my lot with this people with whom God is bearing witness with signs, wonders and miracles!

There is one thing the devil can't do, and that is to give people the Holy Ghost. Of course, there are some skeptics, even some religious leaders, who say it is the devil healing the sick, it's the devil performing signs, showing lying wonders, and doing miracles. But our Lord said, *"If Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?"*(Mark 3:23-24).

Bless your hearts, it isn't the devil who is filling people with the Holy Ghost that causes them to love each other, to quit their sinning, live for God and make restitution for the wrong they have done, and magnify God! The devil can't do what has taken place in our campaigns night after night! God has been baptizing the people with the Holy Ghost and with fire! God has been performing the miraculous!

Friends, we are on the right track! We are on the move – in the move – and it is God's move to get His people ready for His return!

If you are not ready, won't you get ready NOW?

JESUS IS COMING SOON!

PAY THY VOWS

(A. A. ALLEN – 1959)

"Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice...Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee..." – Psalm 50:5, 14, 15

As you hear this today, you are going to hear the voice of God. Many of you are going to be taken, by the Spirit of the Living God, back ten years...twenty years...some thirty or forty years. I dare say, God is going to take some of you back in the Spirit to an old graveside, where you turned your head to keep from looking at the shovels of dirt being thrown on that little white casket. In that little casket was the sweetest and dearest thing in the world to you.

You are going to remember that, as your hot tears splashed down on that cold, little corpse, you made God some promises. You entered into an agreement with God. You told Him you were going to do some things you had meant to do a long time before. You really meant to do it.

When people get in trouble and their hearts are heavy...when only God can help...they make God a lot of promises. But frequently when the trouble is over, and God has undertaken and delivered, they fail to pay their vows and keep their covenants and agreements with the Lord.

Some of you will be taken in the Spirit back to a bedside where a loved one lay dying. There, you looked up to heaven and said, "Oh God, if You'll heal my baby (or my husband, my wife, my mother), I'll serve You," or "I'll pay my tithes, I'll read my Bible, I'll preach Your Word." Some of you said, "I'll go to India, to Africa, to China. God, I'll quit my job and I'll give my full time to the ministry. I'll preach the Word, Lord; I'll do it, if You will only do this for me."

God is going to remind you of that promise today. He is going to remind you that He kept and fulfilled His part of the covenant, but your part was not kept. Between you and God are broken vows, broken covenants.

Every thing has gone wrong since that time. Trouble has knocked again and again at your door, and you wonder why it is that God hasn't delivered you and set you free. You've wondered why you've had to go through your trouble alone, seemingly without help, even from God. I know I'm talking to people like that today. I feel you in my spirit, and my heart is just as heavy for you as your heart is. I want to see God come to your rescue.

This message is not for preachers only, or for those who are called to preach. It is to all of you who hear me today. For a few minutes, in memory, you are going to reach over and feel a hot, fevered brow. You are going to hear the rattle of death in a little child's lungs. You are going to remember the time you looked up to heaven and said, "God, You're the only one who can help me, and I want to enter into a covenant with You. Lord, I'll make You a promise. Do this for me now, Lord, because You're the only one that can do it."

You are going to be reminded of every promise and every vow you have made to God, whether it was ten years ago, or seventy years ago. God is not only going to remind

you of all your broken vows and covenants, God is going to give you grace to go right back where you broke your vow and your covenant; where you failed to keep up your end of the bargain, and pay your vows.

I remember one time in my own experience when it seemed that I wasn't getting anywhere with God. There was an old white oak stump down in the woods behind the old farmhouse in Missouri, where I used to go to pray two or three times a day. I would take my Bible there with me. It was my first Bible, a very inexpensive one that someone had given me. I had worn it threadbare, for I was just a new Christian and there was so much to learn. The grass was worn off and the ground around that stump looked as though a horse had stomped flies and dug up the earth with his hoofs. That spot was dear to me. There it seemed I could pray through and reach God in just a few seconds and the blessing and glory of God would come down.

After a while, however, I found that I couldn't reach heaven as I had before. I couldn't get through to God. I knew there was something wrong. I was desperate. There was one prayer more important to me than any other. I was asking God to save my mother. She wasn't getting saved. In fact, she seemed to be getting farther away from God. She was really making it hard on me then. She said to me, "Son, you've lost your mind. You've gone insane. We're going to have to send you off to Nevada." (That was a little town in our county that boasted of an insane asylum.) She said, "You've gone crazy over religion."

It seemed that the more I prayed, the worse she got. One day I got desperate. I wanted God to save my poor old mother. She would soon be 70 years old and was still living in sin. By that old white oak stump, I held up my Bible and said, "God, will you somehow just talk to me through this Book?" My Bible fell open to Psalm 50:14*: "Pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee."*

God made it so real! It seemed that as I read, God was talking to me. God reminded me of a vow I had made just a short time before, and I had failed to keep it. I had to make some restitution. There was a farmer who lived down the road who held something in his heart against me. That farmer had been a friend of mine until I got saved. I wasn't guilty of the accusation, but he claimed I was. I really hadn't done anything…my stepfather had…but the farmer thought I was guilty. Therefore, God said, "I just want you to go down there and take the whole thing on your shoulders." God had told me that a month before. I said, "Why, Lord? I didn't do that!"

I promised the Lord that I would do it. But that was the one thing it just seemed I didn't have grace to do. However, when I made up my mind that I was going to keep my vow, the Lord helped me. When I went back down to that farmer's house, I didn't even tell him I was not guilty. I just said, "I want you to forgive me. I understand that you are holding this against me. Therefore, I have come to confess it, because this is what it is going to take to make it right."

That man didn't even smile at me. He said, "This old-time religion you're supposed to have – I don't believe in it."

I said, "You will have to believe in it now, because it will make a man straighten up his back tracks. It will make a man walk straight."

He said, "I don't like you anyway, and I never have like you. I like you less now."

Even though that man would not accept my apology, something happened in my soul when I did that which I had promised God I would do. When I got back on my knees again by that old white oak stump, I was able to go straight through to God, and I got an

answer back immediately! That night God saved my mother, and delivered me out of what I thought at that time was the worst trouble I had ever had.

It's a wonderful thing to have a direct connection, a direct line, between you and God. Did you ever try to dial a number and have no one answer your call? You didn't even get a busy signal. You didn't even get that little buzz. The line was dead!

Sometime ago in one of our meetings, I wanted to use the telephone in the office in the truck van. I had used it only a moment before and it had worked perfectly. I picked up the phone t dial again, and this time I didn't even get a dial signal. The phone was as dead as it could be. I said, "What's wrong with this phone?" Do you know what I found? One of the boys had driven one of those large high trucks under that telephone line and had cut it in two. No wonder I wasn't getting any answer. Soon Jimmy came with a pair of pliers and said, "I'll fix it in just a minute." He put the broken ends together and twisted them, made a direct connection, and all I had to do was just sit down and dial. That time I got results.

Some people have been trying to pray through for twenty years, and still can't touch God. They wonder what in the world is wrong. Some of you have said, "My God, what's wrong with me? I used to be able to pray through. I used to get blessed by the power of God and have the anointing of the Spirit come down, but now I can't get through to God. What's wrong?"

I'll tell you what's wrong. The same thing that is wrong when you try to dial a number on the telephone and nobody answers. Isaiah tells us in the 58th chapter, verse 9, *"Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and He shall say, 'Here am I.'"*

That means, when you're getting desperate…when you are in desperation…then you will cry out to God. In a dire emergency, all you have to do is cry out and God said, *"He shall say, 'Here am I.'"*

But, know this: Broken vows and broken covenants are like severed telephone wires. Some people can dial J-E-S-U-S or H-E-A-V-E-N day in and day out and never get an answer back. Before that goes on very long, you will get discouraged and quit. But don't quit! What you need to do is heed what David said in Psalm 50:14 – *"Give unto God thanksgiving, and pay thy vows unto the most High."* Then you can, *"call upon me, in the day of trouble…"*

In other words, tie up the wires and make a direct connection. Get a connection with heaven, then you can dial God's number and He will say, "Here I am. What can I help you do?"

God promised to deliver every one who would come. He came to set at liberty those who are captive, to open the doors to those who are bound. He said, *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives…"* (Luke 4:18).

However, God (through David) said that there was no deliverance unless first you get your vows paid up to date. He said, *"Pay thy vows unto the most High:"* and then…When? When you have paid your vows! There is nothing that will sever the connection, destroy and ruin your faith any quicker than knowing you've made God some promises and failed to keep them. There is nothing that will separate you from God any quicker than sin!

God says, *"Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear"* (Isaiah 59:2). If God won't hear your cry, it means you will not be delivered.

Some of you have been wondering why you haven't been delivered from your cancer, your blindness, your cataracts, your high blood pressure, your arthritis, your goiter, tumor, sickness, disease, or deformity. I'm going to tell you why. It isn't because God hasn't promised to deliver you. God said, *"Pay thy vows..."* and then He said, *"call upon me in the day of trouble"* (in the time of cancer, arthritis, of sickness) and *"I will deliver thee."*

Nowhere in the Bible has God said that trouble wouldn't come. But God has said, that when trouble comes, if you have paid your vows, He will deliver you. Too many people put off the paying of their vows until after trouble comes. But you plan to pay your vows someday. An emergency may arise when you will need quick deliverance, when you will not have time to call in a repairman and spend a few hours repairing the lines. You had better keep a direct connection between you and God, so when an emergency arises all you have to do is cry and He will answer, *"Here I am!"*

Friends, you never know when trouble is coming. I was driving down the highway not long ago with my wife. We got in a tight spot in the traffic and we got through. My wife said, "My, it's a good thing to have a direct connection, isn't it?" I said, "That's one of those times when God hears...before we call, and He answers before we cry."

No one can get anything from God unless he or she enters into a covenant with Him. One can't even be saved without entering into an agreement or a covenant. Maybe you said, "God, take away my sins, and I'll serve You." Didn't you say something like that? Well, God took care of His part of the bargain and He leaves the rest to you. He will continue to keep you in His will and bless you so long as you keep your covenant with Him. If you don't keep your end of the bargain, God can't keep His. It is not failure on God's part – it's failure on man's part. **The greatest hindrance to your faith for deliverance today is the fact that between you and God there are broken vows and promises, or a covenant that you have failed to keep.**

The Bible says, *"The way of the transgressors is hard"* (Proverbs 13:15). Who is a transgressor but a person who promises God he'll do something and fails to do it! If you fail to pay your rent, you'll get a dun. They'll say, "You've failed to keep your obligation and you're going to make this payment by a certain date, or else!"

If you don't make your car payment you may go out to the sidewalk some morning and find that your car has been hauled away during the night. Who got it? The Finance Company! No one stole your car. It wasn't yours. The Finance Company merely came and got their own automobile. Why? Because you failed to carry out your part of the bargain.

God doesn't always send us a dun the 1st of every month and say, "Five years ago you told me you would go to Africa. Ten years ago you told me that you were going to quit that job over at the airplane factory and start preaching." God doesn't send you a dun and say, "Five years ago when your child was dying you promised me that if I would heal your child, you would do thus and so."

No, God doesn't send you a dun, but it's in the Word, and God commissions preachers to preach it and tell you that unless you pay your vows, one of these days the greatest trouble you have never known is going to come on you. When that time comes, and you don't have all your vows paid up to date, you can't show me in the Bible one promise that God will deliver you. You will have to go through your troubles alone!

In Colorado, years ago, my telephone rang one morning. I could feel that the person at the other end of the line was in desperation. The call was from a registered nurse. She said, "Come quickly, a woman's dying. She's calling for you!" I said, "I'll be there!"

My wife and I drove to the outskirts of the little town where we were pastoring and down a beautiful white, graveled drive. There were beautiful green clipped lawns with rosebushes and orchards everywhere, and a lovely little white cottage. There was a nurse standing on the step, wringing her hands, saying, "Hurry, hurry, hurry. She's dying!"

We slipped through the living room and on through into the bedroom. I noticed a little boy, who looked to be about five or six years old, standing by the side of his mother's bed. There lay a woman dying, with every disease in the category of diseases. She was in agony. Her body was swollen twice its normal size with dropsy; the exuding water was running from nearly every pore. She was in a horrible condition. As I knelt by her side, I saw she was dying.

She said, "You don't remember me. I used to be a member of the church you're pastoring now. I used to be the Young People's leader. I got saved when the former pastor was pastoring, but recently I haven't attended very often. Since you have come to pastor, I always went in late and sat on the back seat. Preacher, when you started to make an altar call, I couldn't stand it. I always got up and left early. I used to be saved and filled with the Spirit, but I'm backslidden and away from God. I can't die like this! I want you to pray that God will save me. I'm not ready to die!"

The doctors had given her up. She had said, "If I'm going to die, let me die in my own home." They had given her permission to go home if she would take a trained nurse, because they couldn't do any more for her. She had gone home to die. Now, the grim monster of death was fastening his dark fangs upon her. I knelt by her side and began to pray, and God saved her! It doesn't take very long to get saved, if you are desperate and need deliverance!

Suddenly, this lady's expression changed. Her face began to shine with the glow of heaven. There was a far off look in her eyes. I knew she was beholding a heavenly vision. She said, "Oh, I see Jesus! I see Him!"

Finally, He was gone. She said, "Jesus came down and stood by my bedside. He told me that if my husband will pay his vows now, as I have, God will deliver me from this sickness and from this death bed. If my husband will come back to God and will live for God and serve Him, Jesus will heal me, and I can stay here and keep my home with my two boys and my husband. Brother Allen, tell my husband that if he doesn't pay his vows, God is not going to deliver him out of the trouble that will soon come. Will you tell him?"

I said, "Yes, I'll go." I found her husband out behind the house, pruning some peach trees. While he stood on the ladder, I stood at the bottom of the ladder and talked to him. I said, "Listen, John, I've just been to your house and your wife is dying." He said, "She's been awfully sick."

I said, "God saved her soul while I prayed. God saved her and Jesus came and talked to her. This is what Jesus said, and I've come at your wife's request to tell you what the Lord said. Jesus told her that if you would pay your vows, He would deliver you out of this trouble, and He will heal your wife. But, if you don't, you're going to go through the darkest time in your whole life, without God and without His help. You are going to be alone. You are hearing me, aren't you, John?"

But he said, "My wife's not going to die. God can't let her die. I need her too much. These children need her too much. I don't believe God is going to let her die."

I said, "She was dying this morning, but God is going to give you a few days – I don't know how many – to pay your vows. If you don't pay your vows, the time is coming when you will wish a million times you had; and you are going to pay them when it is too late to be delivered out of your trouble. Don't tell me you won't. God will see to it that you pay them someway or sometime, but watch out, or you will have to pay them when it is too late for you to be delivered. You had better do it now, because death is coming. You are listening to me, aren't you?"

He replied, "I'm not afraid."

I visited that woman every day for ten days. On the tenth day, she said, "This is the day!" By that time, she had told me the whole story. She said, "Do you see the little boy there walking? He was born with cerebral palsy…paralyzed. He couldn't lift and arm, nor move a limb. We took him to church, to the pastor who was there before you came. That preacher looked at us and asked, 'If God heals your boy, will you live for God and serve Him?' Both my husband and I promised him and God that if God would heal that boy, we would serve Him all the days of our life. The preacher laid his hands on him and prayed. Instantly, God performed a miracle and healed that baby. That little twisted, painful body straightened out. He was made perfectly normal.

"God saved both of us. We began serving Him. We started paying our tithes. I was Young People's leader and my husband taught a Sunday School class. After a while, we began to fail to pay our tithes. We failed to read our Bible and pray. We began to grow cold and drifted farther and farther away until we were completely backslidden. For the last two years, particularly through these last months, I have told my husband, 'God has only let us have that boy because of a miracle. Unless we get back to God, pray through, pay our vows and keep our promises, I have always felt that God was going to take the boy away from us.' Now, God is not taking the boy. Instead, God is taking me!"

I went back to the husband and said, "John, you have that boy only because you promised God something, but you have failed to keep your promise. It's a miracle that you still have that boy and that he is as strong and well as he is today. Listen, man, it is not your wife God wants; He wants you! But if the only way He can get you is to take your wife, He will do that, for God wants you!"

Later, I was amazed to learn that Jesus, who ten days before had appeared to his wife in a vision, had at the same time gone out into the orchard and stood on the bottom rung of that ladder (on which John stood), and talked to him while he pruned the peach trees. He had told him, too, that if he would pay his vows he could keep his wife, and God would see her through and heal her of her illness. However, that man had remained rebellious and stubborn. He would not pay his vows.

I stood on one side of that young mother's bed when death came. My wife was on the other side. Our church pianist stood at the foot of the bed, singing, "Where He Leads Me, I Will Follow." I saw that husband come around through the kitchen. He looked into the bedroom and sensed that death had come. I saw him turn, run back through the dining room, through and out the kitchen. I looked out the window and saw him running down a stone path, around behind a chicken house. I knew where he was going, and what I'd find him doing when I got there. I thought, 'He can't run away from it."

While the nurse pulled the sheet over the face of his wife, now cold and lifeless, and called the undertaker, I slipped out through the kitchen and went down that flagstone path, out behind that old chicken house. There I found the man, on his knees. Both of his

hands were up and the tears were running down his cheeks. He was saying, "God, I'll do it now! God, I'll do it now! Lord, I'll do it now! I'll do it now!"

I knelt by his side, put my arm around him and said, "Brother, I told you, and God told you that He was going to do it, before it was too late."

He said, "Is she gone? Oh, my God, I'm too late!"

I said, "Yes, John, you are too late. God gave you ten days to pay your vows. Now, the worst trouble you'll ever know is here, and you are going to have to go through it alone. There is no deliverance now."

We prayed through and God saved him, and forgave his sins. We arose and started back up the old flagstone path. The little six-year-old boy came down the path to meet us. He said, "Daddy, they're taking Mommy away." We looked and saw the hearse driving away.

His daddy said, "Yes, they're taking her away, son." The little boy looked up at his father and said, "Daddy, why are they taking her away like that?"

His father replied, "Sonny, some day Daddy will tell you, but you wouldn't understand now."

That man turned to me and said, "Brother Allen, they're taking her away like this because I was too stubborn, too self-willed to get on my knees and pay my vow to God."

I preached that lady's funeral. After the service, the husband said, "Brother Allen, send everyone else out but you and me." We stood together by her casket. As his hot tears splashed down on her cold face, he patted her hands that had been folded over a little white Bible. He said, "Hazel, Hazel, will you forgive me? Will you forgive me for being so stubborn." He patted her lifeless cheeks again and again.

I said, "Brother, she can't hear you now. There is no need to talk to her now. She isn't here. This is only the house she used to live in."

He turned and looked at me and cried, "But what am I going to do? What are the boys going to do for a mother?"

I thought, "Brother, God gave you ten days to think it over. You chose to rebel and refuse to do what God told you to do. There is no deliverance now. There is only one thing left. You will have to go through it alone."

May God speak to you now about your broken vows, your broken covenants and your broken promises. Listen to me, friend. Trouble is on the way…the greatest trouble the world has ever known, and there is not one promise of deliverance unless you pay your vows to God. DO IT NOW! Go back to where you lost connection. Go back now, in Jesus name.

"Oh God! Remind every person hearing this of all his or her promises and broken vows. Give each one the grace, today, to pay those vows now, so that when trouble comes, he or she can call and rest assured that deliverance will come. In Jesus' name I ask this, and for the glory of God. Amen!

WHERE IS THE LORD GOD OF ELIJAH?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1960)

"And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink: for THERE IS A SOUND OF ABUNDANCE OF RAIN!" – I Kings 18:41

I want to confine my message to this one phrase tonight: *"There is a sound of abundance of rain!"* Do you hear the rain? What kind of rain? The Lord said, *"Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field"* (Zechariah 10:1).

I don't know what kind of an ear you have. But I am referring to two men in my message tonight – Elijah and Elisha…two of the greatest miracle workers of the Old Testament. These two men performed every type of miracle that Jesus Christ performed. If these men of old in the Old Testament days, under the old Covenant, performed the miraculous and walked with God, heard from heaven and by laying their body upon the cold corpses of dead people brought them back to life again; if they performed the miraculous in their day, how much more can it be done today under the New Covenant, under greater promises which are given and provided for us in the New Testament.

There are many people today who, when you read something out of the Old Testament, will say, "Oh, that was back under the Old Law! That was back under the Old Covenant." I say, "Yes, thank God, it is. But if God did all that under the Old Covenant, way back there, how much more will He perform the miraculous under the promises of God, which He gave under the New Covenant for the New Testament Saints, *because God hath set "in the church…first apostles…prophets…teachers, after that MIRACLE, THEN GIFTS OF HEALING…etc."* (I Corinthians 12:28).

Elijah had an ear that heard an abundance of rain and he let the devil (Ahab) know that it was going to rain. I am serving notice on the devil that it is going to rain! You might as well get ready, for I hear the sound of abundance of rain!

Someone said, "Why, it isn't raining yet!" But Elijah heard it. And when you have a spiritual ear you can hear what God is going to do tomorrow. When you have spiritual discernment, you know what God is going to do next week.

Thank God, I have spiritual discernment and I know from God's Word that there is going to be an early rain and a latter rain. (Deuteronomy 11:14 and Jeremiah 5:24). We are in the midst of one of the greatest rainstorms the world has ever known. This isn't man-made rain, this is rain that is coming down from God out of heaven; genuine rain – God's blessing, power, and glory! This is God's anointing…signs and wonders and miracles, coming straight from heaven. I feel it pouring tonight!

Elijah went out on Mt. Carmel and began to pray with his head down between his knees. He prayed one time, then sent his servant out to look for a cloud – a sign of rain. The servant returned and said, "I don't see any sign of rain." Elijah put his head back down between his knees and prayed again. Then he sent his servant the second time and told him to look across the sea to see if he saw a sign of rain. Again the servant returned and said he saw no sign.

Elijah said, "That's strange. I heard the sound of rain. You should be able to see the sign. Go look again." The servant returned the third time with the same report – he saw no sign. Elijah knew how to pray the rain down. He put his head down and prayed

again and sent his servant out to look for the sign of rain. He did this until the servant had gone seven times to look for the sign. The last time he returned and said, *"There ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand."*

When he said this, Elijah knew that was what he had been hearing; this was what was coming…was on the way…because God had been letting him hear it for days.

What you are seeing tonight and what is happening across the nation today is what I have been hearing for years. THIS IS THE RAIN! You might as well start running like Elijah did! We are going to run for God! This is the rain from heaven. This is the true rain! This is the rain that Elijah warned old Ahab was coming. When it started raining, it rained!

Preachers, have you prayed once for rain and it hasn't come? Have you prayed once for revival and it hasn't yet come to your church? Have you been praying for a ministry that has never developed in your life? Put your head between your knees and begin praying again.

Have you been praying for the gifts of healing, for the gift of miracles? Have you been praying for God to open your blind eyes, or take your arthritis away? Why don't you get your head down between your knees and start praying again. It's God's Word! He has promised an abundance of rain! As sure as He promised to heal you, He is going to heal you! If He promised you the gifts of healing, He is going to give them to you. Just as sure as God has promised you the gift of miracles, He is going to bring it to pass in your life. If God has promised you a ministry, He is going to give it to you.

Mother, if God has promised you a miracle, He is going to bring it to pass. If you have prayed for your child to be healed, and he has not yet been healed, get your head down and pray again! I have known for years that if you will keep your eyes on Jesus, keep looking up, He is going to bring it to pass.

I see that cloud! It is just the size of a man's hand. But you had better get ready, for the rain has already started falling. I mean an old fashioned downpour of Holy Ghost revival! It is not only going to cover all around this great tent in Atlanta, but it is going around the world.

Watch out, preachers. Just because the rain has started falling doesn't mean that the devil won't have a little power once in a while. God does, at times, give the devil power to find out what you are made of, just to test and try you.

It wasn't very long after Elijah predicted it was going to rain (and it came a deluge!) until he was off sitting under a juniper tree, wishing he was dead, thinking he was the only one left serving God. I must tell you here that when God begins to give you supernatural discernment, supernatural gifts, the devil is going to jump on you with all the power of his might.

God has not said that discouragement won't come. It will come to some of you ministers, lay members and servants of God. But there is one thing sure, God always has an angel at His disposal that knows how to come and give you meat, or give you strength to last 40 long days from just one meal.

I started with chapter 18, but in chapter 19, Elijah is asleep under the juniper tree, wishing he could die, when the angel touched him and said, "Elijah, rise and eat!" The angel had built a fire and charbroiled him a steak! He had prepared it just for Elijah, and Elijah ate this and went in the strength of it forty days and forty nights…from that one meal that God sent him form heaven! This ought to encourage every one of you preachers who might be discouraged.

Some preachers have asked me, "How many chairs do you have under your tent?" I always reply, "I don't know. I haven't counted them. God didn't call me to count chairs. I haven't time to count them. God called me to preach the gospel. These chairs aren't bothering me. What is bothering me is the people sitting in the chairs. They need help... they need deliverance. I am not so concerned about how many chairs there are under the tent as I am about the people sitting in those chairs...bound, tied, fettered, diseased and afflicted. They must have a miracle in their body, in their soul, in their mind and in their spirit!

God promised me that He is going to do it through my life, through my ministry, and through your life and your ministry. But remember this, some of you have tried and have been discouraged. You come under this tent and look at its size, then you see all those beautiful shiny vans out there and you look up here on the platform and say, "Oh my, the Lord is just so good to some people. Why doesn't He do this for me?"

There was a time when I used to look at a time. It wasn't as large as this one. It was only about one-third as large, but it was the largest one I had ever seen. I thought, too, "Oh Lord, you are so good to this preacher. He has trucks, and lots of chairs, and is preaching to such crowds of people." I was actually discouraged, but the Lord spoke to while while I sat on the back seat of that man's platform and said, "Son, 13 years ago, I called you to do this. I met you in a prayer closet and told you to do this. In a time of fasting and prayer, I gave you a list of things to do – 13 things that stood between you and the miracle working power of God in your life. You have obeyed to a certain extent and have already marked many things off the list, but you still have a part of that list left. If you had obeyed Me when I told you to 13 years ago, I would have done this for you 13 years ago."

Sitting on the back seat of that man's platform in Fort Worth, Texas, I took that list out of my Bible and looked at it. With tears running down my face, I said, "God forgive me. From this day on, I am going to be a new man. You are going to do for me what you have promised, because I am going to claim it. I am going to pay up, pray up, fast up, line up and pay the price!"

Don't be discouraged. Don't go to sleep under an old juniper tree. There is no time to go to sleep. God has a work and a ministry for you and even though you have been discouraged and are weak, God has an angel that can charbroil you some meat on which you can go for forty days and nights in the strength thereof!

Are you weary? Have you been asleep under the juniper tree, moaning and groaning? Have you been jealous of some other man's ministry? Have you been fearful that you will never make it? God has a supernatural experience for you. God has an angel in heaven that can bring you meat from heaven to give you strength. I pray now that God will do that for you, in Jesus Name! God send strength to those who have been discouraged, who need supernatural power, in Jesus Name!

I am talking about the miracles of Elijah. He raised the dead; he spoke a few words and the meal barrel never ran out of meal; nor did the cruse of oil ever get empty. He prophesied over a widow's cruse of oil and it multiplied until the little woman never ran out of oil. However, there came a time when the ministry of Elijah ceased, not because of a misfortune, but because of good fortune...when a whirlwind took him to heaven.

Did miracles cease because Elijah went to heaven in a whirlwind? No! God sent fire down from heaven. He sent a fiery chariot down and took him all the way to Glory.

God took him to heaven alive! That was the greatest miracle of all…a man going to heaven without dying!

Did miracles cease? Who knows, some day God might come down and sweep me up. But, if He should, don't think this new tent is going to fold up…that they would sell all these diesel trucks and let Hollywood have our TV equipment. If God sees fit to do something with me, these miracles are going to go on, because God is raising up an army, and I believe many of that army is here the first night under this new tent in Atlanta, Georgia!

A man named Elisha was crossing the river with a man named Elijah. He had one desire and that was that a double portion of the Spirit that rested upon Elijah should come upon him. He said, 'Let a double portion of what He has upon him come upon me."

Though the ministry of Elijah came to an end, Elisha, who received Elijah's mantle, performed greater miracles than Elijah had performed because he got a double portion of what Elijah had. Elijah raised the dead! If Elijah raised the dead with ONE PORTION, what could Elisha do with a DOUBLE PORTION? Friends, God has a double portion for you, just as surely as He had for Elisha.

As Elisha stood there and saw Elijah disappear in the flaming chariot, he took up the mantle, which had fallen from Elijah and went back and stood by the River Jordan and said, "Where is the LORD God of Elijah?" He remembered that he had seen Elijah smite the waters of Jordan and they were divided. Therefore, since he had received the mantle, he knew he could do the same thing. He took the mantle and smote the waters and *"they parted hither and thither, and Elisha went over."* The same miracle took place I his life and under his ministry that he had seen take place in the life and ministry of Elijah.

Many of you have heard our radio programs, have sat under our ministry under the tent, and have read many accounts of the miracles God has performed under our ministry in Miracle Magazine. Many ministers have seen what God has done through this ministry. Just a few seats back in the audience tonight sits a lady minister who has a marvelous testimony. You have read her story that we carried in Miracle Magazine titled, "I Came 1700 Miles To Be Delivered." This was one of the greatest miracles we have ever seen.

This was one of the greatest battles, but also one of the greatest victories over demon power. Her deliverance was carried over our radio programs for a solid week, but we withheld her name. And when her story was published we did not publish her picture, so as not to bring embarrassment to her, because she was a lady minister. Because she had failed to fully obey God, she had become horribly demon possessed. It took 10 men to hold her as she was brought before me. Something inside her revolted at the sight of any male creature.

As she stood before me, I told all the ushers to go away except for four. When I said that, one of the demons on the inside of her said, "It will take more than four to cast me out!" He continued, "I have had her for many years, and she is mine. I am going to keep her. You are not going to cast me out."

Finally, after 30 minutes of continual speaking, he said, "Do you see that woman with the red pillow in her chair?"

I answered, "Yes."

He said, "I am coming out all right, but I have chosen to enter into her."

I said, "Devil, you are a liar! You are not going into that woman!" I sent a bunch of preachers to stand around her and pray for her. I said, "Put your hands on her. This thing is NOT GOING into that woman."

Again the demon repeated, "I am coming out and I am going into that woman. I have chosen to go into her."

It is a long story, but many of you have heard it on our broadcast. The demon had to go.

I have heard a lot of preachers say, "I want God to do this for me. I want God to do that for me." I don't have anything to give you tonight like Elijah had to give, but I have Elijah's God, and Elisha said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" He wasn't crying about Elijah because Elijah had gone to heaven. He said, "Where is Elijah's God?" He didn't say, "I want Elijah!" He said, "I want Elijah's God! Where is the Lord God of Elijah?"

God said, "I am going to show you where I am. I am right here!" And a miracle took place…the waters of the Jordan River parted and God performed for Elisha the same miracle that He had performed for Elijah.

God is no respecter of persons. What He will do for one person, He will do for another. What He will do for one preacher, He will do for another preacher!

If you want the anointing and the power of God in your life, raise your hands and say, "God, I am determined to have it. Tonight I want a double portion, and by the grace of God I am going to find out where the Lord God of Elijah is! I believe You are here, and I must have a DOUBLE PORTION. Give me everything Brother Allen has and GIVE ME MORE! God give me a tent like this, only make it larger!"

Now, put your hands up and let's pray for a DOUBLE PORTION! Hallelujah! Raise your hands and let's rejoice in God. Where is the Lord God of Elijah? Elisha got a double portion of what Elijah had. He did the same things that Elijah did, only greater miracles! Tonight, God has a double portion for you. God has a double portion for every one of you!

Before Jesus went away He gathered together His disciples and He said unto them, *"Behold, I give you power over all the power of the enemy."* He said, *"Ye shall tread upon scorpions and upon serpents…and nothing shall by any means hurt you"* (Luke 10:19) It is a marvel in itself just to think of what Jesus did. But Jesus said, *"Greater works than these shall ye do; because I go unto my Father"* (John 14:12).

Didn't God promise you power? Power over what? POWER OVER THE DEVIL! God promised you power over cancer, tumor, goiter, arthritis, and cataracts! God promised you supernatural power over the natural! Supernatural power over all natural elements! Even the sun will stand still. The mountains can be moved – if you will pray and not doubt in your heart. God has promised you supernatural power over inanimate things! Supernatural power will remove a tumor or a goiter; it will take cancer away!

In the 4th chapter of II Kings, Elisha met a little widow woman, a wife of a son of a prophet. Se had two sons who about to be sold into bondage. They were about to be taken captive and put in prison. They would no long be their own; they were going to be bound, tied up, fettered.

I have read this story a thousand times, perhaps, but I had never before seemed to realize what this binding condition was. This little woman was weeping because her two sons were going to be bound and taken from her. Elisha asked her, *"What shall I do for thee? What do you have in your house?"* She replied, *"Thine handmaid hath not any*

thing in the house, but a pot of oil." She had minimized the very thing that could bring her two preacher boys out of the cold, dead "denomination."

You may ask, "Where do you get that?" I was praying about this and asked the Lord what He meant by that scripture. I asked, "Lord, what is that bondage? These two sons were in bondage. Tell me what that bondage was." The Lord said, "It is the cold, dead, formal bondage of dry denominationalism."

When Elisha asked that woman, "What do you have?" She answered, "Nothing but a little pot of oil." I thought, "She didn't even seem to see the importance of the very thing she needed." Elisha said, "Bring me that pot of oil!" She didn't think that pot of oil could bring her boys out of bondage and save them from captivity.

Let me tell you, preacher, if you can find you a little pot of oil, don't tell me you "haven't anything but…." Don't tell me you "have nothing but a little pot of oil." If all you have is oil – that is ALL YOU NEED!

"But…the yoke shall be broken because of the anointing," and that oil is a type of the Holy Ghost anointing! If you have the anointing of the Holy Ghost, that is all you need. When someone asks you, "What do you have?" do you reply, "Nothing but the Holy Ghost." If you have the Holy Ghost and are filled with the oil of the Spirit, and are baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire, you should say, "I HAVE EVERYTHING!" Because when you have that, you have the "anointing that can break the yoke!"

When she brought that little pot of oil to Elisha, he said, "Bring me empty vessels…not a few." She borrowed all the vessels she could find that were empty and brought them to him. He said, "Start pouring, woman! Just start pouring!"

She began pouring from her pot of oil into the empty vessels and soon found that they were all full. Elisha said, "Bring me more vessels! Bring me more vessels!" She said, "There is not a vessel more. I have filled every vessel!"

The little pot of oil she had filled every vessel she brought, and it was that oil which brought her boys out of bondage. That oil – that supernatural oil which kept them out of captivity. It was that oil – the supernatural power of God – one little anointing of oil that delivered those boys.

Some of you preachers are in bondage. You are bound, tied, fettered. You are not your own. You can't even preach what God has called you to preach. You are not free to go where God tells you to go. What you need to do is come out of bondage, get loosed, liberated and set free. There is only one thing that will set you free and that is O-I-L!

Don't tell me all you have is a pot of oil! Stop and start pouring it out! Stand up and start pouring! God is going to meet you! It is the anointing that is going to set you free!

The thing that little widow woman minimized and thought was not important was the thing that set her free, and it will save YOU, too! You are going to have to find some oil and begin pouring! You will have to be anointed as Elisha with a double portion of the Holy Spirit!

Move up, in the same chapter, II Kings 4:38-41, and there is another pot. In that pot was death. Everybody was starving. They had nothing to eat, and they went out and gathered herbs to make a pot of pottage. One of them gathered a lap full of wild gourds and put them into the pot. Of course, it filled the pot up faster, and would give the people something to eat, so the Bible says he just picked a whole lap full. I don't know what kind of a lap he had, what kind of a garment he was wearing, but he filled his lap full of them and took them inside. There he chopped them all up and filled that pot full of them.

When they began dishing out that pottage, someone said, "My God! There is death in the pot!" Elisha said, "Wait a minute! I know what to do!"

Now, I'm not at war with the sons of the prophets, nor am I at war with the prophets. Why do you think the Bible says "the sons of the prophets"? Who was the little widow woman of whom I spoke a while ago? Who was referred to in the first part of this chapter? She was a wife of a son of a prophet. These were not the prophets – they were the "sons" of the prophets. Do you know what that means? These are not old time Pentecost. These are the "son" of old time Pentecost. This is the second generation of Pentecost that has gone modern.

About all many have to offer today is some poison gourds. All they have found is a lap full of poison gourds and they have chopped them up and put them in the brew, and the people are saying, "My God! There is death in the pot!" When people are starving to death, they must have something to eat besides poison gourds. That is not enough to feed starving people. It takes more than merely preaching against something. You must have a positive message!

Most preachers today do not have a positive message. They are not preaching on the miraculous and the positive. They are out to destroy the very thing that God is doing. They are preaching against every sign, every wonder and every miracle that God is doing today, until all they have gathered together is a bunch of poison gourds. They have chopped them together and have put them in the pot, and everybody is dying because there is poison in the pot.

God raised up Elisha to destroy the poison that was in the pot, which the son of a prophet (a religious young man who could be likened to some of the second generation Pentecostals today) put in the pot.

The old prophets had something from God. It was the son of the prophet, the modern generation, who had departed from the faith, who was putting poison in the pot. It will take a double portion of the Spirit that Elijah had, to know (from God) what to do about the poison in the pot.

What did Elisha do about it? He said, "I am not afraid of that pot. Don't pour it out. We'll just kill th*e poison in that pot."* All he did was take a hand full of meal…*"and cast it into the pot"* (II Kings 5:41). Someone will say, "Do you mean that meal will kill poison?" Yes, as an act of faith, it will! As an act of faith, your shadow will heal the sick and a handkerchief will drive out the devil!

There is no power in a handkerchief. There is no power in a shadow. But as an act of faith, God can use it to kill the devil, to destroy the power of the devil, to kill cancer, kill cataracts and anything else.

There was no power in that meal that Elisha sprinkled in the pot that destroyed the death in the pot. But he did it as an act of faith. He just sprinkled it in the pot and all the poison was taken away. It was merely an act of faith! He just believed that if he sprinkled a little meal in the pot, all the poison would die.

I believe you can be bitten by a poisonous viper and, as an act of faith, just reach out, shake it off, and say, "Why nothing is going to happen to me!" and it will not hurt you.

Jesus said, *"They shall take up serpents…"* (Mark 16:18 and Acts 28:3,5,6) Not that we are going around and coiling them around our necks or carrying a box with us. But I wouldn't be afraid of one if it happened to bite me. I believe with all my heart that I would just shake the thing off and say, "You devil, you cannot hurt me!" I believe you

can be so filled with the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of God, that even rattlesnake venom won't hurt a child of God. God will kill the poison.

In II Kings 5:31, Elisha, as an act of faith, just sprinkled a little meal in the pot and, by so doing, he preserved and saved the lives of a multitude.

Preachers, YOU HAVE SOME MEAL! I want you, as an act of faith, to start sprinkling it in the pot, and when you do, you will find that God will perform the miracle!

In the very next chapter of II Kings is the story of Naaman, terribly afflicted with leprosy, coming to Elisha for help. When you have that kind of faith, all you have to say is what Elisha said…what Jesus said…"Go wash!" Elisha merely said, "Tell him to go wash in the River Jordan seven times." Jesus said, "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam, and he (the man who was blind) came again seeing."

Jesus said to the Centurion, "Go thy way, thy servant liveth."

To the Nobleman, He said, "Go, thy son liveth."

To the Syrophenician woman, He said, "Go thy way, you will find the devil has gone out of your daughter."

Does it matter whether it is Jesus, Elijah, Elisha, A. A. Allen, Brother Rogers, Boyd McClaren, or any other of God's anointed servants? If Elijah had enough faith to say, "Go, wash in the River Jordan seven times, and by so doing, Naaman was healed, YOU, TOO, CAN HAVE A MIRACLE!

Of course, some people said, "Who does he think he is?" I will tell you! He is a man of God, standing on the promises of God, who is not afraid to utter a few words, BY FAITH, like Jesus spoke!

I resolve, as the tent season opens under our beautiful new tent this first night in Atlanta, Georgia, that I am going to step out as I have never stepped out before. I am going to pray as I have never prayed before. I am going to fast as I never fasted before. I am going to seek God as I never sought Him before. I am going to preach as I have never preached before, and I AM GOING TO BELIEVE GOD AS I HAVE NEVER BELIEVED HIM BEFORE!

I am going to say some things I have never said before, because **God has promised me greater miracles, under this large new tent, than we have ever seen under any of our old tents!** I have said again and again that if there are any greater miracles than we have already seen in our past meetings, it will have to be the raising of the dead!

I believe Jesus meant what He said in Mark 16:15 and Matthew 10:7 and 8, *"…Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"* and…*"As ye go, preach* (the gospel*), heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead…"* Of course, every one of us will have to confess that the dead were not raised in exact proportion as the people were healed. Jesus healed all that were brought to Him, but He didn't raise all the dead.

Therefore, I don't believe that God, in this day, is going to raise all the dead, but I believe the dead are going to be raised, because Jesus said in John 14:12, *"…The works that I do shall ye do also,"* and I believe the words that Jesus spoke, we can speak; the words that Peter, Paul and John spoke, we can speak – because they were the words of faith!

Elisha merely spoke these words of faith through a messenger: *"Go and wash in Jordan seven times!"* When Naaman obeyed and washed seven times, what happened to him? A miracle took place and all his leprosy was cleansed. He came back shouting and rejoicing, because he obeyed a man of God…the prophet of God, named Elisha!

I have preached about Elijah and Elisha, but Elisha, the one who took Elijah's place, performed greater miracles than Elijah performed because he had a double portion of what Elijah had.

Get your eyes off personalities. Get your eyes off preachers who have been successful. Just look a little bit higher and say, "God, I not only want what this man or that man has, I want a double portion!"

God has promised it to you! YOU CAN HAVE IT! I challenge you now, stand up and cry out, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" Prove Him in your own life, in your own ministry. You will find that He will meet the challenge!

"SPEAK THE WORD ONLY!"

(A. A. Allen – 1960)

"And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but SPEAK THE WORLD ONLY, and my servant shall be healed.

"For I am a man under authority, having solders under me; and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard it, he marveled and said...I have not found SO GREAT FAITH, no not in Israel...And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and AS THOU HAST BELIEVED, SO BE IT DONE UNTO THEE. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour." – Matthew 8:5-13

Few today have such great faith as that centurion. If they have someone sick in their house, and Jesus should come and say to them, "I will come to your house and heal him," they would say, "That is just exactly what I want you to do. This is a very special case, and that is what it will take."

The centurion in this account had more faith than that. He said, "You don't have to come to my house."

It is amazing how many people insist that I must go to the hospitals, or to their homes, to pray for their sick loved ones. One man said, "I will furnish you an automobile! Here is a check for $1000.00, or I will pay all your expenses if you will just come and pray for my wife. It won't take over six hours!"

I replied, "I can't go. If I had the time to go, I wouldn't take your money. I don't have time to go pray for your wife. But God has provided another way whereby your wife can be healed without my going to her."

I wish that I had the time to go everywhere people want me to go. I don't have time even to pray individually for all the people who come to my campaigns, to say nothing of going everywhere to pray for those who don't have time to come to the meetings.

Although Jesus was willing to go to this man's house (for God's Word records that He said, "I will go."), the centurion had so much faith that he said, "You don't have to come to my house. All that you need to do to heal my servant is SPEAK THE WORD ONLY, and he is going to be healed instantly." The split second he said, "Speak the word only," his servant was healed. If all Jesus had to do in days gone by was to speak the word, and someone a long way off was healed instantly, ALL JESUS HAS TO DO TODAY IS SPEAK THE WORD!

Do you believe that? Would you believe me if I told you right now that you were going to hear the voice of God, and that God was going to speak the word to you and heal you? Do you want to hear the voice of God? Do you want to hear Jesus say, "It is done"?

Jesus commended this centurion and said that He had not found such faith in all Israel. Alone among the thousands who clamored to Him for their healing, this man realized the meaning of Christ's authority. By faith, he understand that even as his authority as a centurion made it possible for him to give a command with full assurance

that command would be obeyed, so Christ's authority as the Son of God made it possible for Him to simply give a command and sickness must flee!

Seeing such faith, Jesus knew that all that was needed was to say, "Go thy way, thy servant is healed," and having spoken, it would be so.

If I were to say to you, "Go your way; your sick loved one, or your sick friend, is healed," would you turn around and go to that person, expecting to find him or her healed when you got there?

If you can believe, now, that Jesus has SPOKEN THE WORD, and that that is enough, you will be healed, or your loved one will be healed. The cancer will drop off. The tumor will vanish. Heart trouble, epilepsy, cataracts and goiters will go. You can be made completely whole! Just say, "SPEAK THE WORD ONLY, LORD!"

A man lay beside the Pool of Bethesda (John 5). He had lain there for thirty-eight long years, totally helpless. The story is recorded in the Bible that at a certain season an angel went down and troubled the waters, and the first one that was put into the pool after the angel troubled the water was made whole. (God has always provided means for the healing of His people.)

One day, Jesus went to this pool. There, the Bible declares, a multitude of people were waiting for the troubling of the water…the halt, the maimed, the crippled. Jesus saw this man lying there on his bed where he had lain for thirty-eight years. Jesus said to him, "Wilt thou be made whole?" Jesus was ready to SPEAK THE WORD and make him whole, but do you remember what he said? *"I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool; but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me."* Here was the Man standing by his side who was able to make him whole with a word! And he failed to recognize God's method of bringing him healing.

Thousands today don't even recognize who Jesus is when He stands at their side, waiting to speak the word and set them free. For thirty-eight years, the man had waited there beside the pool, trying to find a way to get in. Some people have their eyes on a preacher, on a prayer card, on an anointed handkerchief, a prayer line, or some specified color of card. I am not rebuking you.

I am not saying God isn't using evangelists, or that it is wrong to use prayer cards. But it certainly is wrong for you to tie your faith so firmly into that prayer card that you cannot accept healing unless your card is called and you get into the healing line. Don't say, "Of course I want to be made whole, but you see, my card is pink, and I am afraid they are going to call white cards this time."

People come from great distances into our Miracle Revival Campaigns. We find them discouraged, saying, "I want so much to be healed. But I didn't get here in time to get a prayer card. I'll just have to wait until I get a prayer card. And then maybe my card won't be called!" They are broken hearted, because they feel they just can't be healed.

"Wilt thou be made whole?"

Some reply, "I have been prayed for so many times. Brother so-and-so, or Sister so-and-so prayed for me, and still I only grow worse. I have been prayed for by every deliverance evangelist in the country. Mine is a hard case. There are so many things wrong with me. Just let me tell you…."

Jesus stands waiting to SPEAK THE WORD ONLY! Believe Him! Rest on His Word! *"We which have believed do enter into rest"* (Hebrews 4:3). Jesus was standing there by the pool, waiting and wanting to speak the word that would make that man whole. Do you know what happened? Jesus just spoke a few words. He said, *"Rise, take*

up thy bed and walk!" Immediately, that man was made whole. He picked up that bed upon which he had been lying for thirty-eight years, and began running with it.

Jesus didn't even touch him. He didn't pray a prayer. All He did was SPEAK THE WORD! The power of God went through that man and made him completely whole. He didn't have a prayer card. He didn't go through a healing line. Nobody touched him. He wasn't anointed with oil. No one placed him in the emergency section. No one dropped him into the pool.

Jesus just SPOKE THE WORD. And after thirty-eight long years of suffering, he was healed instantly. YOU can be healed right now. All you have to do is invite Jesus to SPEAK THE WORD! Raise your hand right now and say, "Jesus, speak the word only!" Believe that He does it. Hear me! Jesus speaks the word, and YOU ARE MADE WHOLE!

So many people, like the man at the Pool of Bethesda, begin to find excuses for not being healed, when all the time Jesus is standing by, desiring to speak the word that would heal them.

There came a nobleman to Jesus whose son was sick with a raging fever. He besought Jesus that He would come down to his house and heal his son. Jesus merely said, *"Go thy way; thy son liveth"* (John 4:46-53). And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken to him, and he went his way.

That man knew his son was dying with a raging fever. But he also knew that if Jesus spoke the word, his son would be healed. What happened? When he believed the WORD THAT JESUS SPOKE, his son was healed. As the man was on the way home, one of his servants met him and said, 'Thy son liveth!" He asked the servant when his son began to get better. When the servant told him, he knew that "it was the same hour" when Jesus had said to him, "Thy son liveth."

Some, bound by doubt and skepticism, may say, "But Brother Allen, you don't really believe that Jesus is going to speak such words in this day, do you?" If I didn't believe that Jesus still speaks the word in this day, I would be wasting my time preaching a powerless gospel!

But I am not wasting my time. Jesus does still speak the word today. You can find evidence in every issue of Miracle Magazine – the pictures and testimonies of many who have received remarkable healings. To say nothing of the thousands who give their testimonies under our great tent, and whose testimonies we never have space to publish!

Just as He spoke the word for the centurion's servant, just as He spoke the word to the man who had lain beside the pool for thirty-eight years, just as He spoke the word for the nobleman's son and made him whole, Jesus will speak the word right now that will make you whole. CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

"And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by Elijah" (I Kings 17:16). That little widow could have said, "Ah, that is just that old bald-headed preacher talking." But she didn't! She realized that it was God speaking through a choice servant of His; that it was not just Elijah speaking, but God speaking to her through him.

God spoke to her through Elijah to bring her deliverance. He said to her, "Make me a little cake first, then go back and make for thee and thy son." It wasn't Elijah speaking. That was God speaking through him. She believed and obeyed, and God met her need.

God still speaks through men and women that will yield to His moving. God has many ways of speaking to us. He can speak audibly. I know He can, because I have heard Him speak in such a way. Then God can speak in a still small voice. (See I Kings 19:12). We hear it with something inside of us; something like a radio receiving set on the inside receives the message directly from God.

We can read the Word of God, and that is God talking to us. We read that He spoke audibly to some, and His voice sounded like thunder. All the way through the Bible, God has called to His people, and spoken to them with an audible voice.

"He called unto Moses and said unto him..." (Leviticus 1:1; Exodus 3:4,5 and 19:3).

"The Lord called Aaron and Miriam..." (Numbers 12:5).

But in I Kings 17:16, God spoke through a man: *"According to the word of the Lord, which He spoke by Elijah..."* It was Elijah's lips, it was his voice, but it was God speaking through his voice, and *"Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are..."* (James 5:17).

God still speaks through His ministers today. If you have lost confidence in the ministry, you will not have confidence in God either. That is exactly why some of you are not able to get anything from God. If you believe me, every one of you can hear the voice of God...now! And God will do mighty things for you!

Ten men met Jesus. Every one of them was a leper. Jesus was the only one who could help them. But they dared not even come close enough for Him to touch them. He didn't even pray one prayer for them. He didn't say, "Come, and I will lay My hands on you!" He said, "Go show yourselves to the priests" (Luke 17:11-19). As they went, they were cleansed!

A little Syrophoenician mother came to Jesus. Her daughter was grievously vexed with a devil. No doubt, she would have liked to bring her daughter to Jesus, but she could not. Nevertheless, she believed that if she could get close enough to talk to Jesus about her daughter, she would be delivered. Jesus didn't say, "Have someone get an ambulance and bring her to me," and He didn't say, "I'll go there and heal her." Jesus commended her for her faith, saying, "Be it unto thee as thou wilt!"

I can see that daughter running down the walk to meet her mother as she returns home...sound, free, delivered! What made her whole? The words that Jesus spoke!

God is the same today. He is not dumb. He still speaks the words of health and healing! I'll tell you what makes Jesus speak the word of healing today: I pray, you pray, we agree, without doubting, and God in heaven forms the third angle of the triangle. When two of us agree as touching anything, Jesus speaks the word and says, 'It is done!"

In a meeting in California about a year ago, I was preaching along this same line. There was a little woman out there who had an arm six inches shorter than the other. She looked up to heaven and said, "Jesus, speak the word only, and this short arm of mine will grow and both my arms will be the same length." She believed as she prayed. Suddenly, the Spirit impressed her to bend over and touch the ground. As she obeyed God, that short arm was lengthened. She knew that Jesus had SPOKEN THE WORD!

This woman came running to give her testimony. She had no sooner finished when another woman ran to the platform. In her hand was an open safety pin...rusty, and sharp as a needle. She said, "While you were preaching, God gave me faith to believe for a miracle. More than a week ago, I swallowed this safety pin. I have been in pain all week. While you were preaching, I could feel it there in my stomach. I began to say to Jesus,

'Speak the word only'. I felt it move up into my throat. I kept praying. It moved up and up. At last it was in my mouth!"

Her prayer to God had been, "SPEAK THE WORD ONLY!" God heard, and spoke!

He will speak the word today…for YOU!

He spoke the word for the centurion's servant!

He spoke the word for the man at the Pool of Bethesda!

He spoke the word for the Nobleman's son, and for the Syrophoenician woman's daughter!

He spoke the word for the starving widow!

He spoke the word for the ten lepers!

He is speaking the word for men and women just like you today…and every day! All you have to do is say to Him, "SPEAK THE WORD ONLY!" His word, spoken in heaven, will loose your son or daughter, your husband or wife, your precious old white-haired mother, though they may be a thousand miles away from you.

Do you believe it? In His word there is life and healing. *"Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows…"* (Isaiah 53:4).

"Himself took our infirmities, and bear our sicknesses" (Matthew 8:17).

"He was wounded for our transgressions...and with His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

This is God's Word!

If Jesus says you are healed, who are the skeptics, modernists, infidels, and atheists to say you are not healed? If Jesus says you are healed, you make Him out to be a liar when you say you are not!

I believe what Jesus said! Raise your hand toward heaven now, and tell Him you believe IT IS DONE! Health, healing, deliverance, or a miracle can be yours…RIGHT NOW!

IS IT A SIN TO "TALK"?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1961)

Many a man has been hung on the gallows that he built for another. Remember Esther 8:7 and 7:10 tells us:

"Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews."

"**So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai.** Then was the king's wrath pacified."

Down through the scriptures, from the very beginning of the existence of man, man has reaped exactly what he sows. If a man digs a pit for another man's feet, he will fall into it himself. And if he, in jealousy, ill will, hatred, variance, and strife, builds a gallows for his fellowman, God will see to it that he hangs on his own gallows.

What a pitiful situation the world is in today, even including many ministers who continually dig pits for the feet of other men; who make gallows for another man's neck. Blinded by Satan, down through the years, preachers in jealousy and hatred have dug pits and made gallows; but if every person who reads this will review the records, he will find that in every instance where men who have committed this sin, even preachers, big men whom some have called "big preachers," even heads of Pentecostal denominations, they are no longer in office. They have been retired. Not because they could not be useful, but because the people no longer are anxious for their services.

Many preachers, no longer in the ministry, are now selling insurance or automobiles. Some are just plain carpenters. Men who were at one time pastors of great churches are no longer in the ministry - not because of old age, but because God has put them on the shelf. Sometimes God does it through a physical condition and through discouragement. They quit! If they don't quit themselves, their lack of being successful in the ministry causes people to demand that they quit.

Are you on the shelf, preacher? Has God put you down and raised someone else up? Has God passed you by and given great ministries to others because you have continually dug pits for other preachers' feet? How long has it been since you asked God to forgive you for the mean things you have said about your fellowman?

The scripture says, *"...that judgment must begin at the house of God..."*

In a recent telephone conversation with a minister on the East Coast he informed me that a certain minister in his area was telling certain things which he believed to be untrue about a fellow minister. In fact, he was attacking the other minister's morals. The story, or gossip, was to the effect that the preacher was living an immoral life, and the evangelist in the conversation with me on the phone asked me what I thought could be done about the matter.

I told him plainly that, according to Ephesians 5:12 – *"It is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret."* According to this scripture, a person can commit a sin by merely talking about the things another person does in secret. They should have pure minds; their minds should be out of the gutter.

The reason some preachers are always declaring that other preachers are living immorally is because their own minds are always in the gutter. I have found that,

generally, the thing that one preacher will untruthfully say that another preacher is doing is actually the thing that he himself is doing. It helps him smooth over his conscience, for the sin that he himself has been committing or is committing, to wrongly accuse other people of doing that which he is actually guilty of doing himself.

In dealing with people down through the years, multitudes of people, I have found (and I would like for this to be a solemn warning to all preachers who are out to accuse other ministers of wrong acts, immoral acts, etc.) that the people who are spiritual to whom you tell these things immediately brand you as being guilty of doing the thing yourself that you say the other person is doing.

Paul said, *"...for thou that judgest doest the same things"* (Romans 2:1).

Preacher, could you be guilty of this thing yourself and, in trying to cover up your own sin by declaring that others whom you would like to be like, who have a ministry you would like to enjoy, are guilty of the things, when in truth they are innocent, but you are guilty? Search your own heart. You have the answer.

A number of newspaper clippings have fallen into my hands recently, most of them coming through the mail, stating, in part, that a particular pastor in a certain part of the United States has been accused of and charged with being instrumental in faking miracles in his church. According to the newspaper clippings, the accuser is a man who had been a former employee, and was dismissed by the pastor and his paycheck stopped. It would seem from the newspaper reports, if true, that the employee who had been fired had gone along with faking miracles until he was dismissed. Then, after he was dismissed, he went to certain authorities with his complaint.

Of course, the pastor denied the charges, declaring that the accuser was merely angry because he had been fired and had threatened "to get revenge."

Undisciplined tale bearing can destroy your victim as surely and effectively as the assassin's dagger. If the tale is not true, you have lied. If it is true you may have crushed to the earth one who could rise again. It would be better for you to have had a millstone tied around your neck and be thrown into the sea.

Be not judges – but doers of the Word! A person cannot condemn and criticize wrongly without losing God's blessings and anointing.

To me, it seems that this is the very thing Satan is using today to rob preachers and laymen alike of their blessing and power. They are forming opinions about ministers and other Christians, and in many cases wrong opinions. They are condemning and judging when it is not necessary for them to condemn and to judge.

I could go on in my ministry, continue to preach the gospel, and have great campaigns indefinitely without commenting at all on this particular news item or any other of a similar nature. The best way to stop an unpleasant rumor (or an unpleasant fact, for that matter) is to refuse to repeat it. I could keep victory in my soul, live for God, keep the blessing and anointing of God and be successful in my ministry without ever repeating or discussing such reports. I believe that this is true for anyone. You can go on preaching, you can live for God and have a successful ministry, without forming an opinion. Should a person form a wrong opinion in such matters and permit himself to be a talebearer, he or she can lose the blessing of God, or the anointing, by condemning someone who is innocent. Remember King Solomon, inspired of the Holy Ghost, wrote, *"A prudent man concealeth knowledge..."* (Proverbs 12:23), and, *"A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter"* (Proverbs 11:13).

Everything I preach, and everything published in our various publications, is backed up by the Bible, and is given for your edification, that you may steer clear of the pitfalls many are falling into today. *"...for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accuseth them before our God day and night"* (Revelation 12:10). You need to hide these scripture references in your heart. Remember that Satan is the accuser of the brethren.

It is the business of Satan, by his tongue or by the tongue of another who is yielded to him, to defile the whole Body of Christ! If a person were to believe every accusation, every bit of gossip that he or she hears concerning a preacher, or even a lay member, he or she would soon have no confidence in anyone. It is a subtle trick of the devil to cause ministers and Christians to condemn one another.

I repeat, **it is Satanic to accuse the brethren and destroy the confidence in another, for when a person begins to lose confidence in the ministry, he soon loses confidence in God.** As I said before, if all the reports and rumors I have heard were true, which they are not, then God has very few real preachers and very few real Christians.

I have found the way to keep victory in my soul and to keep the anointing of God upon my life is to leave the matter with God because "it remaineth with the Lord whether he standeth or falleth." If a person uses such articles or bits of gossip as an instrument to fight the miraculous or to fight someone they personally dislike, should the gossip or the report be untrue, he would find himself, *"fighting against God"* (Acts 5:39).

No man can fight against God or criticize His anointed and keep the blessing and anointing of God on his life and ministry. Why fight one another? You may be fighting God. Why oppose God's ministers? You may be opposing God.

Some preachers, knowing that they are not "big", like to appear "big." Generally, the only way they can appear big is to knock the crutches from under everyone else so they will be the only one to remain standing.

Dealing with the multitudes down through the years, both spiritual and carnal, I have observed that the carnal method of trying to appear big and at the same time make everyone else appear small, is to appear super spiritual. This is carnality itself! The devil pushes people overboard and tells them that if they will make everyone else appear to be unspiritual, it will cause people to think they are super spiritual. If they can make everyone else appear little, they will appear large.

Preacher, Christian, are you using these weapons of carnality? Are you trying to make it appear that everyone else is little; that everyone else is unspiritual; that other preachers, and other Christians are backslidden, using wrong methods, and preaching false doctrine, thus calling attention to yourself?

James 3:8 tells us, *"...The tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison...it defileth the whole body."* He speaks here of the Body of Christ. The Body is composed of many members, but it is one Body and I have observed that the Church – the believers, Christians, laymen and the ministry – are being defiled by a spirit which is over-anxious to surmise that which is evil; to condemn, to criticize and say unkind things about the ministry, causing the public or even the believers to think bad of them. This spirit could be caused by anxiety on the part of the guilty person to promote himself or herself faster than it is the will of God for them to be promoted. Prayerfully, let those words sink in.

Preacher, this is a heart to heart talk, not only to all our Miracle Revival Fellowship ministers, but to every minister who follows this ministry. Fear is such a tormenting thing, such a paralyzing thing, that when one becomes obsessed with fear, he

will do almost anything to recover himself, to raise himself up, because no one wants to be a failure. However, it might be better for many preachers if they were willing to become a failure for the cause of Christ. Many preachers will not pray for the sick because they are afraid of failure. They will not ask God to perform a miracle because they are afraid of failure. Many a minister will not go to a foreign field because he is afraid that God will let him fail.

There are many preachers who are afraid to launch out on the promises of God. They fear they will fail. Even ministers in a successful ministry, seemingly, many times become fearful. If one is a pastor, he is afraid his sheep will stray off to another man's church. Therefore, in an attempt to build a higher fence around his sheep, he will say mean things about another man's sheepfold, the shepherd, or the sheep in the sheepfold. His main desire, generally, is to keep his sheep away from another pastor's church. He is afraid that if he says good things about another pastor, his people may visit that church.

Some evangelists are afraid to say anything good about another evangelist because they are afraid their followers might support the fellow evangelist. But the situation has gotten even worse than this. Instead of most pastors remaining neutral, saying nothing and letting people draw their own conclusions about other ministers and recognizing that other ministers may have a ministry, they are tempted, in order to keep themselves from failure, or to build up their own work, or to exalt themselves in the eyes of their own people, to criticize another. This is sin, and no preacher living in sin can be promoted by God and have a successful ministry.

The scripture says, *"Fear hath torment"* (I John 4:18). No one is as tormented as a preacher who is afraid of failure; afraid he will lose his following and have to quit the ministry. Some ministers fear they will have no one in attendance. A minister knows that unless he has a following, he cannot raise money to promote his ministry and he will have to admit defeat.

I would suggest to every minister gripped by fear, or tempted to be afraid, that you get on your knees and pray until God delivers you, or come into my campaigns and let me lay hands upon you personally and pray the prayer of deliverance over you. Many ministers come into our meetings season after season for this very reason, declaring they are bound by fear; that this thing torments them and they know they can never be successful until they are freed from fear.

God has not given us the spirit of fear. Fear does not come from God. Fear, no doubt, comes from the pit, designed by the devil and used by the devil to cause preachers to resort to unscriptural methods to try to stay, as some call it, afloat.

In the 34th chapter of Ezekiel, God plainly condemns commercialism in the gospel. In this chapter He says, *"I am against the shepherds,"* but only against the shepherds who commercialize on the gospel. This was made plain when He said, *"You kill them that are fed and ye clothe you with the wool, and ye eat the fat...but you feed not the flock"* (Ezekiel 34:3).

The thing that makes it sin is that it is not a genuine ministry, but merely a man-made profession. Referring to this God says, *"Woe be to the shepherds...that do feed themselves"* (Ezekiel 34:2). Should not the shepherds feed the sheep? God openly and clearly condemns and says He is against ministers (so called) that merely feed and clothe themselves and do not properly feed God's flock. This shows plainly that in the eyes of the Lord if a minister is merely clothing and feeding himself and not doing his proper duties toward God's flock, he is displeasing to the Lord. This is commercialism in the ministry!

When that kind of preacher begins to oppose and fight other preachers, he is not really fighting for the gospel's sake, neither is he fighting for the Kingdom. He is fighting for his own food and clothing, his own bread and butter. When a man begins to fight for his own existence he doesn't always fight fair and square. He will use any method to promote his own livelihood, his own bread and butter, or his own paycheck.

This may be the reason why so many preachers are fighting other preachers. They have a feeling deep down in their hearts that their ministry will not merit promotion from heaven…from God. Therefore, they must promote their own ministry. Many a preacher is trying to promote himself instead of waiting for God to promote him.

The scripture declares in Psalm 75:6-7, *"For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: HE PUTTETH DOWN ONE, AND SETTETH UP ANOTHER."* Let me ask every preacher who hears my voice, "Is God putting you down, or setting you up?"

Many a preacher has decided that God is either not going to promote him or is not going to promote him fast enough. So, in his carnal way of doing things, he decides to promote himself and do it as quickly as possible. And when preachers, especially commercial preachers, begin to promote themselves they think only of themselves, to the disregard of all others. They become jealous, filled with ill will, critical and highly skeptical, even filled with unbelief, until they brand all other ministries, except their own, as being fictitious, unreal, of the devil, out of the Spirit, fanaticism, mass psychology, not genuine, or faked.

This type of minister is eager to promote himself quicker by causing people to think less of all other ministers. This holds true of denominationalism in many cases. Many preachers uplift their own denomination, but leave the inference that all ministers who belong to other denominations, or that belong to no denomination, cannot be much good.

This is because they desire to promote their denomination rather than the Kingdom of God. The Bible declares that promotion cometh from none of these sources, but that real, genuine, heaven-sent promotion cometh from God. God has further declared that a man's gift will make room for his ministry. He says in Proverbs 18:16 – *"A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men."* However, if a man doesn't have a gift, he may not have much of a ministry because there is nothing to make room for his ministry.

Many preachers, jealous of another man's gift that is making room for his ministry, jealous of another man's promotion which is coming from God, are tempted to criticize his ministry, even to tell lies about him concerning his morals. This may seem to be successful on the part of some for a while, but preacher, don't forget the 7th verse of Psalm 75, where God said that "He putteth down one, and setteth up another." When a minister resorts to unscriptural methods of promoting himself, in due season he is going to reap exactly when he sows! God is going to put him down and He will promote the man who is holy.

In the 2nd chapter of James, the 8th verse, the Lord said, *"…Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."* Most people love themselves. It is only a natural thing. So far as I know, everyone loves himself or herself, whether he is a minister or a layman. God's Word declares, throughout the Bible, that when we have the love of God in our own hearts (and how can a man be ready for heaven if he doesn't love God?) we will love our neighbor also. In fact, Jesus said, *"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you"*

(Matthew 5:44). Thus, you can see that when your hearts are right with God, we even love our enemy. Romans 13:10 tells us *"Love worketh no ill to his neighbor."* Then, if Christians love each other, they will not say one thing, do one thing, or perform one act that will work ill, degrade or hurt his neighbor.

Some may ask the question, "Who is my neighbor?" This question was posed to Jesus in Luke 10:28. Jesus told the young man the story of the Good Samaritan. After he finished the story He said, *"Go and do thou likewise."* He informed the man that the only way he could inherit eternal life was by doing what the Good Samaritan did. He told him that a man's neighbor was one who possibly has fallen among thieves, been stripped, left naked, sick and dying. He told him his neighbor was the man in need, whether in spiritual, financial, or physical need.

Love cares for the neighbor and will administer to his need no matter what kind of need it is. A man who loves will never allow himself to do one thing that will work ill against his neighbor. How much do you love the preacher across the street from you? How much do you love your neighbor?

I have noticed across the nation that preachers and Christians who have anxiously dug a pit for other men's feet, to destroy them or their ministry, are unheard of and unrecognized today. Many have even lost their churches or their positions. They have been voted out. They fell into the pit that they were digging for another. Remember, God's Word says, *"...vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord,"* and further, *"...ye shall not need to fight this battle, for the battle is not your's but God's"* (II Corinthians 20:17-15). Since the battle is the Lord's, let Him fight it!

God knows how to fight His own battle and, if God does the fighting, He will do it rightly! If you do the fighting, you will lose the victory, lose the success of your own ministry, and your own soul. Let God fight for you! He knows how to do it. God has called preaches and Christians to fight no one but the devil!

Seemingly, there is a tendency among Christians and ministers across the nation, (and I believe the source is of the devil), to condemn one another, criticize one another, and find fault with one another. This, to me, is definitely no sign of spirituality. Too frequently, the criticisms stem only from something the person heard or read. When questioned, they must admit they really have no first hand knowledge of the case.

I believe this is a great time to offer these words of admonition to all of God's people everywhere, to steer clear of the things that gender strife...stay away from the things that promote ill will and evil surmising.

DOES GOD HEAL THROUGH MEDICINE?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1961)

"Not by might, not by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts."- Zechariah 4:6

I do not condemn the arm of flesh, or condemn what man can do. I do not condemn what man has done in the past, or criticize what man may do in the future. That's not my business. But there is another thing that I am not going to do. I am not going to turn God's job, His duty, or what Jesus came to do, over to man.

What did Jesus come to do? In Luke 4:8, Jesus said concerning His ministry, *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."* He was reading from the prophecy of Isaiah 61:1. Jesus didn't complete the work that He started. Before He went away, He called His disciples and told them He was going to have a church and a people who would continue the work He had started. He's been gone quite a while, but one of these days, He is coming back to see what kind of a job we have done. What kind of a job did He leave with us? The answer is simple: *"...of all that Jesus began to do and teach"* (Acts 1:1). That is why we are still writing the Book of Acts today. The Book of Acts is the one book that has never been finished. God left it to us to continue the book. It is the book of the acts of the Holy Ghost, or rather, it's the Holy Ghost in action! It's God moving and doing things through the moving of the Holy Ghost, and He has never stopped...we are still writing it today!

We are just doing the work that Jesus began. He came to heal the sick. Do you believe God turned His work over to the Church...His anointed, Holy Ghost filled believers as was in evidence on the day of Pentecost? Or, did He turn His work over to manufacturing plants, drug companies, and medical centers? Can you find one place in the Bible where Jesus ever said He turned His job over to medicine, drugs, surgery, or doctors?

Show me where Jesus ever gave somebody a shot and a hypodermic needle, and I would say doctors are carrying on the work of Jesus. It would mean that God is healing through medical science. Show me one place where Jesus ever sent one person to a doctor, where He ever prescribed one pill. Jesus didn't even send the little woman in Luke 13 to the chiropractor. He laid His hands upon her, cast the devil out, and she was well. And God said concerning us, *"...they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover"* (Mark 16:18).

Jesus came to heal the sick, to open the eyes of the blind, but how did He do it? He did it entirely and completely through the anointing and supernatural power of the Holy Ghost. If God had intended to heal through medicines and drugs, and the arm of flesh today, somewhere in the Bible Jesus would have resorted to them, at least in a few instances. But He did not! He depended on God's supernatural power separate from any help from man. God wants to be God. He will not play second fiddle to anybody. *"I the Lord thy God am a jealous God"* (Exodus 20:5). And He is going to use the same methods today that He used in days gone by. What was it? *"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing*

all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him" (Acts 10:38). It was not because He knew drugs, or had attended medical school, but because God was with Him. He was anointed of God for the work. Isaiah said in the 10th chapter, verse 27, *"the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing."* Jesus came to destroy the yoke of the devil, which is found in the 28th chapter of Deuteronomy

What method did Peter use, after Jesus went away to be with the Father? He used a supernatural method after he was filled with the Holy Ghost. Peter used his shadow, and the laying on of hands to heal the sick.

Paul got converted on the road to Damascus, when God threw him in the dust and spoke to him. Paul answered, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" From that time on, Paul did the works Jesus called him to do. He healed the sick by the laying on of hands, and sending out handkerchiefs and aprons. Paul never resorted to mankind, but depended upon supernatural power alone.

That was the beginning of the dispensation of the Church, which was established in the 2nd chapter of Acts. This was after Christ had ascended and sat down at the right hand of the Father. Every chapter beyond that demonstrates the operation of the Holy Ghost through the Church. You'll never find one place in the Bible where Jesus healed anybody by any other than supernatural means and methods. God did not change His methods in Bible days, and don't tell me that since the Bible was written He has changed His methods. He is using the same method today as in Bible days, and that method is the power and anointing of the Holy Ghost.

Well, it's *"not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord."* It's not by physical might or natural power. It's nothing that comes from man or natural means, but something that is supernatural that comes from heaven…from the Lord.

If God works and operates through man, He must work and operate work and operate by the Holy Ghost. You will not find in the Bible where God resorted to something that didn't belong to Him. If God is going to heal through the medical profession, then every doctor and nurse must be filled with the Holy Ghost. They must be born again Christians. Until you are born again, you are a child of the devil. Jesus said, *"Thou art of thy father the devil, and the works of thy father thou wilt do."* Tell me any place in the Bible where God used the devil to do His work.

But God said, *"Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord."* God has never resorted to using any kind of vessel that isn't filled with the Holy Ghost. He doesn't have to borrow vessels from anyone else. He can make His own vessels, clean them up, sanctify them, and get them ready for His use. And if God is going to use man, He is going to use him in such a way that the Spirit of God can operate through him. Man won't do the work, but the Spirit and power of the Holy Ghost will do it through man. I have often said, "It isn't my hand that heals the sick or performs a miracle, it is the Spirit of God and the gift and power of God working through a man that is yielded to Him."

If God is healing through medicines and drugs, then He is resorting to sinners, and in many cases, God haters and rejecters who oppose the Bible and His Word. In a certain city in Illinois, we had a broadcast every day. It so happened that in that city there was a great medical school and the offices of a certain national medical society. The medical doctors got together and started listening to the broadcasts. They were inspired by some backslidden preachers. They decided they would see that our broadcasts were taken off the air. If the modernist preachers couldn't accomplish it, then the medical society would. The medical society began calling the station manager and writing him letters.

Finally, the station manager wrote us a letter and told us that we were either going to have to rearrange our radio broadcasts or he would have to take it off the air, because he was receiving too much kickback from the medical doctors in that city. He said the doctors were listening to every one of the broadcasts, just waiting until we prayed for someone and pronounced them to be made well. When that person died, "Then they are going to get you."

If that group of doctors is being used of God to heal the sick, and if God is healing through those doctors, why is it that they are fighting me and what I preach from the Word of God? I had preached that God could take over where man leaves off. That God can take over when man has to give up. If God heals through the medical profession, why don't the doctors work in cooperation with the Bible and with preachers that are preaching the truth?

If God heals through medicine, why doesn't every bottle have a label on it declaring that "This bottle of medicine is manufactured in the Name of Jesus for the Glory of God"? But you'll never see it. It is against all the teaching of the Bible, because God said it is not by natural means, natural power, or physical might or knowledge of men, but by His Spirit!

How can a man yield to God so that He can use him to do His work? God cannot use a man unless he is saved, born again, washed in the blood, sanctified and full of the Holy Ghost. God uses yielded be4ssels that are clean, filled, and anointed.

You may ask me, "If Jesus didn't finish His work, how is He going to finish it?" He has called you and me to finish the work He started. And don't tell me that He can't find someone He can work with today. Men and women are beginning to realize that God said, *"I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions"* (Joel 2:28). God is going to use His own people for His work. And what is His work? To save the lost, to heal the sick, to cast out devils, and get people ready for the Kingdom. And God is big enough, capable enough, and powerful enough to do His own work, and He will do it by a supernatural means!

Look at the first chapter of Genesis. The Spirit of the Lord moved, and God said, "Let there be…", and there was! The Spirit of the Lord moved again, and God said, "Let there be…", and there was! There was light, firmament, dry land and seas, plant life, and living creatures. And then God said, "Let us make man." The Spirit of the Lord moved and God said, "I've got a man."

All God had to say was, "Let there be." Because God is unlimited, all things are possible with Him, and there is noting impossible to him that believeth! All God has to say today is, "Let there be a new toe on that foot. Let there be a new lung in that cavity. Let there be a new bone where there is no bone." As the centurion said to Jesus, "Just speak the word only, and it shall be done."

Is Jesus the same yesterday, today, and forever? Has He ever changed? If you can get the Spirit of God to move, and get God to speak the Word, something is going to happen! And it will be supernatural! Quit doubting! Take the limit off God!

It is not my intention to condemn, belittle, or discourage the use of medicines or drugs by people that have no faith or trust in God. I am talking to those who are interested in taking the limit off God, who want God to do something for them. I have heard so many preachers across this nation say on radio and TV, and through publications, that God heals through medicine, drugs, and the arm of flesh. But, I have never yet heard one of them back up this teaching with the Bible. If it is just a theory,

then it had better be left out of their sermons. God said, 'PREACH THE WORD." He didn't say, "Preach theory." Other men can preach theory, but I cannot preach theory. Some say that God heals many different ways. I say, I'm waiting for the Bible reference. If there is no scripture to back it up, it is nothing more than theory.

What I want to do is believe what God believes. I want to see the truth according to the scriptures. The Bible is God's truth, His authority. It's our road map, our guide. We don't need any other guide. I believe there is an answer in our Bible for every problem, every situation that may arise, whether it is spiritual, physical, mental, or financial. And I believe there is an answer in the Bible as to whether or not God heals through medicines and drugs.

Someone said, "Allen is fighting doctors. Allen is fighting medicine." I am not! I am fighting the devil! I am fighting false doctrine! I am out to preach the gospel, the Word of God. There is not one person who will hear me preach one thing from the pulpit, on radio or television that I can't back up with "thus saith the Lord." After all, it is not what A. A. Allen says, or what this or that man says, but it is what God says in His Word that we are to believe.

In Hebrews 10:38 we read, *"The just shall live by faith."* Is it true? And in the next chapter, the great faith chapter of the Bible, every verse tells us an amazing incident that was wrought "by faith." Paul tells us to get our eyes on Jesus, "the author and finisher of our faith." If you let Jesus be the author and finisher of your faith, then you can live by faith!

Peter said in II Peter 1:3-4, *"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness...Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these, ye might be partakers of the divine nature..."* God has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness, not death and devilishness. He wants us to be partakers of His divine nature by His exceeding great and precious promises, not by something that comes out of a prescription bottle or box.

If God intended to heal through medicines and drugs, He would have said, "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and miraculous drugs, that by these you might live." BUT HE DIDN'T SAY THAT!

God proved to us that he could perform miracles before man was ever on the face of the earth. If He could do it before man ever came, He can still perform miracles when man is gone, and without man's help. God healed the sick before man ever knew anything about medicine. God performed miracles before man ever breathed his first breath.

Recently we televised one of the greatest miracles I've ever seen. One lady, who had been bound, fettered, and almost insane, was delivered by the power of God. Later she returned with a whole sack of sleeping tablets, tranquilizers, drugs, sedatives, and dope. I didn't ask that lady to bring them. Whey did she bring them? Because after God healed and delivered her, she didn't need them any more. There were so many, I lined them up all over the pulpit to show the audience.

I am not condemning you that still take them, but if you will get deliverance and trust God, you won't need them either. I am not condemning the 67 million Americans who have to take sleeping tablets every night to go to sleep. But if you will trust God, He will deliver you so that you will not have to take sleeping tablets to go to sleep. Psalm127:2 says, *"He giveth his beloved sleep."*

I am not condemning those of you who have had a nervous breakdown for taking dope. I suppose you will have to take the dope for your condition if you don't have any

faith and trust in God or His promises. But if you will trust God, I'll tell you what He will do. He says, *"Great peace have they that love thy law"* (Psalm 119:165). God will give you peace! He also said, *"I will give thee the oil of joy for mourning, and the garments of praise for the spirit of heaviness"*(Isaiah 61:3). He'll lift that oppression, that mental sickness! And when He does, you won't need any help from anyone else. But until people realize God can and will help them, some will go on using drugs and medicines. As far as I'm concerned, drugs and medicines are not God given or heaven sent; they are the accomplishments of man.

God's help is divine. It comes through the Holy Ghost. Our help comes through the blood of Jesus, through Calvary. The Bible says, concerning Christ, *"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases"* (Psalm 103:3). When Christ died at Calvary, He paid the price for your hospital and surgery bills. He paid for all your prescriptions. He paid for everything you need, because He said, ***"It is finished."*** What is finished? Everything for the soul and for the body. Why don't you claim it and accept it now?

Isaiah 31:1,3 says, *"Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong, but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither see the LORD! ... When the LORD shall stretch out His hand, both he that helpeth shall fall, and he that is helped shall fall down, and they shall all fail together."* God promises woe to those who depend on men for their help, for they are only flesh...they are not spirit. People are still setting their eyes on man for their help. They set their eyes on people, even preachers, but you can't put your eyes on flesh. You will find the works of the flesh in Galatians, chapter 5. You are going to have to trust the Lord. When we walk in the Spirit, talk in the Spirit, sing in the Spirit, live in the Spirit, then the Spirit of God can move and work through us. But if we let anything clog up the channel, then the Spirit of the Lord can't move and operate through us.

God promised woe to them who *"look not to the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the Lord!"* You can't go down to Egypt for help. You must get your eyes on the Lord for your help. In the Bible, Egypt is a type of the world, a type of those that have never come out of bondage and captivity. God bless the saints of God that have been liberated and set free from Pharaoh's whiplash. If God set you free, stay free! *"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed"* (John 8:36). When God brings you out, you don't have to go back because of many strong horses and chariots. They are not the Holy One of Israel. They are not the Lord! They are flesh! And woe to the people that go back to the flesh for help. God said they are going to fall and fail. And if you look to them for help, you will fall and fail with them. Let's not forget Asa. In II Chronicles 6:12 we are told Asa died because he trusted the physicians instead of trusting God in his affliction. God has chosen to do the work Himself, because He wants the honor and praise and glory!

There is a difference between help from man and help from God. God's help is entirely different. Man gives you a shot or an anesthetic to knock you out, so you don't feel the pain. He performs surgery with a sharp instrument, taking extra precaution that you don't bleed to death. Sometimes there are four or five doctors and nurses standing around you. They check your heart, your pulse and blood pressure closely, so you don't die while you are cut open. After they have removed portions of your body, they sew you up. That's man's method, and there is much suffering after he is finished.

What's God's method? Why, God operates on you without even making an incision. He doesn't give you an anesthetic, doesn't even put you to bed. You get it standing on your feet and it doesn't even hurt. You shout while He is doing it, and you feel wonderful! It is always a success, and there is never a mistake. You don't even have to mortgage you home or automobile in order to pay the bill. But when you depend on the flesh, sometimes there are mistakes and failures. So God says, *"woe to you that turn back to Egypt for help."* The Lord is your help!

"Believe in the Lord your God, so shalt thou be established" (II Chronicles 20:20). *"The prayer of faith shall save the sick"* (James 5:15). *"Ask anything in my name and I will do it"* (John 14:14). All the way through the Bible, God very plainly tells us that if we trust in Him, He is not going to let us down.

People today are being taught, even by supposedly one-time Pentecostal preachers, that God heals through medicine, drugs, and physicians. I don't deny that those things may help. But, God is never given the glory for them! And God let Asa die *"because he trusted not in the Lord, but trusted the physicians."* If there is no other place in the Bible but this one. It would be enough for me. But I find other places in God's Word.

I'm reminded of a woman who came into one of our meetings, declaring she was suffering with a cancer she had had removed many times. Her doctors had told her it was the same one coming back. She showed scar after scar on her face. Each time there was a certain amount of cancer left that still had life. She already had 18 operations, and the doctors had told her she would need one every year. Do you believe God has to do it every year? God can do one complete job, and there's no need for an operation annually.

Many people are healed in our meetings who have had as many as four or five operations that hadn't effected a cure. There are some things man can't do. And I believe God in His divine will, to encourage supernatural healing and deliverance, has ordained that there be certain things in this world that according to man's theories and abilities are incurable. There will always be cases that are incurable, and man will be defeated in his endeavors to conquer them. It's God's way to let man know there are some things he cannot do. There are some things that the arm of flesh cannot do for you, and if you are ever helped, you will have to seek the Lord.

Job said in Job 13, *"But ye are forgers of lies, ye are all physicians of no value."* People came to Job, trying to comfort him in his affliction, and he told them they were all like physicians that couldn't help him. He meant that there are certain types of sicknesses and diseases that physicians cannot help. So Job drew a line between God's help and the physicians. Job said the physicians couldn't help him. Once again, God drew a line in His Word between the help of God and doctors. I am not saying that physicians have not helped people. But I am saying there are some instances where physicians are of no value. God wants to do the work Himself. And if you will resort to the Lord, He is going to come to your rescue and do the work. God wants you to know He has all power in heaven and in earth, and there is no limit with Him. Why not trust Him?

In the business world, only the manufacturer guarantees his own product. Only God has guaranteed by His promises to heal you. Who made you, after all? He is a lung specialist! He is a foot specialist! He is a heart specialist! He is an eyes, ears, nose and throat specialist! He is a bone specialist! He made you out of nothing, and He can make you a new part out of the same material. He made you in the beginning, and that's why He specializes on your body, your soul, your mind, and your spirit. He is our specialist for every particular case. When parts wear out, He doesn't have to go to the second-hand

store. He still has plenty of material for making new parts. Don't tell me God can't make you a new part!

Recently we televised a miracle. A man's second toe had been completely eaten off by cancer. But, what did we all see? A brand new toe, more beautiful than any toe on his foot! Who put it there? I didn't do it. I prayed, but God put it there. He can still make new toes!

One expectant mother testified in Philadelphia, "I was the one who was here for prayer last year. I didn't have any female organs. They had been removed by surgery. Brother Allen prayed that God would put them back. Now I am expecting my first child in three weeks." God had restored her organs! She was so happy!

One man testified that God gave him a brand new lung and put in ribs and a breastbone that had been removed. Where did God get the parts? It wasn't any problem. He has all power in heaven and in earth. God wants to give you some new parts, too, if some of them are missing.

The devil is trying to destroy your health and strength by stealing some of your parts…so that you can't function properly. Then you can't glorify the Lord with your physical body. What you need to do is go back where the parts are made and order a new supply. Say, "Devil, God made me in the beginning, and He is going to make me new again, so that I will function properly. He will give me health and strength for His glory, because I will trust the Lord! My life is going to give glory and praise to the Lord!"

WILL CHRIST COME TO YOU IN '62?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1962)

It had been a marvelous service. Multitudes had followed the Master. You can find the story in Matthew 14:15-33. It had been a hard day. Multitudes had been there all day long. Christ had opened the eyes of the blind! The lame had leaped as a hart! Deaf ears had heard the words of the Master! The multitude had been fed as He multiplied the loaves and fishes! And when it began to get late, they had to get away from the crowd, because multitudes followed Him wherever He went.

I'll tell you this in passing, when people find out the touch of hands will unstop deaf ears, open blind eyes, make the lame leap and the crippled walk, **multitudes will follow any man that can heal the sick.** It matters not if his name is Jesus, Jones, or Allen.

The Pharisees and the Sadducees didn't like it because multitudes followed Jesus. The people followed Him out of their cold, dead synagogues. They couldn't find the longing of their hearts in their cold, dead synagogues, so they went out into the wide-open spaces to receive it from the hands of a man called Jesus.

If you can't find it in your old dead synagogues, you'll come out to a Miracle Revival to get it. And I believe you will find it, if you will open your heart and be obedient to the voice of God.

"And straightway Jesus constrained His disciples to get into a ship, and to go before Him unto the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up into a mountain to pray…" (Matthew 14:22-23).

The disciples got into a boat and set sail for the other side. Jesus sent the multitudes away, and slipped away to the mountain to be alone in prayer with God. Jesus had told the disciples He would come to them after a while.

"But as soon as their ship was in the midst of the sea, it became tossed with the waves for the wind was contrary."

Now, at a time when they needed Him desperately, Jesus deliberately postponed His coming. Today, I believe He's waiting. **"Be ye patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord."** He is coming! The Bible says, "He waiteth…He waiteth…" The Church today is waiting and wondering why He has not yet come. I'll tell you why: **"He waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, until He receives the early and the latter rain."**

He's coming! Be patient! He's waiting! Just be patient and wait! But don't be surprised if He comes at the darkest hour before the dawn. Don't be amazed if He comes at the 4th watch.

He has postponed His coming until this darkest hour before the dawn, when the Church needs Him most. He's not coming as a babe. He's not coming as He did many times to various ones in Bible days, or as recorded in the gospels. He's going to come in a new way; a way He has never come before. He's going to come "walking upon the sea" in this day and in this hour before the dawn, before the 4th watch, the last watch. JESUS IS COMING!

I want you to notice what was taking place in the 2nd and 3rd watches. The Bible says, **"But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary."**

Through the 3rd watch, the Church got into a rut. She learned to do without Jesus. The preachers and lay members have learned to do without Him. If you can't get the offerings, you can have a rummage sale or covered dish dinner. If you can't get the people to pay tithes, you can get the money some other say. If you can't heal the sick, send them to the doctor or take them to the hospital. If you can't preach under the power and inspiration of the Spirit, give them an intellectual sermon that appeals to their intellect, but will never touch their soul or move the spirit of man. Through the 2nd and 3rd watches, most preaches have learned to do it without God.

We're living in the hour when the waves are tossing and your little ship, your little church, your revival is being tossed. The winds are contrary. They are blowing in the wrong direction. Everything seems to be going wrong.

Preacher, you had better watch out! There was a time when ministers walked and talked with God and saw His mighty hand move to perform the miraculous. The disciples had seen some of the mightiest miracles performed by Jesus that very day. Don't be deceived because He seemingly has deserted the Church, while tempestuous contrary winds make raging seas and toss the ship. He is coming! And He has chosen to come in a miraculous way at the 4th watch. Watch out!

There has never been a time when so many evangelists are leaving the evangelistic field. Why? They can't make it! There's never been a time when so many preachers have quit preaching to sell insurance or cars, and to go back to the plow. They can't make it! And most ministers who are still active are just barely making it. They've decided they can never make it with the real gifts of the Spirit, the Supernatural Power and Presence of God, so they've gone all out for form, ceremony, ritual, natural ability and talent.

I've never seen a time when so many saints of God are so cold in their souls. When I make an altar call for out and out sinners, they come by the thousands. Who? Church members! They come running along with the sinners. And I've not made a call for church members at all. I've called sinners to repentance. I don't beat around the bush. I make a clean-cut altar call for sinners, "bound by sin, away from God, going to hell," and they come streaming by the thousands.

I'm amazed how many preachers say, "Oh, those aren't all sinners answering this altar call. Those are saints, church members." I say, "They may be church members, but they're not saints of God who have the victory!" If they were saints, they'd never answer an altar call like I make. They're under conviction because of their sins, their luke-warmness. The Church is living in the darkest hour before the dawn. This is the 4th watch. We've gone through the 3rd watch, and the ship is tossing about on a mighty stormy sea. The winds are contrary!

Jesus chose the darkest hour to come to His disciples. They were gathered all in one end of the boat, frightened almost to death…afraid the thing was going down.

This is a picture of some preachers and churches today…gathered together to one side of a little ship. The wind is blowing hard and contrary. The ship is tossing and about to go down. They are frightened almost to death. They're afraid God will never give them the gifts of the Spirit, healing, faith, miracles, wisdom, knowledge, discernment, tongues, interpretation of tongues, or prophecy.

People are afraid they're not going to make it. Evangelists and preachers are fearful their people are going to come to my tent and support our telecast and radio

broadcasts, or pledge and support our missionary program. The wind is contrary, the waves are tossing, and it looks like the little boat will go down.

Don't worry, preacher! Pastor, don't get upset! Why don't you look toward the eastern sky? Don't be surprised or amazed if you see Jesus coming…walking on the sea!

The disciples needed Jesus' help. Preachers, you need His help. Your church needs His help. You don't need any more form. You don't need any more ritual. You don't need any more intellectual sermons. WE NEED JESUS! What we need is the presence of the Master. The Church doesn't need rummage sales, fried chicken dinners, oyster stews or wiener roasts. We don't need bathing parties. We need Jesus to walk through the doors of our church and say, "I'm coming to you in a way I've never come before. Let me in!" And we need to recognize the Master and invite Him in!

Preacher, cheer up! Smile, Pastor! Jesus is about to pay the Church a visit. He's about to come to the Church in a miraculous, supernatural way. He's coming with the miraculous. You've never seen Him come like this before!

"And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea, and when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying: It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear" (Matthew 14:25-26).

I want you to notice that as they looked out into the darkness and saw a man walking on the sea, they were troubled. Somebody said, "It's Jesus!" But the multitude of them drew back in fear and they cried out, "No! It can't be Jesus. He never has come this way before, and He couldn't be coming this way now! It's a spirit!" They said it was everything but Jesus!

The disciples needed Jesus. Their lives were in peril from the storm. But the very One who had come to stop the winds, calm the trouble seas, and steady their ship was the very One they wouldn't receive. They couldn't recognize Him. They wouldn't believe it could be Jesus. They wanted nothing to do with Him. In fact, instead of rejoicing and shouting because He has come at last, as He promised, they drew back and cried out in fear!

But the voice of the Master came to them, **"Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid."**

Preacher, I'd like to say, "This is Jesus. This is Jesus coming to you! Church, this is Jesus coming to you! Don't draw back!" God says, *"…if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him"* (Hebrews 10:38). Don't run back to that cold, dead church saying, "This isn't Jesus! It's a spirit! It's a ghost! It's a devil!" Jesus is coming to the Church in a new way. Why don't you recognize Him?

He's in the shouting. He's in the dancing. He's in the singing. He's in the offerings, and in the pledges that are made. He's with the sinners as they seek salvation. He's in the healing of the sick and in the setting free of the captives of Satan. He's in the emptying of the stretchers and wheelchairs, as men and women have been raised up in Jesus' name. Can anyone say this is not Jesus?

Someone may say, "He doesn't come to my church this way." Well, you'd better watch out, or you won't recognize the Master. You won't even let Him come to your church this way.

But it's Jesus, nevertheless! It's Jesus! He's not coming in the ordinary way, not in the old way…just a song, an offering, announcements, a sermon, and a dismissal prayer. He's coming to His people in a glorious way. He's coming with the joy of the Lord, with the power of God, and the gifts of the Spirit. He's coming with signs and wonders and miracles!

And if you aren't careful, here's what you will do: You will brand it all as something else. You will brand it as everything else but Jesus, and from every other source and place except heaven. And you will miss the greatest thing that God has chosen to do at this dark hour…to come to you and your church, your ministry!

Right now, why not ask Him to come to you in a new way? Tell Him to come to you "walking on the sea"…in a miraculous way, in a way He's never come to you before. Let Him know you are anxiously awaiting His coming.

Here is one of the greatest lessons God has placed in the Bible. It took place in the 4th watch, the darkest hour before the dawn. When the winds were the most contrary and the ship tossed its worst, and fear gripped the hearts of the disciples. They were anxiously waiting for Jesus. He had said He would come to them. They had heard Him promise He was coming, and yet, when they saw Him coming, they were filled with fear.

"Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men." God says, "Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people, even a marvelous work and a wonder" (Isaiah 29:13-14).

Indeed, this is a day when everybody's being taught to be afraid toward the things of God. They're taught to be afraid of the gifts of the Spirit, afraid of the anointing and moving of the Spirit, even fearful of scriptural manifestations of worship in the Church. Fear has gripped the hearts of multitudes, including preachers across the nation and in many churches. They are especially afraid of this miracle ministry!

Some are calling it everything except a ministry from God. They say it's coming from every source but from God and heaven. But I'm not surprised. There were the disciples waiting in the ship, so bound by fear they didn't even recognize the Master who was coming to help them. They didn't recognize Him because He was coming in such an unbelievable, miraculous way!

And if you're not careful, preacher and lay member, when Jesus comes at this dark hour in an unbelievable, miraculous way, you will be so cold in your soul you will be afraid!

You will stand in your church and start prophesying. Your pastor will set you down. He'll say, "That's not from God. Nobody has ever prophesied in my church before, and they're not going to prophesy now. That's not God! That's out of the ordinary." You do anything in your church you haven't done in the last 20 or 30 years and you'll be branded as of the devil, of some other spirit, and not Jesus…not from heaven. You lay your hands upon the sick, believing God has given you the gift of healing, or you begin to discern something through the gift of discernment, they'll brand it everything but genuine or from God, and from every other place but heaven. THEY'LL SAY IT'S NOT JESUS! It's a ghost! It's a devil! They'll run as far from Jesus as they can run.

Preacher, you'd better watch out. There was a time when ministers of most denominations walked and talked with God and saw His mighty hand move to perform the miraculous. You Baptists better watch out. Jesus is trying to come to you this way, too. You Methodists, you Lutherans and Presbyterians be careful. Jesus is trying to come to your church in a miraculous way. Episcopalians, open up your eyes and recognize the Master. You cold, dead Pentecostals, you'd better watch out. Saints of God, you better be careful. Jesus is trying to come to you in a new way, and you won't let Him. If you don't watch out, there'll be one or two jump overboard and start walking like Jesus walked, and leave the rest of you screaming out in fear back on the boat.

If there ever was a time, it's today that we need to pray, **"God, give us enough spiritual discernment to know it's YOU, and we will invite You to come into our ship."** It isn't that you don't hear the voice of Jesus, but if you don't watch out, you and your preacher will keep crying in fear. When you see Jesus coming in a new way…a supernatural, miraculous way…you won't accept Him. You won't let Him in the ship. And instead of shouting and rejoicing in the joy of the Lord, you'll be saying, "It's a devil!"

As in the 14th chapter of Matthew, the world today is in such a condition of fear, they are actually afraid of Jesus. They can read in the Word what Jesus has promised He will do, but church members are afraid of Jesus!

If He blesses the saints of God so that they shout, somebody will say, "I'm afraid of that!" If someone claps their hands for sheer joy, they'll have nothing to do with such "fanaticism." They don't call it Jesus! If the power of God falls and it gets in someone's feet like King David of old, some people will sit around with their nose up and say, "Do you call that worship? Do you call that Jesus? That's not worship, that's rank fanaticism." If they'd only search the Word, they'd find that true worship of God includes these very things. And these big altar calls where thousands repent and forsake their sins, they call it "mass psychology, emotionalism," and everything but worship. They say it's from everywhere but God…that it's not Jesus.

Some of these modern preachers across the country say they would really like to have Jesus come, but if He'd actually come He'd upset their little program so much they wouldn't know what to do. If they couldn't have their usual formal service, and do the same things over and over like they've done for years, they wouldn't know what to do. They'd just have to sit down and let Jesus do it. He might upset everything they have done all these years.

Let Jesus get in the church with you and start working like He wants to work, and you're going to have to step back and let Him work!

The disciples, instead of shouting and being of good cheer and saying, "It's the Master," cried out in fear saying, "It's a ghost. It's a spirit." In other words, "It's not Jesus. It's something to be afraid of."

This is why some preachers across the country are afraid of my meetings. This why hundreds of them will not sponsor the meetings. They are afraid! They say, "This is not Jesus coming to us," and for the same reason the disciples did. They're so cold in their souls, dried up and bound by fear, they don't recognize the Master. They're declaring, "It's a devil. It's a spirit. We hear a voice, but it is not the voice of Jesus." They don't even recognize the voice of the Master when He cries out, **"Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid."**

We need to pray, "Jesus, loose me from this fear! Set me free, Lord, and let me welcome you into our sinking church." I'm talking about Jesus trying to get in the ship with you. Jesus trying to get in your sinking ship, your sinking church, your failing ministry.

One man said, "You can run away from Him, but I'm going to run to Him. I believe it's Jesus. Though He's coming in a new, miraculous way, a supernatural way that He's never come before, **I believe it is Jesus!"**

Of all times that we need Him, it's now! Peter said, "Listen to the wind, look at the ship and the waves. You can stay in the little ship if you want to. I'm going to the Master!"

Sometimes it may seem more secure to just settle down in the ship. You can have your little program, your little son, your ritual, form and ceremony, and just hold things together until Jesus comes. You say, "He'll come sometime." But I declare unto you, "This is Jesus! He's coming now!"

Well, what do you think this is? Do you think it's a devil doing all this healing and performing all these miracles? Is it just emotionalism that's moving all these people to repentance? Is it just fanaticism that's making them dance and shout? YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL!

I declare that it is Jesus! This is Jesus coming at the darkest hour and finding the deadest church He has ever found. Preacher, when the waves are the highest, the winds are more contrary than ever before, and the ship is being tossed, it's a lot easier to stay with your denomination. You can depend on your overseer to get you a church, and on your prestige and natural ability and talent to help you hold that church. It's easier to do this than it is to look to God for the supernatural gift that will make room for your ministry. *"A man's gift will make room for his ministry."*

If you're not careful, you'll feel a little more secure looking to the district authorities and headquarters for your promotions than looking to God. But my Bible says, *"But promotion cometh not from the north, south, east, or west* (not from the overseer, presbyter, district superintendent, general superintendent), *but promotion cometh from the Lord." "The Lord raises up one and holds down another."* I'm going to tell you why a lot of preachers are being held down and don't have a ministry. **God hasn't promoted them!** That's why they are promoting themselves. They've got their eyes on the old ship for promotion. But Peter said, "You boys can stick with this denomination if you want to, but I'm looking to the Lord."

I'm not fighting any denomination. But here's the sin of "denominationalism." If you aren't careful, you'll get your eyes on the "big boys" for your promotion. When you do, you'll miss God. When you get your eyes on men for your promotion, you'll start pulling string. You'll go into "politics" to get a big church or hold the church you've got.

If you have no general overseer, (I don't have one), you have to look to God for your promotion. You've got to look to Jesus for a ministry. You've got to depend on your gift to make room for you. If you have no denomination to look to, you've got to look to Jesus.

Peter says, "You boys may feel secure where you are, staying in the ship, but I have enough sense to know the Master's voice. This is Jesus!" Peter cried, "Oh Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water."

OH, THAT EVERYONE WOULD CRY OUT TO THE MASTER, **"Jesus, I believe it is You. Let me hear Your voice and bid me come to You on the waters!"** In other words, "Lord, let me do what you're doing. Let me walk like you walk, let me talk like you talk. Let me do what you are doing!"

Peter listened for an answer because he believed it was the Lord. **The answer came, "Come!"**

Peter said, "Goodbye, boys. You'll not see me at the next convention or conclave. I'm going to the Master. Come on and go with me."

They said, "You're not catching us jumping overboard. You can jump overboard if you want to, Peter, but we're going to stay with the ship. It feels safe and more secure."

You know, if you don't have the solid footing of the ship beneath to hold you up, you have to depend on a miracle…the water will have to hold you up.

Someone said, "I don't believe the water will hold me up." Well, stay in the ship. It will hold you up. That's just what many are doing. They are staying with the ship. But Peter went overboard. He said, "Live, die, sink, or swim, I'm going to Jesus. I heard Jesus say 'Come,' and I'm going to try to go to Him."

I hear some old skeptic say, "Yes, he went overboard, but he went down, didn't he?" Yes, but **before he went down, he stayed up!** And even when he went down, Jesus was there beside him to help him through his mistakes. Some of you never will have a miracle ministry without a few mistakes. This is why some of you are afraid to launch out. You're afraid you're going to make a few mistakes.

Jump overboard! You may sink a few times, but Jesus will lift you out and you'll start all over again.

I know I've made some mistakes. And I may make some in the future. I may sink again. But if I do, I'm going to look up, and there's going to be One standing there with His hand stretched out toward me. I'm going to say, "My Jesus, save me or I perish!" And He'll reach down and pull me up and say, "Let's start walking again!"

You know what happened to Peter? He jumped overboard! The waters coagulated under his feet, and he started walking on the water, because he didn't let fear whip and defeat him. He obeyed the voice of the Master! "Come!"

Hear me, **if you want a miracle ministry today, preacher, you'd better jump overboard for the Lord!** What if the water won't hold you up? You'll never know until you try. And some of you don't have enough of what it takes to try. May God give you a backbone like a say log! And let you believe the Master, live or die, sink or swim! I'd rather die in failure, trying to obey the Master, than stay in the old ship and die without trying. You're going to die anyway. You're dead spiritually and the only thing that will save you is to jump overboard now, and trust God for a miracle walk and a miracle ministry.

There was only one of the disciples in the Book of Acts who had so much of the power of God in his shadow that it healed the sick. He didn't have to lay hands on them! There was only one. Who was it? The ones who stayed in the ship? Which one was it? It was the one who went overboard!

Put your hands up and say, "Jesus, I'm going overboard. I'm going overboard for God. Lord, I've heard Your voice. I know it's You, and I'm going to jump overboard and trust the water to hold me up. I'm going to walk on the sea. From now on, I'm going to have a miracle walk!"

YOU CAN MOVE GOD!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1963)

God is doing great things! He is moving to accomplish His mighty works in the earth! There is a reason God is moving. It is because God's children are MOVING GOD! YOU can move God…YOU can do something that will move God to meet your needs!

Unless God moves for many of you, you will die with cancer, sickness, disease or infirmity. Some of you will die in a psychiatric ward or mental institution. Unless God moves for some of your children, you are going to bury them!

GOD WANTS TO MOVE FOR YOU AND MEET YOUR NEEDS!

Some people will not move God because they don't know how. Others will never move Him because it might cost them something. The Word says, *"Obedience is better than sacrifice."* Obey God when He speaks to you. FAITH takes the FIRST step. Then God moves! *"Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it."*

What does it take to move God? It may take fasting. It may take days of prayer. It may take many hours with your Bible…or perhaps just writing out a check for the work of the Lord. But you will find that only as you obey when God speaks, YOU CAN MOVE GOD to meet your needs.

Let us read an account from Mark 12:41-44, telling us of one instance where the Lord was moved:

"And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance: but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."

As Jesus sat in the temple and watched people bring their offerings unto God, He saw the rich and mighty throw in handfuls of silver and gold. It did not move Him or touch His heart. They were giving huge amounts, but Jesus knew these gifts were not sacrifices. They would never miss what they had given. They would not have to trust God tomorrow, for there was plenty of gold and silver left.

But as He watched something did move Him. A poor widow woman came by, reached into her pocket and drew out two mites. It was ALL SHE HAD! What she did expressed her love to God. It required faith. It meant that tomorrow she would have to trust God for her needs. And if God did not undertake and give it back to her as He has promised, then she and her family would be hungry.

When she dropped that sacrificial gift into the treasury, those two mites moved Jesus into action! He jumped to His feet and preached one of His greatest sermons, declaring that she had given more than all the rest…not in actual amount, but her gift was more love, more sacrifice, more faith. Therefore, she had given more than they all had.

God doesn't keep books the way we do. We put down the actual amount of the offering. He does not put down the amount of money you give. He puts down the amount of sacrifice involved in your giving. He looks at what you have left, and takes note of the faith in Him you are going to exercise for tomorrow's needs, because you have given God your gift today.

Some people criticize because I preach on "Giving to God" so often. Their pastor or evangelist seldom mention the subject, lest it might offend those in their midst who do not obey God in their giving. But let me ask you, "Where are the miracles? Where are the sick? Are they being healed in the church as God planned and promised? Where are the signs and wonders? God's people need healing, deliverance, and miracles today as never before, and nothing moves God more than GIVING!

The reason some people never move God is because they never give God all they have. And they never will! They will just give Him what they are sure they can get along nicely without. A little convenience money! But they will have to depend upon the arm of flesh for help when trouble comes. To these disobedient children, God says in Deuteronomy 28 that the windows of heaven have been closed. And it requires obedience to God to ever get them open again.

The offering that moves God for miracles is the offering that means you are going to have to trust Him tomorrow! God loves for His children to put Him to the test.

Many times I have seen people under our tent move God to action by giving the money they had set aside for necessities, the rent or other bills. Some even give the money they brought for food and lodging while attending the campaign. They fast and pray and sleep in their car or on the ground.

During Miracle Week recently, one woman gave the money she had brought to pay for her food. She MOVED GOD by her sacrifice, and when I prayed for her, God performed an outstanding miracle in her behalf.

YOU CAN MOVE GOD to perform miracles for YOU by sacrificial giving to Him. Miracles of healing! Miracles of deliverance! Miracles of finance!

This is one of the greatest secrets of the Bible. It was practiced in the early church. As a result, God moved in miraculous ways. Read about it in the first few chapters of the Book of Acts. They sold their goods, their lands and possessions, and no man said any of the goods he possessed were his own. They came and laid the money at the apostles' feet. It was divided among them as they had need. No wonder they were able to send out missionaries to the ends of the earth in that day with the gospel. Think of what could be done and how quickly we could bring about the return of Jesus, if we had men and women of like consecration. Such giving MOVED GOD in those days and it will MOVE GOD NOW!

Someone might say, "You don't find any place where people are doing that today. People just don't sell their lands and give possessions for God's work. That is generally true, but neither do you find many places today where by the hands of the apostles God is bringing to pass great signs and wonders among the people.

The reason God is blessing so much in Miracle Revival campaigns is because we are coming back to the Bible standard and doing what God tells us to do. The more we preach on "Giving to God, " the more we are seeing this come to pass. Even Miracle Valley was once the possession of a consecrated man of God who listened to the voice of the Lord. It was the greater part of his inheritance. But God spoke and he obeyed! He gave Miracle Valley for training men and woman to go forth into all the world with the gospel message of power and deliverance. Others have followed the example, and is it any wonder that the blessings of Almighty God are upon Miracle Revival Bible Training Center and Miracle Revivals!

Month after month we publish testimonies of miracles God is performing for people who are putting on the altar their love gifts and offerings for this glorious ministry. They are making real sacrifices in order to see the miracle-working power of

God and this Miracle Revival go around the world. They are helping us reach those who have never heard.

If God could ever get His church to lay everything down before Him and give Him everything, He would perform such miracles as He did in the Book of Acts. When the Church once more follows the pattern laid down by the early church, the same power will be operating as in those days. And until she does, the Church cannot expect God's same blessing, power and glory.

An evangelist stood on our platform in Chicago. He had been praying for a big tent. The tent he had was torn and rotten. He was scheduled for a meeting in Little Rock, but the Fire Chief found that it was no longer fireproof and forbade him to set it up. He had to have another tent.

He had presented his need to me and asked to borrow the money to buy one; he knew where he could buy one. I told him we could not loan money, that we would give it to him if we had it, but I promised I would pray with him that God would give him a tent. I took him by the hand and prayed, "God, give this man a tent."

He stayed one more day in our meeting and in the night service, God spoke to him and said, "If you will put in the offering that $22.00 you have in your billfold, I will give you the tent you have been praying for. He didn't really know how much money he had, but found exactly $22.00 in his billfold as the Lord had said.

"Lord," he thought, "this has to be you. I didn't even now how much I had. But God, that's all I have. I was going on to Pittsburg to hold a meeting there. I won't have money to go if I give this $22.00."

"Give Me the $22.00. I want you to give all you have, " he heard so clearly.

With tears streaming down his face, this evangelist pulled out the last dollar he had. He could have said, "Let someone else put money in this offering. Why should I give the last $22.00 I have?"

He put that $22.00 in the offering and the devil began to pound on him. "What are you going to do now?" He gave the devil a good answer: "It's none of your business!"

This was a great trial of this evangelist's faith. God was putting him to the test. He went on to Pittsburg on borrowed money.

One morning the motel phone rang. Someone he had never heard of had called to offer to give him a big tent, just like he had been praying for. Hallelujah! God said, "This is the tent I promised you for putting in your all in that offering in Chicago."

I told this story in one of my meetings in Los Angeles. A little lady came to the platform saying she too wanted to move God. "I am a missionary from Brazil, and I have been praying for God to give us a tent for our work there. God just spoke to me that if I too would empty my billfold, He would give me a tent for Brazil."

Little did any of us know that a preacher sitting on the platform had a brand new tent in Brazil. He had just received notice of its completion. The tent had been built in Brazil, so he would not have the expense of shipping it.

No sooner had she dropped her money into the offering basket than God moved upon this preacher to give that tent to this little missionary. What a time of shouting and rejoicing we had on that platform that day.

There were thousands of people under that tent. That missionary could have refused to obey God to give all she had, claiming someone else could give…someone with a good income and regular paycheck. Why should she give her last $14.00? She had to move God!

This is the kind of offering that moves God. Some of you will never move the Lord because you are afraid to trust Him. You say, "His promise might fail. The Bible might not mean what it says." *"Oh ye of little faith."*

I challenge you to move God…REALLY MOVE GOD…so that He can move to meet your needs. Show Him you desire His will, His way, and His blessing more than anything else. Show Him that He is FIRST in your life…more than friends, more than pleasure and earthly possessions.

Move God today with your sacrificial offering! It may be money set aside for some other purpose, to meet some special need. Will you do it? Your obedient, sacrificial offerings can MOVE GOD TO MEET YOUR NEEDS…MIRACULOUSLY!

"Holy Father…THAT THEY MAY BE ONE!"

(A. A. ALLEN – 1963)

"And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world and I come to thee, Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word: That they all may be one: as thou, Father, art in me and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou sent me." **(John 17:11, 20-21)**

Communism today has more to boast about than the average church or denomination. Communism at least boasts unity among their people. This is one reason Communism is sweeping the world and has taken in so many nations and peoples of the world.

If communism was divided into as many branches and groups as the Church is today, it would never have made the progress that it has made in the past 25 years. Why can't the Church work together in unity and oneness of accord?

The answer to this question is that the devil has divided the Church. He knows that as long as he can keep the Body of Christ, which is the Church, separated into hundreds of denominations, and each segment at war with the other, it can never have revival and advance into the world.

On other hand, since Satan desires that Communism and atheism engulf the world, he has encouraged unity and oneness. Hence the devil moves forward in his plans, while the Church of Jesus Christ moves in reverse. Communism puts multitudes of church folk to shame by their unholy determination to put their godless ideology forward in the world. The Church should be going forward, winning lost, ministering to the sick, freeing the captives, making advancements. Instead, she is retreating and moving out, vacating and turning many areas over to Communism, such as Red Chinas, Cuba, and many other countries in others parts of the world.

The early Church was not a shrinking, compromising army of retreaters. They were a powerful band of spiritual warriors with a determination to resist the devil and take the world for God!

Christ is coming back for a victorious Church! He's not returning for a Church that is retreating, a Body that is divided, each group at one another's throat. He is not coming for a Church that is ruled by force and denominational cruelty, bound by ecclesiastical chains and barriers. He is returning for a group who are all one in unity, one in accord, because Jesus prayed that they may all be ONE, and according to the Word of God, this shall come to pass!

The tragic thing about "denominational rulism" is that many godly ministers are mere puppets of an ironclad machine. In their hearts they secretly cry out for a system that would afford them complete spiritual liberty; where every minister could build his church and remain with it until God tells him to leave, without fear of some presbyter's influence or an election driving him away from his church and forfeiting his hard-earned work. Ministers are afraid to step out on the promises of God in order to help all the people regardless of race, creed, or color. They hesitate and often feel compelled to

refuse help for anyone who may be from another preacher's area. They are bound by denominationalism and fear of man!

Jesus made it plain that the Body of Christ would suffer much humiliation from religious leaders. He said, *"All who live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."* The Body of Christ did suffer much humiliation and shame when He was in the world, and it is quite startling that Jesus did not tell His disciples that the prostitutes and gamblers in Jerusalem would rise up and put Him to death.

Most of us think of wickedness as being found in taverns, dance halls, and gambling dives; but these were not the people who put the stripes upon the body of Christ. They were not the one that nailed Him to the cross at Calvary. When we return to the scene of the crucifixion, you do not see drunkards and harlots nailing Jesus to the cross, we see the scornful face of the high priest...the denominational minister in the mob that demanded His blood to be spilt!

The word "chief" used in the title "Chief Priest" is quite significant. It meant the top-flight leaders of organized religion in Jerusalem.

Certainly in the early Church after the Day of Pentecost, there was no sign of sectarianism. God's people were all in one accord in one place. Little wonder that God moved and operated, and "by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people." But today through the door of ambition and sectarianism, like an ugly serpent, has crawled on its belly into the Church and divided the Body of Christ.

Too many church leaders today desire to be rulers. This desire to rule does not come about through the inspiration of God or the Holy Spirit. Christ Himself set no example of sectarianism. Rather, He set an example of service and love one to another as He washed the disciples' feet, saying, *"I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him."*

We find in every field, when men's minds become warped with the desire to rule and be the boss, they will resort to almost any method to accomplish their lustful desires. Satan has not overlooked this in his effort to defeat the Church.

Many fine Pentecostal groups have sincerely tried to move forward for God for the last 50 years. They have not accomplished all God intended for them to do. Many today have the desire to return to the example of the Church set for us after the Day of Pentecost, but their Full Gospel organizations or denominations are full of modern popes, presbyters, superintendents, overseers and bishops. The majority of these man-chosen leaders stubbornly refuse to accept the leadership of the Holy Ghost in their services. And because they refuse to let the Holy Ghost act in the capacity of a divine guide in their religious organization, they are bogged down in unscriptural, intolerant sectarianism.

The greatest hindrance to worldwide revival is the divided condition of the Body of Christ in the world today. The Body of Christ, which should be ONE, is divided into some 100 different sects, more or less. Pentecostal leaders in conventions and councils have talked much about the Holy Ghost as a leader, but have consistently patterned after the OLD WORN OUT CREEDS OF EARTHLY DENOMINATIONS!

Christ said, *"Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth"* (Acts 1:8). He meant what He said! But when a religious movement gets into a place where it attempts to forsake truth and teach man-

made resolutions, denominational doctrines and traditions, then it confesses before the world that it is no longer willing to go forward with the Bible as the written authority.

Church disciplines and By-Laws of Church orders are all brought into being by unbelief in God. These resolutions are conceived in fear and born in compromise. Those responsible for their creation are not willing to abide by the written Word of the Living God. They challenge God, accusing Him of giving an incomplete Book for mankind; a book that must be supplemented by man-made creeds, ordinances, doctrines, minutes and by-laws. Man-made resolutions and Church disciplines are dead corpses that need to be given resurrection life!

It is my belief that the Bible is sufficient to handle all the problems of the Church. God's Word has a solution for every problem of man, for every individual believer, every Church problem, every problem of the State and the Body of Christ. But we must look to the Word to find it.

All these man-made resolutions did not start in the midst of revivals. They all came into the Church picture after the Spirit of God had been shoved aside and no longer allowed to work and operate in the Church. When we insist on passing resolutions to run the work of God, we are telling God that He has given us an incomplete Book; that the Bible is insufficient, not enough; that it must be supplemented with man-made rules. We of the Church today must believe that the Word of God is complete if we are to see a mighty worldwide revival.

Revival meetings are never started by the Resolutions Committee or the By-Laws Committee. Those committees can kill a heaven-sent revival that has already been started. Any minister or lay minister that has ever attended a denominational convention will have to confess that this idea that resolutions are needed to carry on the work of God was not born of God. To admit that a group of preachers need a denomination to rule over them and to rule each other is admitting that they do not accept the rule of God in their lives. It says that the leadership and keeping power of the Holy Ghost are not enough!

When the Resolutions Committee begins to operate, God is left on the outside. These political committees are never interested in prayer meetings, because their political purposes and the operation of the Holy Spirit are never in harmony. Whoever heard of a Resolutions Committee being so blessed of God in a prayer meeting that they couldn't report their findings or decisions to the main body at a convention? Denominational church leaders do not organize to save the Body...to save the world for Christ. They organize to save themselves and to protect their own jobs.

It is a fact that all the hundreds of denominations have a religion of sorts. These denominational leaders who deny God's power today, including some Pentecostal leaders, are just the same as the Pharisees and the Sadducees in Christ's time of whom He said, *"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves"* (Matthew 23:15). These were blind leaders of the blind, both heading toward the ditch. He called them hypocrites!

What is the meaning of this word you hear so often? A hypocrite is an actor...one who plays as assumed part in a play of pretense. They preach about hell, then act as if there is no hell. It means a person assumes the role of being interested in souls, but then really not love souls after all. It means that you can talk about things above, but by your actions prove that you are only interested in things on earth.

Even a Pentecostal preacher can be a hypocrite. He can act and speak as though he believes in the power of God and the manifestations of God's power in healing and

wonders, and yet down deep in his heart be merely acting a part. He can act as though he believes in it, and yet be opposed, fighting and openly ridiculing the power of God in the lives of some of God's other preachers.

These preachers who oppose the sign-gift ministry may even preach and teach concerning gifts, but their teaching tends primarily to correction of abuses instead of glorious uses. They will warn the people constantly, "There is danger; let us be careful; let us not go overboard. Stay in the middle of the road. We believe in healing, nevertheless...We believe in miracles...nevertheless...I believe in manifestations, but be careful..." Their doctrinal stand is primarily negative and their practical stand is NIL! Their emphasis will be on the quiet and the calm, instead of the shout and handclapping and joy. They lay emphasis on fruits instead of gifts. They emphasize love instead of operation of the gifts. Even though a preacher may preach on gifts, signs, wonders, and miracles, yet if there is no personal practice of these supernatural gifts in operation, this man is opposed to this ministry.

A denomination can carry miracles in their by-laws and their tenets of faith, yet, ridicule, fight, persecute, and oppose healing in the ministry of others who may not be a member of their particular denomination. It is an evident sign that they are hypocrites and do not believe in God's miracles. Jesus Himself rebuked certain of His disciples for this same thing: *"But he turned and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of"* (Luke 9:55).

Any preacher, either denominational or independent, who refuses to bow down to the leaders of these unscriptural denominations, is immediately branded as a false teacher of error, anti-Christ! Most pentecostal leaders today do not believe in the power of God, the move of God, or the deliverance message, and have shrewdly tried to destroy all opposition to their denominationalism and sectarianism by branding everyone else as FALSE!

God's children must be told that ecclesiasticism, sectarianism and denominationalism, although very respectable, are not scriptural! It will be well to remember that the Holiness people in Christ's day were the Pharisees. They claimed to be the holiness people, God's people of their day, yet they were the bitter enemies of Jesus Christ.

These Pharisee leaders were champions of sectarianism in that day, separating themselves from other religious people with certain beliefs and practices, just like denominations do today. The Assemblies of God separate themselves from the Pentecostal Church of God. The Pentecostal Church of God separates themselves from the Pentecostal Holiness. The Pentecostal Holiness separates themselves from the Four Square, and each of these separate themselves from other believing Pentecostal groups. Baptist from the Methodist. Methodist from the Nazarenes, etc.

In Jesus' day the Pharisees believed they were the only ones that were right. They were strict on tithing, careful to always wash their hands, cautious about their eating, and faithful in fasting. But Jesus declared: *"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith; these ought ye to have done and not to leave the other undone"* (Matthew 23:23). They were blind as could be when it came to the knowledge of the truth...the move of God and the miraculous and supernatural. They despised God's Son and bitterly opposed Christ's working of miracles. Here was teaching and ministry to which they were unaccustomed. And though they were respectable people, they came to

one decision, namely, that they must destroy Him. They must do away with this new doctrine, these signs, wonders and miracles.

This same devilish spirit works in denominational groups today. In Bible days the Pharisees wore long robes and full beards. The modern Pharisees today have eliminated the robes and whiskers, but they are still among us. Their hearts are just as stubborn now as when Jesus was walking the sandy shores of Galilee. They are determined to rule the souls of men in a sectarian vise of iron, which has crushed fellowship and love for fellowman out of the Body of Christ.

It is not altogether the fault of the people. In many places, people are hungry for God, but they are following their leaders. Their ecclesiastical, sectarian, denominational preaches and leaders, including the Pentecostals, are so hide bound they will not fellowship other preachers or denominations, and will not allow their members to fellowship with others. You must have their fellowship card, or you are not allowed to preach in their churches. You must belong to their church or denomination or you do not find fellowship in their midst. Yet they say they are the Body of Christ!

The Sadducees were the educated ministers in the New Testament, yet they were so skeptical they would sneer at the great truths Christ preached, just like some preachers sneer today. Though they were deeply religious, they were outright infidels. They were actually against the moving of the Spirit of God and the operation of the gifts of the Spirit. Instead of preaching what they did believe, they preached what they did NOT believe. The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection, and they preached more about what they did NOT believe than about what they did believe. You've seen and heard these Sadducees today. They are among the religious Pentecostal people too, spending most of their time preaching what they do NOT believe.

Many letters pour into our office from church-going people who attend many churches, including Pentecostal churches. Many tell us about all they ever hear from the pulpit these days is what the Sadducees are preaching, namely, WHAT THEY DO NOT BELIEVE! Many of these letters declare the people are starving for a positive message. They want to hear what God WILL DO: what He IS DOING! Many of them are leaving the cold, dead churches of the Sadducees, looking for a message that is positive.

The Sadducees were the educated ministers of their time. Though small in number, they had great influence. They sneered and laughed at the Pharisees as being ignorant and illiterate. They scorned all emotionalism as being fanatical. The Sadducees made "unbelief" a respectable doctrine. And neither the Pharisees nor the Sadducees believed in the most of God, because Jesus was the MOVE!

For years, these religious leaders took in from the people financially, but gave out nothing for the people spiritually. When Christ appeared upon the scene with deliverance for the multitudes, they cried out for His blood.

Like waters in the wilderness and springs in the desert, Christ came with the anointing of God upon His life. He declared, *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he hath anointed me to preach DELIVERANCE..."* And, *"He went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed..."*, bringing deliverance to the captives and though he opened the prisons to them that were bound, His ministry was short-lived. The denominational leaders of His day killed Him because this man, Christ Jesus, had not attended their schools or colleges at Jerusalem. He did not have proper credentials, according to their way of thinking. They did not want the multitudes to believe that a man could have a ministry from God without their credentials. But here was a man with a

supernatural anointing! A man with the power of God operating in His life, who could attract and minister to multitudes without their religious credentials. He must die for this!

The spirit of the Sadducees and Pharisees is still manifested today as never before in Pentecostal denominational ranks. They do not want multitudes to believe any man can have a ministry or be genuine, unless that man carries their ministerial credentials. To me, THIS IS THE REAL SIN OF DENOMINATIONALISM. It binds and ties the denominational preacher until he cannot press forward as God is leading, while at the same time, it denounces or criticizes every minister who is moving forward.

The Church in America today knows very little about persecution because she knows very little about the power of God. But God has promised revival for His people and He promised that the gates of hell shall not prevail against His Church! He declared the Church is going to march forward and claim ALL the promises of God!

Surely anyone with an ounce of spirituality can see that all this division is definitely planned by the devil...to destroy any effectual work the Church may try to do for God. It must be recognized as such, and destroyed before revival can sweep the world. **A mighty revival with the true ministry Christ brought to the world is waiting for the Church in this late hour...and this yoke of denominationalism shall be destroyed from off the necks of multitudes because of the anointing!**

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing"(Isaiah 10:27)

The Sin Of Denominationalism
SATAN BEHIND THE PULPIT!

(A. A. Allen – 1963)

When an evangelist of **your** denomination comes to **your** city for a citywide meeting, **who** is asked to sponsor? **Who** is invited? **Who** is welcome to attend? **Are you guilty of the sin of denominationalism?**

* * * *

"This man blasphemeth," they boldly declared (Matthew 9:3). "He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils" (Matthew 9:34).

Why did these religious, ecclesiastical, denominational preachers of bible days have this opinion of Jesus, my Lord? God has placed these portions of scripture in the Bible so we will no longer wonder why these ecclesiastical leaders acted as they did toward Jesus.

The ones who claimed that Christ blasphemed were students of the Law. They were the rank of learned professionals…doctors and interpreters of the scriptures. They liked to be called "rabbi" meaning "teacher," in an elevated position. In other words, they were the BIG preachers, the DDs and the LLDs…denominational, sectarian church leaders. They were afraid Christ was going to completely empty their cold, dead denominational synagogues.

Yes, it was the holiness people, the largest denomination of that day who falsely charged, "He casteth out devils through the prince of devils; He is a blasphemer, a devil." The adhered strictly to the Law, but had departed from the Spirit.

The multitudes marveled saying, *"It was never so seen in Israel"* (Matthew 9:33). Jesus healed their sick. He cast out devils. He taught them as one with authority from God. The people were amazed!

When those holiness denominational leaders stood behind the crowd where Jesus was ministering to the people, and heard their own church members saying, "It was never so seen in Israel," fear gripped their hearts. They were afraid they would have no one to preach to at their next service. They feared their members would support this ministry that made the dumb speak, the blind see, and the lame leap and run. Would there be any tithes or offerings coming in? They knew their church members had never seen miracles as these in all their church experience. They were jealous of the multitudes who saw His miracles and glorified God (verse 8). He performed miracles they themselves could not perform. They must carefully lay a course of action.

They knew they could not open the eyes of the blind, nor could they cast out devils; they were too backslidden to perform miracles. They did not believe in it, and would have no part of it. And the only way they could justify themselves in the eyes of their own members was to oppose this miracle ministry and fight it. Their carnal minds told them if they could persuade the people that all these things were of the devil, the people would be afraid to attend these services. They said, *"That fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub, the prince of the devils"* (Matthew 12:24). But Jesus answered their accusation thus: *"All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit shall not be forgiven unto men."*

IS IT ANY DIFFERENT TODAY? Ecclesiastical church leaders, even including certain Pentecostal leaders and preachers have become jealous of the multitudes that

attend Miracle Revival services. They are fearful their own church members will help make up those multitudes, and may even support it financially. In their own carnal way, they too are declaring that demons are being cast out by the power of Beelzebub, and that the devil is healing the sick.

Who was it that *"held a council against him, how they might destroy him"*? (Matthew 12:14). It was the Pharisees, the leaders of that small, wealthy sect of modernists.

Why did they want to destroy Jesus? The answer is obvious. In the preceding verses, Jesus had just healed a hand that was withered. Immediately when these denominational preachers saw this miracle, they became furious. They did not rejoice that the afflicted man had been restored, they were furious because an evangelist had come to their city without their permission, without their credentials. His name was not on the list as one of their preachers, and here He was attracting multitudes…even their church members! They would have destroyed Him instantly had not they feared the people (Matthew 21:46).

Why should these religious, denominational preachers be so infuriated at the sight of a miracle? A withered arm made whole? A dumb man speaking? The lame leaping and running, and miracles taking place? Here is the answer: These denominational preachers were so full of the devil themselves that when the devil within saw Christ performing miracles, he rose up in opposition to destroy the works of God. The scripture says we are not ignorant of Satan's devices. Satan is smart enough to know that if he can make the multitudes think God's true work is of the devil, his objective is accomplished.

Why are the modern denominations, and even certain Pentecostal people, resorting to these same tactics today? Because men have not changed one iota in the last 2000 years. They, too, have seen the signs and wonders and miracles being performed …the blind seeing, the lame leaping, the demons coming out…and there is still enough of the devil on the inside of some preachers today, to rise up in opposition to what God is doing.

They have only one objective, and that is to cause the people to believe that the ministry of Christ is not genuine…not from heaven, but from hell! Thus they lie and falsely accuse God's ministers today who have a miracle ministry, hoping they can hold their own people. Like their Pharisee counterpart, they know that unless somehow they destroy this miracle ministry, multitudes will believe. They will lose their church attendance, and their financial support. And they, too, council together as the Pharisees did; they hold a special council "how they might destroy him." In their own words they said, *"If we let him thus alone, ALL men will believe upon him"* (John 11:48).

But this was not the only reason they wanted to destroy Him. If the multitudes believed upon Him, they would lose their positions. *"The Romans shall come and take away our place and nation"* (John 11:48). So from that day forth, *"they took counsel together for to put him to death"* (verse 53).

Any minister today who dares to believe God for miracles and to heal the sick can expect the same persecution, ridicule and disdain form denominational preachers. Jesus said, *"The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you…"* (John 15:20). **If you walk as Jesus walked, talk as Jesus talked, you can expect the same treatment from today's modernists.**

In Matthew 21:14-15, the blind and lame came to Jesus in the temple and He healed them. But *"when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that He did…they were sore displeased."* The denominational preacher knows that because of his denominational bondage, he is not free to conduct these kinds of meetings. If he

values his position, he could not afford to have the sick healed, the possessed liberated in his ministry as Jesus did. His superiors and fellow ministers would not tolerate it. Therefore, he is out to destroy everything connected with the move of God today!

If opening the eyes of the blind and causing the lame to walk caused the denominational preachers in Jesus' time to be displeased, the same miracles will cause them to be displeased and furious in our day. Why did they not rejoice at the miracles they saw? Wasn't Christ bringing deliverance to their members? Indeed, He was! But they were jealous of this man of Galilee who fasted and prayed, who had appropriated the power of God in His own life so that He could cast out devils and make the lame leap.

They themselves made no plans and had no intentions of waiting upon God until they too could enjoy such a ministry. They held a special council, directed by the devil himself. When it was over, they had made up their minds (probably put it in the book of minutes), *"that they would destroy him"* (Matthew 12:14).

There is more than one way to destroy an evangelist, a preacher, or a ministry. They dare not lay hands on Jesus for "fear of the multitudes," so they chose a less dangerous method. Inasmuch as they were cowards at heart, they chose to destroy with lies and false accusations.

Sounds very much like some church leaders of TODAY! Satan's methods have not changed. They are the same today as they were then. They dare not lay hands on the evangelists who bring healing to the sick, who attract multitudes, so they get behind their pulpits and make false accusations and tell lies, hoping to hold the people in their cold, dead synagogues and to keep them from the blessings of God.

There is nothing that will arouse such blazing anger and insane hatred as calling attention to the unscriptural basis and sins of some popular Pentecostal, ecclesiastical religion today. Remember, it was not the harlots or drunkards or sinners who killed Jesus. It was denominational preachers. They were men who were jealous of the freedom of Christ, who ministered as God had sent Him to minister.

It is not harlots or drunkards or sinners that the evangelists have trouble with today. It is mostly Pentecostal leaders who are supposed to be saved, filled with the Holy Ghost, who are supposed to be healing the sick themselves. Indeed, it is the sectarian Pentecostal religionists who are not concerned with bringing deliverance to the people, but are more concerned with building a reputation for themselves and their own denomination.

The minister who preaches against sin and exposes the sins and shortcomings of the Church world today, *by them* will be condemned for preaching the truth. **I will be branded a sinner because I challenge this Pentecostal machine that grind religious freedom into the unsanctified dust of sectarian Pentecostal bondage.** Sectarian Pentecostal religion has not changed in spirit since Jesus walked the shores of Galilee performing miracles.

Remember, the church leaders in Jesus' time would not permit Him to preach in their local churches. He had cast a devil in one of their churches and it started a riot. From that time, Jesus was not wanted in their denominational churches at Jerusalem. Their leaders had spent years building up their denomination and they were infuriated at any man who would dare to come to their city without invitation, without carrying credentials with their organization.

If these Pharisees and Sadducees and doctors of the law yesterday would not allow Christ to minister in their beautiful churches, do you think they will allow Christ's present day preachers to minister in their cold, dead synagogues? **No, a million times**

NO! Nevertheless, **Jesus had a place to preach.** He did not have their written authority. God had given Him authority. Because He had God-given authority, He stirred all Jerusalem, the same as the move of God and the Miracle Ministry is stirring preachers and denominational leaders into a frenzy today. Jesus preached to the multitudes. He conducted His revivals on the outside of their respective churches. He used a ship and pushed it off from the shore for His pulpit. He stood on the mountainside while multitudes gathered below him. Throngs followed wherever He went. His God-ordained ministry was a success without the denominations' sanction…in spite of their opposition. **It was a success because the people received something from God for their spirit, soul, and body.**

In most churches today, including many Pentecostal denominations, it is no sin to gossip, tell lies, commit adultery, not to mention a hundred and one other sins the majority of people are guilty of, which are given us in the Word as the works of the flesh. Read Galatians 4:20 and 21. Can God send them help from their own pulpit? Can He use those who have rejected and denied the truth themselves? Many of them will die and even go to hell before they would allow their people to receive this truth!

A BORN AGAIN EXPERIENCE MAKES ALL OF US KINGS AND PRIESTS IN CHRIST (Revelations 1:6). But, sectarian, ecclesiastical Pentecostalism makes people slaves to an unholy religious system that was born of the devil himself!

Many preachers who hear this sermon are in bondage, but to defend themselves they will say, "Who is this preacher mad at?" They themselves know they are in bondage, but they don't want it exposed. With their lips they will deny it, but deep in their hearts they know they are not free.

No doubt there are many sincere, fine ministers, and many Pentecostal denominations today who would like to move forward in God. The only difference in what I am preaching and doing, and many of these preachers, is that I have the courage to say and do it, and they are so bound and in bondage that they can't.

To me, this is the SIN OF DENOMINATINALISM. It binds and ties preachers until they are not free to preach what God has called them to preach. They draw back from doing what God has called them to do. Neither are they free to go where God sends them.

They speak of liberty in their pulpits, but they do nothing about bringing deliverance for those in bondage. Many really desire that their people be free, but they will not preach the deliverance message. They would like to see their churches, to some extent, move forward, but they don't want to preach the move of God. PENTECOSTAL DENOMINATINALISM is the up-to-date word for "Phariseeism." And its murderous spirit is the same spirit that put Jesus Christ on the cross and murdered Him there!

Jesus declared that these sectarian leaders shut the doors to separate their people from the Kingdom of God, the move of God, the gifts of the Spirit, and the message of deliverance. Christ said in Matthew 23:13, they would not gain entrance themselves, and they would not permit their members to enter into the Kingdom of God. Ezekiel prophesied concerning them, *"With force and cruelty have you ruled them"* (Ezekiel 34:4). Christ said further, *"blind, leaders of the blind"* (Matthew 15:14). How can a blind man lead someone out of darkness into light when he can see no light himself?

The fact that Jesus said they would not enter into the Kingdom themselves indicated what many praying people have suspected all along. Namely, that preachers who hinder others from getting into the move of God know nothing of God themselves. Christ Himself was not reluctant to brand these leaders as "hypocrites…whited

sepulchers." **The final statement that Jesus made concerning the sectarian leaders was unforgivable...the very cause of His death:** *"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchers of the righteous, and say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?"*

These respectable church leaders would not forgive Jesus Christ for telling them the TRUTH! He openly told them they were not feeding their sheep, they had refused to enter into the door; and had closed the door so that no one else could go in. Inasmuch as he himself cannot go in, he closes the door that keeps others out. The denominational preacher does not want to admit the truth. The truth is he is tied by a chain, bound, limited by church organization. His by-laws, constitution, and doctrines will not allow him to go in. He must find an excuse to defend himself for not going in. His best defense is to teach that other ministers and groups have no business going in; that they are going in the wrong direction.

Christ compared these denominational leaders to serpents, which are a symbol of death the world over. **They had to kill Him or go out of business!** And they did not intend to go out of business. It was their bread! It was their butter! Their livelihood! They chose to destroy Christ because He was exposing their sins. It was easier to murder Jesus Christ than it was to adjust their crooked lives to the Word of God. MANY TODAY ARE TAKING THIS EASIER WAY OUT!

Evangelists and preachers who are in the healing ministry today will never convince the world that they are sincere until they drop their denominational lines and include ALL the Body of Christ in their ministry. Some evangelists advertise themselves as sign-gift ministers, miracle revivals, healing-salvation revivals...and yet their meetings bring deliverance to only a small part of humanity, which is a little more respected by their certain denomination. They are not free to reach beyond and help the greater part of the Church world, which is a great part of the sick and suffering that are still crying for deliverance. God is not pleased with this. How can they expect to continue in the full blessing of the Lord by ministering only to the few who belong to their particular group? God cannot be pleased with them when they limit their ministry. The greatest power that God ever gave man is the power to use supernatural gifts of the Spirit.

These ministers have allowed denominational barriers, lines or partitions to shut them and a few of their particular group off from the rest of the Body of Christ. Their denominational barriers and partitions will not permit them to minister to ALL peoples. At first you may question this. But let us go farther.

These ministers go into a city for a citywide campaign. They call only the preachers of their particular denomination together to cooperate or sponsor their meeting. Other ministers and people who also belong in the Body of Christ are not invited on this basis, for fear of losing their credentials. And their denomination does not allow them to go and preach in any other church whereby they might minister to any other part of the Body of Christ. They are only allowed to preach to their own section of the Church, which is only a tiny minority, while the remainder of the Body of Christ, needing deliverance, goes unreached. THESE PREACHERS CANNOT MINISTER TO THE MULTITUDES! They will soon be dropped out of their denomination if they do! **But**

they will never prove to the world that they are sincere until they open their hearts and take in ALL the Body of Christ.

Immediately after the day of Pentecost, the people were all in one place, in one accord, and in one mind. Their one purpose and interest was in preaching the gospel and saving the lost. Because of this unity and oneness in the Body of Christ, the miraculous was in evidence on every hand. Great healing campaigns took place. In the Book of Acts, the Body of Christ was not divided into many denominations. When the Church once again becomes ONE instead of 233 different denominations, she will again receive a mighty visitation of Divine power that will stir the world! A divided people have no hope for worldwide revival. There can be no worldwide revival as long as churches and their leaders feel and believe they are the superior people, and encourage this division in the Body of Christ.

Christ prayed, *"that they may all be ONE."* And I believe that prayer will be answered. Christ declared He would have a Church that the gates of hell could not prevail against. The time is coming when Pentecostalism…"bossism" is going to be destroyed, and the Morning Star will yet rise in glory and splendor upon God's Church.

God is raising up Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers, and we will ALL come to the unity of the FAITH. The whole Body of Christ will be fitly joined together. We will no more be children tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine, *"by the sleight of men's cunning craftiness whereby they lie in wait."*

I believe the time is near upon the Church when the whole Body of Christ will be fitly joined together and will have worldwide revival because of true love and unity. *"By this shall all men know ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another"* (John 13:35).

Let me warn you again here that you might as well make up your mind, should God use you, that you are going to undergo persecution and ridicule (John 15:18-21). People will call you everything but "godly" and a "child of God." They will say everything you do is from every source other than heaven.

But remember, concerning Jesus' persecution and death, the Word says, *"…who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame…"* (Hebrews 12:2). And Jesus said, *"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me"* (Luke 9:23). For the joy that is set before, we too must endure the shameful things that our enemy may hurl at us, and take up our cross and follow in His steps.

FAITH THAT CAUSES TROUBLE!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1963)

There is a faith that doesn't always bless you! There's a faith that doesn't always heal you or deliver you! Your faith can bring temptations and afflictions. It's in the BOOK! And I want to prove to you from the Bible, *"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ."* (I Peter 1:7)

Some time ago I started preaching from Hebrews 11, the great faith chapter, and I never heard so much shouting in all my life! I had to quit preaching! But I only preached from the first half of the chapter…that's all I had ever preached form. It says, *"By faith Abel…by faith Enoch…by faith Noah."* It tells of promises and blessings. *"By faith Abraham…through faith Sara…by faith Isaac…Jacob…Moses."* They passed through the Red Sea…the walls of Jericho fell…Rahab perished not! Miracle after miracle! *"Subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions."* But before God gets through listing all the blessings that faith had wrought, He said, "Wait a minute! You've been shouting long enough. I want to tell you some more things that faith did!"

We all shout and rejoice when we read, *"Faith quenched the violence of fire. Women received their dead raised to life again."* But in the same verse, God said, *"Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; …And these all, having obtained a good report through faith."* These wouldn't compromise. They took their stand and didn't accept deliverance. **Their faith got them into trouble!**

Someone said, "I've had to take cotton wages. I've lost everything I ever had. Don't know what I'm going to do. I'm absolutely destitute…afflicted…tempted. I've lost everything and it looks like I'll never have anything else!" God's got your record in His book, and it may be that you are one of the greatest people of faith that's ever walked on the earth. *"The trial of your faith being much more precious than gold…"*

God is bragging on His children who have faith in Him! He's bragging on you and the devil is mad. You who love and serve God and find yourself in the midst of trouble…you can't prove to me that God hasn't been bragging on your faith!

When the hedge came down from around Job and the devil began to torment, afflict and destroy, Job was a man of faith. He was a perfect man; he feared God and eschewed evil. The Bible said he was a perfect man in his generation. That's why the devil wanted to get to him. All your sickness and disease and affliction, all your condition of poverty can be a sign to you that God is bragging on you. **And it can be a sign that God is getting ready to give you twice as much as you ever had!**

In Detroit, after our big tent blew down, God said to me, "I want you to preach tonight from the last half of the faith chapter. You've been preaching long enough about how faith brings blessings. Now I want you to preach how faith in the past put people in prison and caused affliction, suffering, sore trial and shipwreck."

I said, "My God, that's just what I'm looking for."

God said, "It's been there all the time."

Hear one of the greatest men of faith, *"Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep"* (II Corinthians 11:24-26). Doubt and unbelief did not bring these fiery trials to Paul. He was telling us this because the hand of Almighty God was upon him to do good.

Here was a man so anointed of God he could send his handkerchiefs to the sick and suffering and dying, and miracles took place! But he had the kind of faith that got him into trouble. His faith put him in prison! Friends had to lower him over the wall in a basket at midnight to prevent his enemies from killing him. He had the faith that fulfilled Christ's great commission, and that faith always got him into trouble!

Some people as the question, "Why is Allen always in trouble?" Well, why was Paul always in trouble. Come on preachers! It could be a sign you've got a lot of faith. It could be a sign you're doing the work Christ has commissioned you to do and the devil is mad!

Young preaches, don't let the devil back you up in the corner and say, 'Ah, you've missed God and you're out of His will or you wouldn't have so much trouble." Tell him that's an evident sign you're in God's will. That's why you're having so much trouble.

Listen to Paul: *"In journeyings often, in perils of water, in perils of robbers."* I don't feel so bad that someone stole my car a few days ago! Why, robbers robbed Paul of everything he had! *"In perils of my own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren."* Who? Brethren! False brethren! In perils, in trouble… because of preaches. *"In weariness and in painfulness, in watchings…"* It's in the BOOK! Here's a man who had to watch some of these brethren. He had to keep his eyes open.

Some of you may be in the city; some of you may be in the wilderness; but you're going to have some trouble if you've got faith!

The greatest Man of faith was Jesus. He had so much faith they said He was a devil. They finally nailed Him to a cross!

He could have called ten legions of angels and they would have saved Him. But He said, "No, I'm in the will of God. My faith has gotten me into this trouble. My faith has nailed me to a cross!" But His faith was going to bring deliverance to multitudes in trouble. He was going to bring faith to the millions that followed. It was for this *"joy that was set before him that he endured the cross, despising the shame…"*

Paul goes on to say, *"And beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the burden of all the churches."* (II Corinthians 11:28). That must have been the worst burden of all. Care and burden of all the churches, wanting to see the churches grow, and the pastors blessed and their ministry enlarged and God's people growing.

There's not a person of the early church that was a follower of Jesus that did not die a violent death. Are you listening? All of His disciples. They never found an easy path. Jesus didn't go ahead of them and cover their path with rose petals. "Unto you it is given on the behalf of Christ not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer…"And He said under the circumstances not to moan and groan and cry, but, *"Rejoice therefore inasmuch as you are partakers of Christ's suffering that when His glory shall be revealed you may be glad also with exceeding joy."* (I Peter 4:13).

We ought to shout because God has said we are worthy to suffer for His cause and His name's sake. You will remember that Stephen was stoned to death. Church history tells us Matthew was slain in Ethiopia, a violent death. Mark, bless that precious boy, who wrote, *"These signs shall follow them that believe"* – Mark believed what God told him to write with all his heart. But his faith got him into trouble. They tied him behind horses and dragged the shreds of his body until he was torn to pieces. When it came Peter's time to die, he said, "I'm not worthy to die like Jesus. Don't crucify me like you crucified my Lord. If you're going to crucify me, put my head down." Here was the great man of faith that had so much power of God in his own shadow that he could heal the sick and suffering without even praying. He faith got him into trouble. They nailed Peter to the cross with his head handing down.

When we know all these facts, and read what the Word has told us plainly, then can we say, "Well, I don't think I want to suffer."? Well, you might as well take your hands off the old gospel plow handle right now, and start looking back. If you go on and start rooting out the grubs and keep your hands on the old plow handles, you're going to find plenty of new ground to plow in.

Andrew died tied to a cross. James, the one who said, *"Is any sick among you, let him call for the elders of the church."* It got him in trouble. He lost his head. But every one of us that is willing to die is going to live! We who are willing to lose ourselves are going to find ourselves again. And I'm going to see Mark. Stephen is going to be there. Matthew and Simeon, Philip and Bartholomew, James and Thomas. We'll see Jude and John. Oh, hallelujah!

"By faith...by faith...by faith...subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouth of lions, quenched the violence of fire..." Everybody shouts when we say the three Hebrew children went into the fiery furnace, but their faith took the burn out of the fire. The faith of Daniel took the bite out of the lion's mouth. Faith took hunger out of the wilderness and the dry barrenness out of the desert. It put shoes on their feet and clothes on their bodies that wore for forty years. Faith caused meat to rain down from heaven. Faith caused God to deliver breakfast food every morning straight from the angel's bakeries in heaven. When we preach about it, we all shout and rejoice. But don't stop there! There's that faith that will cause you trouble with the devil!

Yes, God will let the old devil tear down the big tent in Detroit. But while the canvas was still flapping and we had to watch our heads to keep the poles from splitting them open, and the rain was pouring down, I was out there under the tent with the boys trying to save the piano and organ. God reminded me of that great man of faith who had everything go down under him. But Paul could shout as he floated into shore on a beam of that broken ship, because the angel of the Lord had said, "God hath given thee all them that sail with thee." Paul knew there would be no loss of life. He had faith...it got him into trouble...but God stood beside him and brought him through! He was in God's will!

God also reminded me of Job and the great wind from the wilderness that smote the house and killed all his children...how he lost everything, even his health. You remember how even his wife turned against him and advised him to "curse God and die." It all happened in God's will. The trial of his faith was much more precious than gold! And God blessed him twice as much as he ever had before!

Don't be discouraged, Brother, if it looks like everything is going down! If you've had nothing but trouble on all sides, it ma be the hedge is down! Rejoice that you are counted worthy!

Are you sick and afflicted? Say as Job did, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him!" Are you broke? It may be just a sign that God is going to give you twice as much as you ever had before!

"What, shall we receive good at the hand of God and shall we not receive evil?"

You faith has moved God. He has bragged on you! And now the devil is trying you. Stand to your feet and be of good cheer! I'm believing God! I'm believing God for your soon deliverance…your help in the hour of your greatest need!

Believe God! Keep the faith! Shout and rejoice and tell the devil, "I believe God!"

"I SINNED"...BECAUSE I COULD NOT SEE!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1963)

"And Balaam said unto the angel of the Lord, "I have sinned; for I knew not that thou stoodest in the sway against me." – Numbers 22:34

In Jesus' day, He spoke of a people who were blind leaders of the blind. He spoke of those with ears who heard nothing, eyes that saw nothing. In Paul's day, he wrote to Timothy saying in the last days some would have a form of godliness but denying the power thereof... *"from such turn away."*

We live in the hour when Isaiah in the twenty ninth chapter declared, *"...behold, I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people, even a wonder."* In the preceding verse God spoke these words through the prophet: *"Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their hearts far from me..."*

You can't worship God with your mouth only. True worship comes from the heart and then from the lips. Isaiah was talking about testifying from the lips only: "Hallelujah! Glory to God! I'm a Christian! I'm saved! I belong to the church! I've been baptized!"

That's not worship! The devil can boast, "I've been baptized!" He can say he belongs to the church. The devil many times says, "I'm saved...I'm a Christian." But he is a liar! The devil has a profession, because he has a lot of people who go to church with a beautiful profession. There are such things as demons of religion.

The Bible says some would heap to themselves teachers having itching ears. They would *"depart from the truth giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils"* (I Timothy 4:1). Paul made it plain to Timothy that there is such a thing as a form of religion...that's a religious demon that denies reality and truth.

Some churches are full of people who have a form, ceremony, ritual, natural ability, talent, beautiful music, and they even have preaching. But preaching is no sign of old-time salvation.

Preachers can get in the pulpit and deny the reality of salvation, deny the Holy Ghost, the signs, gifts and wonders. Many deny the blood of Jesus and declare it is no more effective than the blood of an animal. Pulpits are full or preachers who deny the blood, who say there's no sin, no existence of hell or eternal punishment. Pews are filled with people who don't believe in the old time power of God or the blessing and knowledge of sins forgiven. They don't believe in the Holy Ghost. In fact, they don't even believe you can be saved.

You ask them if they're saved and they'll say, "Oh, I'm a Christian." They honor God with their lips, but the Word says in Isaiah 29:13, *"Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men..."*

People sitting in the pews are told, "Folks, now you'd better be careful. Be on your guard. Now I believe in all the wonderful things of God; don't get the impression I don't believe in healing. BUT...when you go to these big meetings I want to WARN YOU..." This is why Isaiah said, "Fear toward God and the things of God are taught by men."

No wonder the hearts of the people are bound by fear today. Fear taught from the pulpit!

God says they may draw near me with their mouth and with their lips shout, 'Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! Glory to God! Thank you Jesus!" But God says their heart isn't in it. It's just from the lips! It has become a noisy form! It's not coming from the heart!

Their heart is far removed from me. God said in that day, *"Behold, I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people, even a marvelous work and a wonder"* (Isaiah 29:14).

Speaking of the same time in Isaiah 43, God says, *"I'll do a new thing."* In Habakkuk God said, *"Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you"* (Habakkuk 1:5).

We are living in days when blind are leading the blind. People have eyes that see nothing. As it was in the days of Balaam, he had eyes, but he saw nothing until God opened them. And if God hadn't opened his eyes, I don't know what would have happened. There was an angel in the road about to kill him. The angel plainly said, *"Three times I would have destroyed you if it had not been for the ass you were riding."*

This brings me to my text, found in Numbers 22, *"I have sinned"*...**because I could not see!** A backslidden preacher is talking. This is the first time he has confessed he has sinned for a long time because he's so bound with pride and conceit. He was so puffed up with the feeling of his own importance, he hasn't had a prayer meeting to touch God for a long time. In fact, it was on his knees when he hardened his heart, stiffened his neck and rebelled and refused to obey the Lord. He told God he was going to go anyway!

Balaam!

Did you ever stop to think that one day God ordained a she-jenny to take him for a ride? He got astride that she-jenny and started in the wrong direction to do the wrong thing out of the perfect will of God, because he had been promised a great promotion by old King Balak.

You preachers better be careful when they tell you, "If you'll come over here and take this church, you'll get more tithes, more offerings, a bigger Sunday School. You'll have more prestige." Many a preacher has backslidden and lost out with God because he got out of the perfect will of God just to get a better promotion, more prestige, a bigger church, so be could have a better report the next convention.

God have mercy on some of you preachers who send in your application to churches and are always "trying out."

"Would you like to come over to our church and try out? We need a new preacher." Then you pull out the best sermon you think you've got in your brief case or notebook, and say, "Now God, this is the day I'm going to try out for this new church. Oh God, let me impress the people that I'm a good preacher."

Backslidder!

You ask, "Did you ever do that?"

Yes, I did it once. But I prayed through and told God I'd never do it again. If God wants to promote me, He knows how to promote me. If God wants to give me a church, He can give me a church. He can give it to me the way they did in Bible days.

Try out! Try out! I guess that's about the only way some preachers can get a church these days is to try out.

I still love you, preacher. If you'll trust God, He can give you a church without going over and trying out.

God have mercy when a church is so cold and dead, dry and modern, it thinks it can judge a preacher's character and ability by listening to one sermon. You know the preacher will pull out the best sermon he's got when he's "trying out." You don't know what he'll do when he's not "trying out." Some men can preach a masterpiece of a sermon and be a devil the minute they leave the pulpit. You can't tell by one sermon whether he's a good man or a good preacher.

Church, you'd better let the Holy Ghost send you a good preacher. You'd better let God give you a preacher.

It seems Balaam was already backslidden when he got on that she-jenny and started out to prophecy against the children of God. When he missed the will of God, he backslid so quickly. He was so spiritually blind he couldn't see the supernatural thing God had put in the middle of the path to stop him.

When a preacher gets out of the will of God and begins to put money first and commercialize off the things of God, he'd better watch out. He'll get so spiritually blind he can't see the supernatural thing that God is doing.

It may be he goes here or there for more tithes, a bigger salary or a better parsonage to live in. He can lose his spiritual eyesight by taking a church that offers better commodities, or the golf course may be better there. It might be closer to big game hunting or deep sea fishing. He'd better watch out! He'll get so spiritually blind he can't see the supernatural things God is doing.

Balaam said to the angel of the Lord, *"I have sinned; for I knew not that thou stoodest in the way against me."* Eyes that couldn't see! The ass had eyes, too, but it saw an angel standing in the road with a flaming sword.

Some people today can't see supernatural things. Others can't see anything God is doing. When God performs a miracle, they declare it's a natural act...it's not a supernatural thing.

When the jenny opened its mouth and began to preach in Balaam's own language, he accused the jenny, not God, of talking. He accused the ass of "mocking him." He was so cold in his soul and dried up spiritually that he didn't know it was God talking through the ass. He accused the animal of doing something natural.

My God! If I ever heard an ass I was riding start preaching to me, I wouldn't say, "What are you mocking me for, Jack?" I'd have enough discernment to know it must be supernatural...out of the ordinary. It must be God!

But Balaam was backslidden. When he heard the ass reprimand him, he accused it of mocking him, and said, *"Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee."* And he took a club and began to beat the jenny. He wouldn't have an ass preaching to him!

God will use a jack or jenny before he'll use some backslidden preachers. God will let a plain beast of the field see the miraculous and supernatural things that He is doing before some preachers ever see it. That's because some preachers are sinning and they don't seem to know it.

The man finally woke up! "My God, I have sinned because I couldn't see!" It's a sin to be blind to the things God is doing. I said, it is a sin to be unable to discern and see what God does in the Spirit.

I want to get through to every one of you. It's time we realize that getting to heaven means holiness and righteousness. No sin is going to go in. It's a sin to be so

spiritually blinded we can't discern and enjoy the supernatural, miraculous things God is doing in our own pathway!

Balaam said, *"...I knew not that thou stoodest in the way..."* Here was a man with two eyes. He could see the wall on either side of him. He could see the ass he was riding, but he couldn't see what God was doing.

Some preachers know what church they're going to next. They know what they'll preach. They know which highway they'll take to get there. But they can't see what God's doing on the road. God lets some beasts of the field be used before He uses some backslidden prophets.

It's time that judgment begins at the house of God. Pews and pulpits are filled with people like Balaam who can't see a thing God is doing today. They'll take the things of God and attribute them to the works of the devil. When someone gets healed, they'll say, "The devil did it." So blind they can't see the thing God is doing. Everything supernatural God does, they attribute to the natural. Like Balaam, their hearts are not wrapped up in the things of God. When the ass spoke by supernatural means in his own language, Balaam was angered: "The very idea of an ass talking and mocking me. Where's a club!" He got himself a club and began to beat her.

If he had an ounce of spirituality, he would have known the ass wasn't mocking him. He'd never heard one talk before. All he'd ever heard her do was bray. She's not braying now; she's doing something out of the ordinary...a supernatural thing for a beast of the field to start talking in a man's language.

Balaam didn't believe it was God. He attributed it to the natural. He believed the ass was doing it all herself. Like some people today, they don't believe this miracle ministry to the multitudes is of God. They attribute it all to something earthly, fleshly. People who have one time had a marvelous experience with God, who have shouted and praised God in the dance in days gone by, come into our meetings and say, "Huh, you call this worship?" On every side is the joy of the Lord, the supernatural power of God falling, people exalting the Lord, the blessings of God coming down, hundreds getting healed and delivered everywhere. But they can't see it! The call it "fanaticism."

I believe this is the biggest sin that church members and preachers can commit today. To fail to see, fail to feel and discern the supernatural and miraculous things God is doing today, and to attribute it to something in the natural.

You know, we are living in a day and hour when people are warned of one thing more than anything else: "Now, you'd better be careful. Stay in the middle of the road. Let's have everything done decently and in order." You're afraid to clap your hands without permission from the pulpit. You're afraid to shout. You won't even raise your hands and shout the praises of God unless someone behind the pulpit says, "Raise your hands and praise the Lord." You've even reached the place where you won't say "amen." My God, a church is backslidden if they have to have the amen's and the hallelujahs and praises to the Lord pumped out of them. God wants His people to shout and worship Him from the heart!

Balaam didn't discern that it was God. He didn't discern it. He felt nothing. He saw nothing. He was backslidden.

When you are backslidden, you discern nothing, you feel nothing, you see nothing. You're only interested in getting on over the hill and being promoted to very great honor. You hear the call of man and desire his honor more than God. It's a trick of the devil. He gets God's people's eyes on promotion instead of revival!

With all our hearts, let's pray, "Oh God, let me see and discern. Give me Divine wisdom and knowledge to know and understand your work today."

YOU'RE NOT TOO POOR TO GIVE!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1964)

In one of our overseas campaigns, when we began to teach the people that God's Word declares we should give to God no matter how poor we are, one of the main sponsoring pastors in that particular meeting turned to one of our staff and said, "These people are too poor to give."

I ask, "Can this pastor back that statement up with the scripture? Can he prove by the Bible that God's children are ever too poor to give?"

How can he back it up with the Bible, when the Bible does not, in one place, declare that anybody is too poor to give to God? I can prove by the Bible you are never too poor to hear God's voice, to obey and give, and you're never too poor to prove God and receive His blessings.

I CAN PROVE TO YOU from the Bible that if you are too poor in God's sight to give, then you are too poor to even live! It would mean you have nothing, you never got anything, you have nothing to eat, nothing to wear, no place to live, and you never have anything to spend.

In Malachi the third chapter, God says, *"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."*

God's plan of the tithe is perfect. If all you earn is one thin dime, then you are only required to give Him a penny. But... *"unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required"* (Luke 12:48). You never get too poor to give.

Who needs the "open windows of heaven" more than the poor of this world? Yet, if a person who is poor fails to obey God and give, or if they believe they are too poor to give, then they are too poor to prove God, to see if He will not "open the windows of heaven and pour them out a blessing they cannot contain." If you are too poor to give to God, then you are too poor to see what God can do for you...too poor for God to bless you.

Jesus said in Luke 6:38, *"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."* He's talking about your giving, whether you are rich or poor. You have to give to God first, then with the same measure God will give it back to you, with an increase. He will press it down, shake it together, heap it up and run it over. If you're too poor to give, then you are too poor for God to give to you with a good measure.

In Malachi 3:8, God asks, *"Will a man rob God?"* And the people answered, *"Wherein have we robbed thee?"* God said, *"In tithes and offerings."* Anyone who has any income at all owes God a tenth part of it according to the Bible.

The person who says the poor are too poor to give to God is simply saying that the poor are bound to be disobedient, bound to poverty, and must abide all their lives under a curse. Just take a look at it in the light of God's Word.

God says, "Will you rob me?" And if the poor are too poor to give God His tithe, then they become thieves and robbers of God, because they have failed to pay their tithes.

This would automatically compel all the poor to go to hell…there will be no thieves and robbers in heaven.

In the same chapter of Malachi, God says, "Bring me…" He did not say, "All of you rich people bring me your tithe." He said, "Everyone of you bring me…" WHERE IS THE MAN WHO CAN AUTHORIZE THE POOR TO FAIL TO BRING GOD THEIR TITHE?

Jesus said, *"Give…and it shall be given unto you."* If you are too poor to give to God, then you are too poor to obey God's Word. You become disobedient…a sinner…because all disobedience is sin. If you ever get too poor to give, too poor to bring the tithe to God, then you are too poor to obey the voice of the Lord and do what God tells you to do. If it's possible that the poor can be too poor to bring to God, too poor to give to God, then the poor are doomed forever!

The person who would make such a statement regarding the poor is simply saying that all scripture is not given by inspiration of God. He is saying that when we deal with the poor there is some scripture that we cannot use for teaching. This would mean that all this Bible isn't true…some of it is a lie…some of it you can't believe. But my Bible tells me in II Timothy 3:16, *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."*

IT'S A DANGEROUS THING to make the Word of God a lie or of none effect! God says regarding His Word*: "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away"* (Luke 21:33). We can take the precious Word of God and know what God will do for us today by what He did for people yesterday.

In I Kings 17, there was a widow who was so poor she was starving to death. All she had was one little handful of meal in the meal barrel. She and her son were going to eat the last cake and then lie down and starve together. But God had something better planned for her. She was willing to listen and obey the word of God's servant. She was not too poor to give her last cake to God.

Elijah came by and asked her for a drink of water. Then he hastened to add, "Also bring me a morsel of bread in thing hand." HERE WAS THE CHALLENGE: The starving woman answered him, *"As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die."*

He answered her, *"Fear not…but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and thy son. For the barrel of meal shall not waste neither shall the cruse of oil fail."*

Who could be more poor than the widow of Zarephath? She was about to starve. And yet, she wasn't too poor for God to tell her, "Give that last cake to the preacher." Through her willingness to give her last to God, He in turn brought blessing and salvation to her household…otherwise she would have eaten that last cake and died

Nothing will bring criticism to a minister quicker than for him to begin to preach the Word of God on giving, and instructing rich and poor alike to bring their gifts to God. But I find as I minister around the world, that when the poor offer the Lord a sacrificial offering and pay their tithes, God does open unto them the windows of heaven and they are soon not able to contain all the blessings that He bestows upon them. It is His plan for blessing and salvation to their households!

I am not in harmony or agreement with the idea some preachers have that some of their people are too poor to give. You don't get too poor for God to tell you to bring to Him and to give.

In II Kings, chapter 4, is the story of another widow who was so poor she could not pay her bills. She was being forced to sell her own two sons in the slave market to get the money to satisfy her creditors. Who could be poorer than that? She had nothing!

Elisha asked her, *"What shall I do for thee? Tell me, what hast thou in the house?"* And she answered him, *"Thy handmaid hath nothing."* Then on second thought she remembered a pot of oil. She had a little oil left in the old oil pot. It was so little she had almost overlooked it.

Then Elisha instructed her to pour it out. Because she was willing to pour out the last bit of oil, God gave her a miracle. He gave her an oil pot that kept running oil!

According to the Word of God, you don't get too poor to pour out the last drops of oil you've got if you want God's blessings. If you think you are too poor to give, then you are too poor for God to bless you! There's no hope for you. You've got to stay poor and can never be prospered financially. That's because God's rule for increase is that you give to God FIRST, then God will give back to you and bless you with good measure.

One man in the Bible had nothing of this world's goods. You will remember how Jacob hastily left everything behind and fled for his life from his father's house to escape from his angered brother, Esau. He needed and desired God's blessing, yet he had nothing to offer the Lord. Therefore, he vowed a vow, he made a pledge: *"...And of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee."*

Jacob made up his mind that he was not too poor to have God's blessing! He had nothing to give, so he'd just promise God a portion when he did get something in the future. This pledge made him rich. It brought God's financial prosperity upon him.

If you have nothing to give, you're still not too poor to have God's blessing like Jacob. If you have nothing to offer the Lord, you're broke, have no job, and if you are in trouble, you can still promise God something in the future, and God's blessing will come upon you.

I want to repeat again, if some people are too poor to give or even promise to give, then only the rich and people with lots of money can ever have God's blessing.

Jesus gives us a wonderful lesson on giving in Mark 12:41-44. He sat over against the treasury and beheld how the people cast money into the church offering. He watched the rich and the mighty come by and drop in large amounts of silver and gold, but He said noting. It never moved Jesus. Then He watched as a certain poor widow came by and dropped in her last two mites. This was all she had to give...she would trust God for her needs tomorrow. Two mites...yet it moved Jesus! And He declared, *"This poor widow hath cast more in than all they which have cast into the treasury."*

How can it be? God does His bookkeeping in a very different way than we do. He looks at the amount you have left after you give to Him. And He explains it thus: *"For all they* (the rich) *did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."*

Jesus knew all things, and He knew she put in her last two mites. He knew if He let her give it, she would have nothing to eat with; and yet, He let her give it. He didn't tell her that she was too poor to give to God. He didn't tell her to keep it for herself. He let her give it, and when she did, He stood to His feel and preached one of His greatest sermons, commending her for her gift.

Here was a gift most precious to God, a sacrifice that was acceptable. She "proved God" to open to her the windows of heaven. You don't get too poor to give! You don't get too poor to prove God! If you're poor, you need to prove what God can do for you.

Did it ever dawn on you that your healing could have something to do with your giving? Very definitely, there's a connection between your faith and your obedience to God.

God said in I John 3:22, *"And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight."* Healing comes by faith, and faith comes from God. God dose not give faith unto disobedient people. Therefore, when people do not give and do not obey God, they are disobedient children, lacking in faith.

If you have been made to believe by someone's statements that you are too poor to give, then you will find that you are too poor to be healed by the power of God, and you're going to have to stay sick for the rest of your life. I firmly believe this is one reason why so many poor people are sick all the time. This is one of the reasons why the charity hospitals in our country are crowded and packed with sick and suffering poor people. And many are "full gospel" folk who know that God still heals today. They don't seem to get victory over their infirmities. God can't heal them because they are too poor!

THE GREATEST HEALING SERVICE I find recorded in the Bible is in Luke 6:17-23, where Jesus healed all who came to Him. Compare this with His greatest failure recorded in Mark 6:1-6, where the Bible says, *"He could there do no mighty work save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk and healed them."* AND HE MARVELED AT THEIR UNBELIEF! He had taught them, but they would not believe.

These were two different campaigns entirely…two different places and two different groups of people. In one place He could heal only a few sick folk, but in the other place He healed every one. And many among this great multitude were poor. Jesus spoke directly to them in Luke 6, verses 20 to 23.

What is the connection between giving and healing? You will find in the campaign where 'He healed them all," that they didn't just come to Jesus to get healed only. The Bible says, "They came to hear Him, and to be healed of their diseases." In this great campaign on the plains, great multitudes came out of Judea, Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, to hear the Word and to be healed. To hear Christ preach was first! Healing was secondary! The secret of the entire multitude being healed is because they came to hear the Word of Life! And what they heard were the words of Jesus, "Give, and it shall be given unto you."

Here was the greatest and only sermon Jesus preached that day where everybody got healed. His momentous sermon? "GIVE!"

If you're too poor to obey God, then you are saying, "I am too poor to do what God tells me to do. I'm so poor I have to continue living under a curse." God says in Malachi 3:9, *"Ye are cursed with a curse…"* Deuteronomy 28:17-68 declares, *"All these curses shall come unto thee, and cleave unto thee because thou wouldst not hearken unto the voice of God."* In this great chapter, God lists all the blessings He has promised to the obedient child of God. Then God has listed all the curses which the disobedient will be compelled to live under all the days of his life.

God said, *"Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. Cursed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou be when thou goest out. The Lord shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do until thou be*

destroyed..." Only a curse of poverty. No hope for anything better as long as you live under the curse. Poverty is a terrible thing, but the curse for disobedience does not stop there.

If you're too poor to give, then you're too poor to listen to the voice of God...because God said, "Give!" Then you're too poor to get out from under the curse of sickness. God said, *"The Lord shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning...The Lord will smite thee with the botch of Egypt and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch...With madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart..."* He said all these things would come upon thee and cleave unto thee until you be destroyed, and then put you in the grave. In these verses you find the general classifications of our common diseases in the world today!

The 29th verse says, *"And thou shalt not prosper in thy ways...no man shall save thee."*

I can't believe that God ordained that all poor people must live under a curse and die under a curse. Why then would Jesus have been sent to *"preach the gospel to the poor"* as it tell us in Luke 4:18? How could He then call the poor *"rich in good works"* (I Timothy 6:18) and *"Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith...?"* (James 2:5).

I know I am giving you something you seldom hear preached, but it is the Word of God... *"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."* If we have ever preached this message, we have preached it in the countries this year where the people are some of the poorest people in the world. Above all they need God's blessings!

God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt's bondage and captivity...He brought them forth also with silver and with gold. And there was not one person among their tribes who was sick. God did that to let you and me know He means for His people to have silver and gold. He means for them to be well and whole!

If God wants His people to be poor, why would He say in Joshua 1:8, *"Thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."?* Why did He say in II Chronicles 20, *"...believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper."* If God wants you to be poor, why did He say, "I would that ye prosper and be in health."? (III John 2).

The basis for God's blessing and prospering you is the fact that you give first, no matter how small.

First place your healing or the healing of your children on the basis of faith. Then place faith on the basis of your obedience. You're going to have to obey God before faith can fill your soul. When you obey God, then God is going to give you faith. You will have that faith and confidence that can receive what we ask of Him, *"because we keep His commandment, and do the things that are pleasing in His sight."*

This not only includes our obedience in giving God a tenth of our increase and giving God offerings, it means every command in the Word of God.

You never get too poor to hear God speak. You are never too poor to obey God. You cannot afford to be too poor to give to God. You must not consider yourself too poor to make heaven your home. In fact, the poor people are the ones who ought to prove God and see what God can do for them. It is they and not the rich who need help to meet their daily needs.

There are hundreds of you today who are deeply religious. Many of you go to these great cathedrals, churches with the tall spires with crosses on top. You have learned form, ritual, and ceremony, but many of you have not been taught Jesus' teaching about

giving. You have not read it because you have not been able to read the Bible. But these are the words of Jesus…they are TRUTH and they are LIFE!

If you will do what I tell you to do today, God will pour out upon you His blessing of prosperity, and you will receive the blessing of God spiritually and physically upon your bodies. Promise God to obey His voice and do what the Bible says!

When God gave us the Bible, He didn't split it in two parts and say, "Here's one Bible for the rich people, and another Bible for poor people." This Bible is for rich and poor alike. "God is no respecter of persons." When He said, "Bring me your tithes and offerings," He didn't say, "Now, this is only for the rich people." But to the rich and poor alike, He said, "Prove me now herewith…open the windows of heaven…bring me all…see if I don't do what I promise."

God in all His wisdom and knowledge gave to the rich and the poor this Bible. If you'll do what it says, it will make you rich in your soul, in your body, in your spirit, and in your pocket book!

SOULS FOR SALE

(A. A. ALLEN – 1964)

Visitors are walking down the long dim corridors. Someone asks, "Who is that man behind the bars?" The answer is shocking: "Sh-h-h! That's Pontius Pilate!"

"What is he doing in this insane asylum?"

Over in the corner of an insane asylum, high in the Alps of Switzerland stood the once-great governor from Jerusalem. In front of him is the imaginary basin of water, and he's washing his hands…washing his hands! Still trying to wash the blood of Jesus from his hands!

The Greek historian tells us that something snapped in Pilate's brain. Every time he looked out through that tiny barred window, he saw three crosses, and he saw a man hanging on the middle cross. He would shut his eyes, but he still could see it. At night he would dream about it. And the blood of Jesus was still on his hands.

He washed his hands, but he never washed his soul, nor did he wash his conscience. Pontius Pilate died in an insane asylum with a basin of water on his knees. He had washed his hands for months, months, months. In fact, he died washing his hands. He never got the blood of Jesus off his hands.

If he could go back now to the hour when they brought Jesus to him, he would have shouted to the clamoring throng, "You can't have him!" God had been so good to warn him through his wife in a dream. He could have shouted, "You can't have this innocent man!" But he didn't see himself dying in an insane asylum. And today, I daresay Pilate is off in a corner of the regions of the doomed, lost in hell, still washing his hands in an imaginary basin of water, because the blood of Jesus is still there.

Esau never saw himself begging for a blessing and hearing his father declare that there was no blessing for him.

Balaam? God finally permitted him to go. He went all right but in a few days there was a terrific battle with the Midianites, and there on the battlefield, old Balaam died. He never lived to get his job. He never got his place of promotion. The next day after the battle, men are walking among the dead, the wounded and dying. Some of the fallen are still groaning. But there's a man…and the Bible says, "He died with his eyes open." He never shut his eyes. Sightless eyes staring up to God. Staring up to heaven. Poor Balaam! The devil never let him see THIS! All the devil ever let him see was a better job and a place of promotion. All he could see was worldly honor and his family living better than they had ever lived.

Friends, the devil has other plans for you besides a better job. If old Balaam could have seen himself on the battlefield dead, slaughtered by the enemy, he would never have questioned God. He would have obeyed the Lord's first instructions, and never have been so determined to go up to Moab. But Balaam, you can't go back now!

Esau cannot trade back for his birthright. Pontius Pilate is dying in an insane asylum because he sold out. And Friend, if you could see what is down the road for self-will and disobedience for you, every one of you would turn around and begin running to the altar of repentance and consecration.

It was growing late in the evening. There was a man outside the high walls of a city. In his hand is a rope, and the devil says to him, "Judas, you might as well end it all. You betrayed the Son of God. You'll never be happy in this world; you'd be better off dead. Why don't you hang yourself?"

Judas says, "I'm going to." And he climbed up in a tree, and began to make a good noose. "I might as well end it all."

Judas, the devil didn't let you see this when he showed you the thirty pieces of silver, did he? All you saw was the money, money, money...the thirty pieces of silver!

The next day, someone says, "What is that swinging on the end of that rope?" As you draw closer, they exclaim, "Oh, that's a man! Isn't that one of the disciples that followed Jesus? The one who carried the money bag?"

While old Judas was swinging in the evening breeze, somebody cut him down. And the Bible says that when he fell, all his bowels burst out. Judas, where are your thirty pieces of silver?!

Oh friend, if some of you could see down the road of tomorrow...if some of you could see what the devil has planned for you...you would turn around and run to an altar as fast as you could. You'd cry out to God for help and mercy. Many of you have sold out, and you know you have.

Samson is shorn now of his power...his seven locks are gone. The enemy has made an animal of him, a beast of burden, "as he did grind in the prison house." Once he had beautiful eyes, but the Philistines gouged out those eyes. They have been seared over for a long time, only scars there now. He is blind, alone, without the blessing and power of God in his life. Time goes by...at evening he sits in his prison cell, his head in his hands. He's so weary from another day of toil.

Samson, you got your Delilah, but you got something else with her. You played with sin and enjoyed it, but the devil deceived you. He didn't show you the end!

Is God just letting you have the thing you want more than you want Him and His will for your life? Samson got his Delilah. Esau got his pot of beans. Pilate got the applause from the crowd that day and his popularity with Caesar...but he got something else, too. Balaam insisted on going his own way. The way of sudden death!

But Pontius Pilate, Balaam, Judas...three out of the five...could have come back, but they would not. Esau would, but he could not. Pilate could have come back and repented. Balaam could have come back and repented. I believe that Judas could have come back and repented. But they would not.

You had better watch out! The devil is going to make such a bid for you to make you sell your soul that you won't even try to come back. You will be so discouraged and have sunk so deeply into the scum of despair, you will not even try to come back. The devil will get you before you come back.

Esau would have come back, but he could not. As it says in Hebrews 12:17, *"We know how that afterwards when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears."* No place! No place!

Esau said to his father, "Bless me, oh my father." But his father said, "There is no blessing left for you. You sold your birthright, and your brother hath taken your blessing.

"Having God's will and God's blessing had not been very important to him. Because he did not esteem God's Promise, the Word says, "He despised his birthright."

One man out of five finally came to God. One man came out of the prison. One! There are not very many who make a comeback.

Keys rattled in the old prison cell door one day, and someone called, "Samson!" Samson, in the darkness of his blindness, stumbled over to the old prison door where he had been used to grind the mill. He asked, "What do you want?" (See Judges 16).

A lad had come for him. He pushed him on up the steps and out into the open area. He said, "The Philistines are here…three thousand of them. They want to laugh and make sport of you."

As he held the hand of the lad tightly, depending on him to help him find the way, everyone cheered and screamed, "That's him! That's him! That's Samson! He is the one that picked up the jawbone of an ass and killed a thousand of our mighty warriors! Look at him now!" And they laughed and jeered and mocked him, and praised Dagon their god for delivering Samson into their hands. They made fun of a man who once had the power of God in his life. They said, "That's the man. Once he was strong…the destroyer of our country. Now look at him." The eyes that had once seen the mighty deliverance of the Lord are seared over with scars; they were punched out long ago. He's all bent over now, weak and weary like any other prisoner. Who would ever guess this was the great Samson!

But it is! And he still remembers Delilah. He's not blaming her. He's blaming himself, because he didn't get victory over his own weaknesses.

As they led him into the great house where three thousand men and women stood, praising their god for his capture, Samson suddenly had an idea.

"Lad," he said, "Are there not two big pillars here somewhere? Will you lead me over where they are that I may feel them?"

As the lad led Samson to the center of the great hall, where the two columns held up the balcony, sightless eyes looked up to heaven. He placed one hand on one column and his other hand on the other and began to pray. A man who has been in prison for so long, void of God's blessing and power, looked up and prayed, "Lord, do you remember me? Do you remember me, Lord?" And a voice from heaven said, "Samson, I still remember you!"

Samson looked up and said, "Lord, remember me this one more time. Just remember me one more time. Just give me strength one more time. I've got to make a comeback. It's now or never. I can't die in bondage and in captivity. I've got to do something, God. I can't die like this. I've got to feel your touch and your blessing and your power once more!"

And God said, "Samson, I am going to remember you one more time." Then, like a bolt from heaven, Samson shook himself once more. He began to feel the anointing and the power and blessing of God once again in his life. He bowed himself, and the two pillars and the crowded balcony began to crumble. There was a sound like thunder as that great house with all the Philistines inside began to crumble and fall. There were the screams and cries of thousands as the stones settled and the dust rose high in the air. Finally, when the dust had settled, in the debris there was a man. He had no eyes…they are only scars. But there are seven locks of hair upon his head now…they had had plenty of time to grow back. He is lying there crushed and lifeless…but there are the wounded, the dead and dying lying all around him. And the Bible says concerning this daring comeback against the enemies of the Lord, *"So the dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life."*

That's not all of it! Walk down the corridors of God's great faith gallery. You will find a picture of a man there. He is counted as one of the greatest men of faith of all time.

He finished faithful! His name is Samson. God hung his picture in the great faith gallery of heaven. It's hanging there today.

Oh, it's true he failed God. He played around in sin, and the world can read of his shortcomings, but he died fighting the devil. Even though he broke his vow and lost God's holy anointing all those years spent in prison, Samson is found in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews…the great faith chapter. He finished the race of life as a man of faith!

Some of you have been away from God. You have been in the devil's prison. You've been shut away from God. You are blind, so to speak. Your spiritual eyes are gone. You are in darkness and in captivity.

Some of you have sold out. But listen, don't be like Pilate. Don't die in an insane asylum. Don't be like Balaam. Don't die in the devil's territory. Don't die like Judas, and be lost forever. Don't let the devil tell you suicide is the only way out for you. Don't be like Esau, putting it off so long that you cannot come back.

Every one of you can be a Samson. You can come up the old prison steps. You can come out of bondage. You can come out of prison. You can do more in the few days that are ahead, with God's help, than you have done in all the days of the paste.

Hundreds of you have once had God's blessing. It's been so long ago, but you've once known Jesus as Savior and Lord. You've drifted away from Him. This is your hour. NOW! God has given you this message of hope today to stir you to action. The Spirit of God is once again speaking to your heart…calling you to make a comeback.

Watch out! The devil is going to do everything in his power to see that you turn out the same way as Pilate did…or Balaam…or Judas…or Esau. He doesn't want God to rescue you and be able to hang your picture in His great faith gallery. He will offer every excuse and attempt to hinder you from making a comeback now. But you're going to do it, in the name of Jesus! I believe the devil is going to have to open the door of your prison cell and you are going to walk out. I am asking God to let everyone of you who needs this sermon once more feel the blessing and the joy of the Lord. I'm asking Him to let you once again feel the anointing and the power of God. God is going to remember you one more time!

It's either now or never. It can be your final decision…heaven or hell for YOU! What you do NOW can determine where you will spend eternity. Watch out! God is giving you one more chance!

Right now, wherever you are, look up and say, "God, do you remember me?" And He is going to say, "Yes, my child, I remember you!"

Then with all your heart say, "God, remember me one more time. One more time." And He is going to do it. I said, "He is going to do it!"

Now, don't be ashamed…raise your hands and thank Him. Thank Him for remembering you once again. Rejoice, because you are going to be a greater blessing to more people now than you've ever been in the past. It's the promise of God!

STILL GOOD TODAY!

(A. A. Allen Testimony – 1964)

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." – John 8:36

Since 1951, under the A. A. Allen Miracle Revival tent…in every campaign…across the nation and in distant places around the globe, special help has always been offered those attending the meetings who were addicted to tobacco, alcohol and dope.

In so many instances, these are the most neglected. No one seems to care if they struggle along alone and are lost. So many Christian ministers and workers pass them by, considering them too difficult, offensive or impossible.

But not Jesus! He came to seek and to save that which was lost!

From these deliverance services where special prayer and help is given these precious addicted souls, have come thrilling testimonies of complete deliverance. Many who were once bound are now active in a Miracle Ministry of their own. They're among Christ's most ardent workers today.

With such a great cloud of witnesses to God's mighty delivering power over tobacco, alcohol and dope, is it any wonder the devil fights this ministry? Is it any wonder the devil tries to make my own deliverance testimony of none effect?

Thank God the Word says the devil is a liar. And my deliverance from tobacco and alcohol is as real today as it was in the days immediately following my conversion thirty years ago.

The old crowd saw it, doubted it could last, and in time had to admit that Allen really got "religion!"

Like so many children who grow up in tobacco country, as far back as I can remember, tobacco was plentiful in my home. Mama and Papa used strong homegrown tobacco that had dried in our own barn. I smoked before I was old enough to start to school.

My father was a talented musician who not only played for dances, but also directed the church choir. It was a formal, denominational church that did not preach against sin nor teach a life of holiness. My mother left my father when I was four, and the years that followed were hard and unhappy ones.

I tried running away at the age of eleven, but when it began to rain, I got cold and hungry and went back home. Then at fourteen, I decided it was time for me to launch out on my own.

Like most boys who leave home, I soon became attached to other unattached young friends, and traveled through much of the South. I dug ditches, picked cotton, worked in the cotton gins, waited tables, and worked whenever possible, but I knew what it was to be cold and hungry. From experience, I know what poverty and despair really are.

For seven long years I lived a life of sin…a wretched life that doesn't satisfy. It gives pleasure for a season, but it never lasts. For every night in sin, there's always the morning after. Many a night, after being the life of the party, I slipped out into the woods and wept bitterly. My life had no purpose. It seemed hardly worth living.

Again and again, when my head was splitting and my frayed nerves let me shake visibly with a "hangover," I promised myself I would never go on another binge. But when night came, I was right back there…the life of the party! A confirmed drunkard. When the boys opened a new bottle, someone would say, "Don't let Ace drink first. If you do, there won't be any left for the rest of us."

Sometimes I wondered if changing my way of life might help. At twenty-one, I was sick. Tobacco, bad liquor, and a life of sin were taking a serious toll on my body. I tried one brand of cigarettes after another, hoping to relieve the deep hacking cough. When I failed to find any less irritating, I tried to quit smoking. But every fiber of my being cried out for nicotine. I could hardly get a cigarette to my lips with one hand. And when I struck the match, I help my wrist with the other hand to control the shaking when I lit up.

Broken in health and in spirit, the decision was finally made to return to my mother's house. Perhaps with Mama's good regular meals and with outdoor work on the farm, my health would return.

This was a momentous decision that led to my conversion…a real step in the right direction, but not until my mother's heart was almost broken.

Change my life! Plan as I did…I was bound by sin. Although I found myself at home, the lustful appetites of nicotine and alcohol still cried out to be satisfied. They had almost destroyed my health, yet the craving drove me on. I could not quit.

My poor mother would weep and beg me not to drink. "You're worrying your poor old mother to death," she pleaded. I was her only boy and her favorite child. She must have been the more deeply hurt as I laughed and joked back with her.

Soon after I returned home, I tried a new venture that proved quite successful. I opened my own dance hall on the highway. Customers came to dance and satisfy their thirst for drink at the Allen Saturday night dances. This exclusive dance hall had good music, good dancing and "spirits," and the young people gathered from far and near.

But the fame and fortune of this enterprise was to prove short-lived. Only a quarter of a mile down the highway, a precious farmer who was filled with the Holy Ghost and who loved lost souls had opened his home for prayer meeting and services. He invited friends, neighbors, and everyone to attend. However, progress was slow. Several months passed and he was not pleased with the success he had hoped for.

The Allen dance hall was holding the young people's interest and keeping them from church. Brother Hunter finally decided if he was ever going to win his community for God, that dance hall would have to be closed.

A prayer group was called together to pray specifically for that purpose. Their example would be a good one for some of us to follow today. They prayed like this: "One way or another, God, close down that Allen dance hall. Save him if you can, but if he refuses to be saved, move him out of this community or take him."

God answered their fervent prayer!

A short time later, a little Methodist Church nearby opened its doors for a revival. A friend and I passed by one evening, just as they were singing. The music and singing sounded so joyful, and the church was full. We slipped into a vacant spot on the back bench to see what was taking place at the church house.

To my amazement, a young lady was the preacher. She was dressed in white, and it seemed to me that she looked and talked just like an angel. As she began to preach against sin, I didn't want her to see me. I moved over just a little...that way I could hide

my face behind the stove pipe. In a few moments, she stepped to the other side of the pulpit, looked back where we were and continued to preach the Word.

For the first time in my life I came face to face with the full gospel. I was confronted with the convicting power of God. Before the altar call could be made, my friend and I slipped quietly out the door.

True, I slipped away from the church and the people, but I could not get away from the Spirit of God. All night and all the next day, I could hear that joyous singing. Why, there was more joy in those songs than any I had ever heard, even the dance hall music. All the church music I had ever heard was slow and mournful. Over and over I recalled each happy face and the pure looking lady who had preached from God's Word. Her words resounded in my ears.

For so long I had sought after joy and satisfaction, but life was leading me farther and farther from it with each step. In my heart was an overwhelming hunger for the joy and peace I saw on the faces of those precious church people. The gentle pleading Spirit of God continued to urge me to return to the church and let those people help me find that joy.

The battle was on! Satan never gives up without a real fight. All the vexing, obsessing and possessing powers of the evil struggled within. But there was prayer going up before God in my behalf, and the Spirit of God had begun to move. When the service time came, I was there. I wouldn't have missed a song!

That night, many testified. And the sermon was just for me…how the blood of Jesus would wash away every sin. Concluding her sermon, the lady minister said, "Every one who wants to be saved, will you please raise your hand!"

I had reached the decision of my life! Without any hesitation, I raised my hand high.

"If you really want salvation tonight, then stand to your feet."

I eagerly obeyed. Several others were now standing, too.

When she looked at me, an anxious, troubled look came over her face. I learned later that she feared I had only come to the service and responded to the invitation to disrupt the prayer service and to make fun. It was with visible hesitation and anxiety that she finished the call: "If you really mean business with God tonight, if you really want to be saved, please come forward."

The others who were standing nearby sank back into their seats, but I was in deadly earnest. I really meant business. Up to the front I walked very deliberately, and stood directly in front of the pulpit, looking up to await further instructions.

This almost panicked the lady preacher. Surely, she thought, he is about to cause a scene. Otherwise he would have knelt to pray at the altar. But I did not know any better. I was only following instructions with utmost sincerity. The eyes of everyone in the church were on me; the atmosphere become somewhat tense.

Still questioning my motive for coming, she asked, "Do you really want to be saved?"

I said, "Certainly, that's why I came to the front."

"Then will you please kneel here at the altar, and we will pray."

To her relief and utter surprise, I did kneel and genuinely repented of my sins. The heavy load of sin rolled away. The old A. A. Allen who had been bootlegger, dancer and entertainer died that night at the altar. A new Allen stepped from the front doors of that "Onward Methodist Church." Gone were the sins and the desires that had bound me for so long.

No more dances! No more liquor! No more cigarettes! Desire for them had vanished, and a new joy and peace had taken their place. They had no part in the life of the new Allen!

Old friends came by. They could not imagine what had happened. "Allen's got religion," some said, "But it won't last long! He'll be back on the dance floor in thirty days." One went so far as to say, "If it lasts Allen thirty days, I'll even try it myself!"

But what they did not know was this was not reform. This was not turning over a new leaf. This was a new creation! They were looking at the results of the mighty transforming power of God in action! Genuine deliverance in the Mighty Name of Jesus!

"...freely ye have received, freely give." (Matthew 10:8).

Freely I have received! Can I afford not to freely give? I cannot refrain from giving forth the same message to others that saved and transformed my own life!

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

If you need this same transforming power of God, just remember: Jesus came to "set the captives free and to break every yoke!"

COMMAND YE ME!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1964)

"Thus saith the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me."
– Isaiah 45:11

God says, "Ask of things to come. Ask Me what I am going to do in the future. Ask Me what I have placed on the menu for My sheep to eat in the last day. Ask Me of things that are going to come to pass concerning My sons."

Are you a son or daughter of God? If you have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus our Savior, whether male or female, whether Jew or Gentile, you are a son of God! You are as much a son of God as Elijah…as much as Elisha; you're every bit as much a son as Peter, Paul, Stephen, John or any of the rest of them. And if you wonder what God wants to do for His sons today, all you have to do is flip through the pages of your Bible and find out what He did for His sons in days gone by. God is just waiting for you and me to call upon Him and seek His will for our lives today. *"Ask me of things to come concerning My sons, and concerning the work of My hands…"*

What did He say? *"…concerning the work of My hands…"* We need to know what God desires and has promised and determined that He is going to do in the church and in the world in this day and hour. He said, *"…concerning my sons…"* Concerning God's preachers…God's sons…and His daughters…all those whom He has called, ordained and filled with the Holy Ghost.

I know some of you daughters of the Lord meet with obstacles. Your preachers will not let you in to preach. But you had better watch out! You know God has called you. God is going to hold you responsible because "the gifts and calling of God are without repentance." If He ever called you, He is still calling you. If God ever gave you a gift, you still have a gift. You are going to be responsible for your own ministry. You had better start obeying God.

"Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands…" God wants us to be concerned. He wants us to know…to have a part in the marvelous work He is doing. On Isaiah 29 He tells us, *"Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvelous work…and a wonder…And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness."*

Joel prophesied concerning our generation: *"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy…And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered."*

God says ask concerning His sons and the work of His hands. Habakkuk spoke forth under Divine anointing, *"Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you."* A new thing! This is what God wants us to do. You can find it all the way through the Bible. Ask God about it, and have a part in it.

God says something very significant concerning the work of His hands, and He was speaking to you and to me. He just says, **"COMMAND YE ME!"**

To me, this is he simplest thing in the world, if you have commanding faith in God. Preacher, just tell God what He has promised and what He is going to do for you. Command God to do it! Tell God what you want. Do it in obedience to His Word: *"Concerning the work of my hands command ye me."* God says, "Tell me what you would have Me do."

If you can have the kind of faith that I believe every one of you desire and want, and God has certainly promised, you can have the kind of faith that commands God!

There is a kind of faith that doesn't even have to ask. There's a kind of faith that doesn't have to stop and pray. But this kind of faith comes either through a gift of the Spirit or through a fruit of the Spirit because you have already been praying and waiting on God.

Some of you people need the kind of faith I call "emergency faith." There comes a time when you are so near an accident or suddenly faced with a problem that you haven't time to fast and pray for two weeks. Things can happen in a split second. You are going to have to have the kind of faith on the spot that instantly, miraculously moves God in a split second of time.

I believe many of you need to fast and pray. Many of you need to spend time in prayer before God. I believe I am a partaker in fasting and in praying, in obedience to the Word. But there is another way to move God! Exercise the kind of faith that claims the promises of God! Faith that can silently, without opening your mouth, command God to do something, and then stand back and watch God move. Do you have it?

I am not belittling prayer. Even Jesus, our great example, spent time apart to pray and commune with the Father. But I tell you this, after He had prayed, He stepped forth with authority and commanded the works of the Father's hand by many signs, wonders and miracles.

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews tells us what commanding faith in God did in Old Testament days. When they put Daniel in the lion's den, Daniel did not have to do any praying; he was already prayed up. Hebrews tell us, "Faith locked the mouths of the lions." What did it" Faith! Faith! Faith! Daniel said, "My God is able! My God will! He will!" And bless your heart, his God did. Daniel had the kind of faith that said, "God is going to do it!"

Daniel's was that "emergency faith." He did not have time to fast and pray over the situation. He had already been doing his praying three times a day. If it had taken him two weeks to get that kind of faith, the lions would have already eaten him up and chewed all the bones to pieces by then. But, "Faith locked the mouths of the lions." They were hungry, but they couldn't even open their mouths!

God says, "Command ye me." We don't have to do it orally with our lips. If we did, some people…even religious folk…would say, "It is sacrilegious." But when they threw Daniel in the lions' den, his faith did the talking. His faith said, "God, you're going to lock their mouths, and they are not going to take a bite of me." And they never took a bite! They couldn't open their mouths. Daniel had the kind of faith that commanded God and it brought results on the spot.

When the three Hebrew children were thrown into the fiery furnace, they were not praying. They had already had their prayer meetings to the most High God. They walked about on the red-hot coals in the midst of the flames, but as far as the record goes, we do not find any prayer meeting. There had been no forewarning…no time for praying through! If they had not been prayed up, that fire would have burned them up. The furnace was heated seven times more than ever before. But when the king looked in, he

asked, "Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? Lo, I see four! And the fourth is like the Son of God!"

Hebrews tell us, "Faith quenched the violence of fire." What did it? FAITH! Faith that commands a miracle. You are going to do your praying before you get thrown into the lion's den. You are going to have to be prayed up before they throw you in the fire. If you will do your fasting and praying NOW, God will give you the kind of faith that He wants you to have…that kind of faith that commands God and gets the answer instantly when the need arises. The answer will come as you shout, "My God will! My God will! Jesus will!" This is the kind of faith God wants you to have.

I'm talking about the kind of faith that commands God, that brings God on the spot. Daniel just said, "Yes, my God will deliver me." The three Hebrew children said, "Our God is able, and He will deliver." "Through faith also Sara…was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged Him faithful Who promised." "Oh, He's faithful! He promised it! Bless God, the answer is coming! What difference does it make if I am past ninety; I am still going to be the mother of a great nation. I am counting God faithful! God is faithful!" Faith! Faith! Faith!

For too many ears God's children in the church and in the ministry have lived beneath their privileges in Jesus. God has been talking to me about this. During the Winston-Salem Campaign and again at the close of the Baltimore meeting, God spoke to me to adopt for our 1964 slogan that God id going to do more in 1964. God is going to open a new door in '64. Do you believe it?

Every year we have a slogan which we use across the nation. Remember the '62 slogan? "God will see us through in '62." And the '63 slogan? "God keep us free in '63." And if the Lord tarries, the year of '64 lies ahead, and God is going to open the door and give us more in '64. *"Behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name."*

What is this open door for the coming year for God's children? It can be summed up in three words: "Command ye me." And thousands of you people are going to find this open door of faith in 1964 that no man can shut. You are going to command God, and God is going to give you such faith in your heart until you can just stand still and KNOW that He is God. You will experience faith that moves the hand of God. You are going to command God, not literally with your lips, but God is going to give you such faith in your heart, you will be still and know!

The three Hebrew children wouldn't bend; they wouldn't bow down, and they wouldn't burn. Glory!

God says, *"Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me."* Preachers, I believe all we have to do many times is to command God. And it is not sacrilegious to command God. I am going to command God today to give you the greatest church in your city for God. All of you who step through this open door in '64, I'm expecting God to let you turn the city upside down and shake it from center to circumference, in the Name of Jesus! And I want you to let your faith command God right now. Tell Him right now what you want Him to do.

Do you believe He can do it? Listen, one man just stopped and pointed at the sun, and it stood still until a battle could be fought and a victory won for the Lord. I tell you, Joshua had the kind of faith that commanded God to move and perform a miracle. How would you like to have that kind of faith? I believe some of you are going to have it!

God said to Joshua, "What is that in thine hand?" He answered, "A spear." God said, "Just point it." Joshua had pointed at the sun and it stopped; now he points his spear

at the city of Ai, and God put the city into his hands. That's faith, folks! I said, "That's real faith!" And God wants us to have it today. There are battles and victories to be won for the Kingdom of God today!

Joshua 8:18 gives the account. God said, "Point your spear toward the city, and I will put it into your hands." Ai was a gigantic city of the enemy...well fortified...and it would take a real miracle to make this great city fall to such a little army like Joshua's that day. But he pointed his spear toward the city, and by a great miracle the city fell and the enemy was utterly destroyed according to the word of the Lord.

Around and around the walls of Jericho the children of Israel marched. It was a time for action; no time for a tarrying service or a prayer meeting now. They had already prayed through until they could see victory through the eyes of faith. It was time now to march and blow on their trumpets. It was time to march and shout. Their faith brought God's power into action. Their secret weapon that worked so effectively was their commanding faith that moved God, and the widest and highest walls ever built crumbled to the ground! God's people had sufficient faith to command God to give them the city of Jericho as He had promised to do.

Whether it is Daniel in the lions' den, or the Hebrew children in the fiery furnace, or whether it is a little woman ninety years old named Sarah who "counted Him faithful who had promised..." Whether it's Joshua pointing his spear at a great city he needs to take, or the children of Israel marching around the walls of Jericho shouting...THAT WAS FAITH!

"They that have believed do enter into rest." Faith rests. Faith stands back and lets you just be still and know. Be still and know! Know that God is already moving!

When I go into a city for a Miracle Revival Campaign, I do not pray that God will send a revival to that city. I have already claimed it. I have already told God that this is going to be the greatest revival meeting we have held this year. I've already told God that I want it to be the greatest the city has ever had. My faith tells God we will see the greatest meeting we have ever held, the greatest miracles in healing and deliverance that we have ever seen. That's faith!

These are days of revival! Revival fires are burning. The Spirit of God is moving; the power of God is operating and the gifts of the Spirit are being poured out. From across the nation and around the world come glowing reports of outpourings of the Holy Ghost upon multitudes of almost every denomination. Hungry hearts are seeking God with all their hearts. Revival rain is falling, and I do not believe we have to pray and pray and pray for revival. Why pray for revival when God is already pouring revival out? What you need to do is tell God what He is going to do for you...for your ministry...for your church! God says, *"Concerning the work of my hands command ye me."* "Tell Me what you want Me to do for you." Can you do it?

In II Kings 6:5 an axe-head fell into the River Jordan. Inasmuch as it was borrowed, they told Elisha the pitiful story. "Where did it fall in?" he asked. They said, "Right out there."

If you'll read it for yourself, you will find that Elisha did something about it. He immediately took action...but he didn't call a prayer meeting this time. He didn't have two weeks to fast and pray. He just cut down a limb from a tree, cast it into the river, and his faith told God that He was going to make that axe-head swim to shore. According to the record, they did not have a prayer meeting. He had faith that commanded God. His faith commanded God to make the axe-head come to the top of the river and come to shore. And everybody stood in awe and amazement.

I can almost hear one of them say, "My, he surely knows how to make an axe-head swim."

Oh no, he doesn't! But his faith commanded God, and when God saw Elisha's faith, He commanded a supernatural miracle.

There was a drought in the land. The sons of the prophets had gathered to hear Elisha. Elisha instructed his servant to prepare a pot of pottage. But someone who helped gather the herbs also gathered wild gourds and shredded them into the pottage. And as the sons of the prophets were eating, they cried out, "O thou man of God, there is death in the pot."

Just before Elisha had come to this meeting, he had a good prayer meeting and had raised the widow's child from the dead. But now he's all prayed up. Now he commands God to perform a miracle. When Elisha cast a handful of meal into the pot, he did it as an act of faith, expecting God to perform a miracle. He did it as an act of faith, and God honored his faith. He said, "Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot." Elisha's faith said, "God, take the poison out of the pot." And it was so!

But that was not the only miracle that day. God is also the God of the second miracle. There came one with an offering to the man of God of twenty loaves of barley and full ears of corn. Elisha instructed his servant to set these also before the sons of the prophets, saying, "Give the people, that they may eat: for thus saith the Lord, They shall eat, and shall leave thereof." The servant was anxious about placing such a small serving before a hundred men, but he obeyed, and it came to pass just as the man of God had said. God multiplied the food before their eyes. "And they did eat, and left thereof, according to the word of the Lord" (II Kings 4:44). His faith in God commanded the need to be met, and God performed a creative miracle.

Would you like to have that kind of faith? Do you believe God wants you to have it? Well, I believe you must have it or God would never have said, "Command ye me." You must have the kind of faith that CAN command God, or He would never have said, ***"Concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me."*** God expects you to have commanding faith, or He would not have instructed you to command Him. Hallelujah!

Raise you hands right now and say, "God, give me the kind of faith that believes, that accepts, that receives, that commands God. Give me the faith that gets the job done, that gets the work accomplished, and brings the answer from God even in times of emergency.

My prayer for you is, "God, in Jesus' Name, give this people commanding faith, for the glory of God." Now let's rejoice in the Lord for an abundant answer!

OX CART RELIGION!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1964)

During our recent campaign in the Dominican Republic, we drove into the countryside near Santo Domingo to visit a great sugar mill. All along the way big diesel trucks passed us, going at least sixty miles an hour. Truck after truck sped by, loaded with tons and tons of sugar cane.

Occasionally we passed old-fashioned ox-drawn carts along the road, loaded with sugar cane. Most of them had two wheels about eight feet high and high side stakes on each side. The oxen were pulling those carts so slowly, until I remarked, "Those poor people will never get to the mill with their load of sugar cane!" It was obvious that it would take them all day to carry their relatively small load to the mill while one of those trucks could carry many times more sugar cane to the same mill in only a few minutes.

As we got closer to the sugar mill, we saw literally dozens and dozens of those two-wheeled sugar carts, each drawn by six big oxen. I never saw so many big fat steers in all my life.

I couldn't help exclaiming, "Why don't those people get rid of all those old slow oxen and two-wheeled carts and get themselves a high-powered diesel truck. They can get so much more done quickly and fast. I could take one high powered diesel truck like we use to haul our tent across the nation, and haul as much sugar to that sugar mill as all those bulls and oxen put together."

But there's more to it than that. Some of those poor people would never trade their oxen and carts for a diesel. Even though it would mean they would not have to live in poverty any longer. Their forefathers for centuries have driven the same kind of ox carts and have hitched up their oxen in the same manner. They'll drive those oxen until they die, and then their children will still drive them. Some people will never change their customs or ways, regardless of the progress around them. Some will stick to their oxen and bulls, while others have found a new thing! They have found big diesel trucks can haul about ten times as much as those six big oxen with every load, and they get ten times as much work done in a very short time. While some stick to the bulls and two-wheeled sugar carts, others have switched to high-powered vehicles and are getting something done!

This not only applies to old customs – whether it's driving oxen or bulls – it also applies to their going to a cold, dead, dry, formal church that has no power. While some of you stick to a cold, dead, slow, powerless religion that you've had for hundreds of years, God has some children who are going to find the "new thing" God promised in His Word.

As surely as the diesel is replacing the bull for some, God has sent a religion of precious Holy Ghost, heaven-sent revival that's replacing the cold, dead, dry, formal services and the images and idols made of fine wood and plaster of Paris. But it grieves our hearts to know that some will never find out what God is doing. They will never forsake the old and get into the revival that God has sent.

While we were at the sugar mill, I turned to my companions and said, "I've never seen so many bulls in all my life. The reason they're still driving those bulls with the

yokes on their necks is because Mama and Papa, their grandpa and great grandpa before them did it. It's all they've ever known, and it's all some of them will ever care to know."

Thank God, some of you are going to know something better. You're going to have a diesel that can haul tons. You're going to have some of the best modern, new equipment that ca be afforded today. I believe it!

I thank God that He has some people who are getting away from the old two-wheeled carts, so to speak. He has some people who realize that the Word of God is true. God is doing a new thing! He's sending rivers in the wilderness, waters in the desert to give drink to His people.

In Isaiah 49:19, God says, *"I'll do a new thing."* Some of you people are never going to have this new thing that God is doing for the multitudes in America and in many countries around the world, until you come away from these old bulls and two-wheeled carts, that ox-cart religion you've been using for the last two thousand years. You need to realize that God is pouring out His Spirit on all flesh!

God says in Habakkuk, *"Behold, you this among the heathen...I will do a work in your day, they will not believe though it be told them."* I have come to declare to you the thing God is doing! It's something miraculous! You're not going to find it in some of these cold, dead, formal churches that some of your have been attending.

In Isaiah 29, God said: *"I will perform a marvelous work and a wonder!"* This is the new thing that God is doing today. He said that *"the eyes of the blind would see out of obscurity and out of darkness and the ears of the deaf shall hear the words of the book, and the lame shall leap as an hart, when I do this new thing."*

God's going to do a new thing in His Church, in your heart, in your spirit, in your body and in your mind. He's going to heal all that are oppressed, heal all that are sick, diseased and afflicted, give you a sound mind, and not only fill you with the Holy Ghost, but give you a double portion of the Spirit like Elisha had. He has promised to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters are going to prophecy (Joel 2).

God said through the prophet Ezekiel: *"Woe be to the shepherds* (religious leaders) *that do feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock. The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them"* (Ezekiel 34).

God is talking to religious leaders today. He's saying, "You're feeding yourselves, but you're not feeding my sheep. You take my sheep and sheer them, you butcher them for lamp chops, but when they get hungry, you don't feed them the good Word of God. The sick you have not healed, you've not cared for their needs, you've not brought again that which was lost, but you have ruled them with force and with cruelty!" God says: *"Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock...I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be...I will cause them to lie down...I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick...Therefore I will save my flock, and they shall no more be prey."*

God said that He is going to deliver His sheep from the mouths of those cold, formal religious leaders who won't move on into the "new thing." God said He was going to do for His sheep today. This is the Word of God and God cannot lie!

Moses said, "If God said it, He'll do it. If God spoke it, He'll bring it to pass. God is not a man that He should lie."

God has something better than religious forms and ceremonies. He has more for His children than ritual, candles, and incense on cold, dead altars. I don't care if the fire does burn all night, it's not Holy Ghost fire. It comes from one of those old smelly candles man has made.

God wants His people to have Holy Ghost fire burning in their souls. Anyone with a dime can buy a candle and light it with fire on an altar. I stepped into a church the other day that was built back in 1520. The little pamphlet that I was reading concerning that church said that they keep all their treasures in a vault. It's a rich church with a fortune in old antique jewelry that is no doubt worth millions. They mentioned their money, their treasures and their riches. But outside, passing by its doors day after day, were countless penniless, poor people and even naked little children, living in poverty, with no way to even cover their shame.

As I stepped through the entrance way, the first thing I saw was a little fire on the altar. You know, that fire will go out unless they have someone to continually tend it and keep lighting new fire on new candles. I thought of the prophet Elijah. When he wanted to persuade the priests and people who served the idol Baal that his God was the real, true and living God whom they ought to serve, he didn't run down to the dime store and buy a candle. He prayed down fire from Heaven that licked up the water and everything from off the altar!

To us who are Pentecostal, who have got into this "new thing" God is doing, God lights the fire on the altar of our souls, and man doesn't have to light it day after day, night after night.

God says in Habakkuk 5, "*Behold, you among the heathen*...Tell the unsaved people...Just watch among the people in the Dominican Republic...Tell the unsaved people that I'm going to do a work that they won't believe, even though A. A. Allen tells them."

I understand that approximately ninety percent of the population of this island does not know Christ. God considers a person who has not met Christ to be a "heathen." They can be religious, they can go to so-called churches, they can listen to priests and so-called religious leaders, but they can still be heathen!

Heathen don't know Jesus! They may have an image of Him hanging around their necks, but they don't know Him! All some know is Mary...but they don't really know her. All they have is an image of her. The reason that ninety-five percent of the people on this island have to hang Jesus around their neck is because they have never placed Him on the altar of their soul.

You won't find me with Jesus hanging around my neck. I've got Him in my heart!

God said, "Tell the heathen my story." Tell everyone in Santo Domingo who doesn't know Christ as their personal Savior. God said, *"And wonder marvelously..."* The thing that's going to make you wonder marvelously is that He's going to do a work in your day that you will not believe though someone tells you. This is the day and the hour that God is doing this great thing among the heathen!

Last night, a woman came running up to the platform with tears running down her face. She cried, "I've lost my son! I've lost my boy!"

I didn't understand what had happened so I asked, "What happened?"

She sobbed, "Oh, he got a shock!"

My first thought was that her boy had in some way gotten into some of the high-powered electric wires that we had brought in for power for television and lighting for the campaign. Perhaps he had gotten on one of them and it had killed him.

I said, "What's happened to your boy? Tell me! Where is he?"

She said, "Oh, I can't find him! When he got the shock he jumped up and started running. He ran out into the crowd and I can't find him. I've lost my boy!"

Then she explained, he was one of the paralytics who had never walked. She had brought him to the invalid section to await his turn for prayer. As he lay there listening to the service, the power of God suddenly hit him. He began to shake violently. God was doing the new thing He has promised! He jumped up and started running, because God had performed a miracle of healing. We located him over the loud speaker…there he was running, leaping and rejoicing among the throng…healed by the mighty power of God!

Some of you are still driving that old ox cart, and here comes God's mighty last-day revival, passing you up going sixty miles and hour! It's passing you up exactly like the diesels pass the ox-drawn sugar carts along the highways. You may sigh and say, "Ah well, they're from America. We'll just keep driving our steers like our fathers taught us to do."

Some of you may never be able to buy a diesel truck to haul in your cane, but there's one thing you can do. You can have the thing that God promised, because it is without price and without money. It's free! Anyone may have it…the rich and poor alike!

Multitudes of you have believed my message, and I don't believe that you're going to stay with your old ox-drawn sugar cart religion with its cold, dead, powerless ceremonies, when you can come into the new thing that God is doing and have the power of the Holy Ghost in your life.

My Bible tells me in the Book of Exodus: *"Thou shalt make no graven image…of anything that is in the heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath…Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: For I the Lord thy God am a jealous God"* (See Exodus 20).

If you have Christ in your heart, you don't need an image of anything! And God's Word lays down the law that you're not supposed to make them. No image, no likeness, no graven image…you shouldn't bow down to them…you shouldn't serve them. This means you shouldn't have them in your homes…you shouldn't have them in your church. You don't have any business with them wriggling on the dashboard of your automobile. And you don't have any business with them hanging around your neck. God said that you should completely destroy them and break them up and serve Him! The Word of God says*: "Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their images. And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and He shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee"* (Exodus 23:24-25).

This is why some of you people can't get healed in your own church. If you want God to be the healer in your home; if you want Him to heal you and your children, He wants you to tear down your images and break up those idols. Then God says, "I will take sickness from thee."

Of the multitudes who come for healing in these campaigns there are some who say, I want you to heal me." But you turn around and tell God, I won't break up my

images and I won't tear down my idols. I'm going to wear this little image around my neck."

God is going to tell you, "You can have your images and your idols, but you and your children can die with your sicknesses."

This may not alarm you, if you are not sick or diseased right now. But there may be a sickness or disease that comes next week. Then you'll need the healing virtue from Jesus to make you whole. And you will find that healing does not come from bowing down and burning incense and candles. It does not come from bowing and crossing yourself before an image that has eyes that cannot see, ears that cannot hear and hands that cannot touch you.

God's eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth. *"The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God"* (Isaiah 52:10). But He says, *"Thou shalt completely break up their images and destroy their idols."*

God will not heal you as long as you have that image in your home. God wants you to get that thing from around your neck. Tear those images from your neck! Let's God's blessing be upon you! I know you spent money for them, but you're going to have to give them up and surrender them to God to receive His blessings.

BEHOLD THE BRIDEGROOM COMETH!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1965)

"They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them; but the wise took oil inn their vessels with their lamps." – Matthew 25:3-4

"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five…" just sat back in the service when the power of God was falling. They weren't in it. They couldn't raise their hands and rejoice. They couldn't praise God. They weren't in the spirit of what God was doing. They were just sitting there waiting. Waiting! Five of them were wise and five of them were foolish!

I am stirred! I tell you, some people can attend mighty revival services and not get in the revival. Just go on Sunday night. Just wait for the choir to sing. Just wait for David to begin to play the organ, or for Tommie to play the piano. But when God, straight from heaven, is talking about miracles and raising the dead, and your faith is not stirred, or you are not even moved…you are one of the foolish virgins God tells us about in Matthew 25.

"Many that were foolish took their lamps, and they took no oil with them. But the wise took oil in their vessels with them." In other words, some said, "Ah, I think that you can get too much revival. I think you can go to church too much. Young people's meeting from 6:30 to 7:30 ought to be enough. I don't think that I am going to get into this service until the song leader starts, or until the preacher takes his text. Then I am going to get into the service." You had better watch out!

I have heard some of the best preaching that I have ever heard here in this campmeeting. I have heard some of the most inspiring prophecy, marvelous testimonies and glorious singing. It has stirred me! I want everything I can get from God. I want a double portion! I don't want to miss anything. I am not afraid that I am going to get too much revival.

The devil would like for you to believe you are going to get too much church. He'll tell you that you are going to get too much blessing, too much oil for your lamp, too much anointing in your life. But listen, they that were foolish took their lamps. They went to church, but they took no extra supply with them. And they didn't enter into the service and get an extra supply while they could get it. Here was one who came to church because the wife insisted. Here's another who only comes occasionally because he's afraid the pastor will visit him if he doesn't show up once a week. Some come to service only when they feel they have to…they only come to be seen, and don't get into the service much. "What's the need? We are saints. We're Christians. We've been working for God for years."

The five foolish virgins had the same chance to get something, but when the chance came for an extra supply of oil, they said, "I'm tired. I have been working all day. I've had a hard day's work. Let's go to sleep early." And the Bible says they all slumbered and slept. Not that it is a sin to sleep, but some people ought to be getting their extra supply while it is available, instead of slumbering and sleeping.

One man said, "I have a wife. I can't come." And the Lord answered him: "Stay at home! I will find someone else to sit in your place at the marriage supper."

Not that it's a sin to have a wife, but you will be surprised how many men can't come to church because they have a wife. Not that that's the only thing that can keep you home. Some of you boys stay home and you haven't even got a wife.

Another man said, "I have just bought some oxen, and I have got to prove them. I can't go to service tonight." It typifies the cares of this life. In another parable, some of the good seed was sown in good ground, but the cares of this life grew up and choked them out until they produced nothing.

If you are not careful, at midnight the cry is going to go forth, "Behold, Jesus cometh! Go ye out to meet Him!" and some of you are going to be sitting in church with just a form and ceremony, just a ritual. Some of you will be sitting in revival service, afraid that you are going to get too much…making no effort to get anything extra from God. Not doing without meals, to fast and seek God. No extra praying. Making no sacrifice in your giving to God. Wanting nothing extra.

"And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps." Then all those virgins who just went to church and made no effort to get anything extra said, "You wise virgins have got lots of oil with you. Give us of your oil, for our lamps are gone out."

The saints who were on fire for God said, "Nothing doing, lest there not be enough for us and you. You were in the revival meeting. Why didn't you get down there and get yourself some extra oil?"

You can have so much form, even in the midst of miracle revival, that you won't get into the spirit of the service until just the place where you want to. Then you will really get into it. Why don't you praise the Lord and get in the Spirit every service?

Do you know who these wise virgins are that God speaks about? They are here. Some of them may be in your church. They are the ones who go all the way with the Lord. They are the ones who fast and seek God. They are the ones who are praying, who say, "I can't get too much from God. I want all that I can get." And they are the ones who are going to have an extra supply of oil in their vessels.

God bless you who attend Bible School. Go to school, but be careful. You can go to Bible School so long, getting ready for the ministry, you fail to keep an abundant supply of oil and you can miss God. Jesus can come and the cry go forth, "Go ye out to meet Him!" Then you'll have to confess, "Why, I have been so busy I haven't got any extra supply of oil, and my lamp has gone out."

Friends, I'm getting my extra supply. What about you? At this midnight hour when everything looks so dark and discouraging, so threatening, it may be but a moment when the cry goes forth, "Behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him!"

We have got to have more than just an "experience." We are going to have to have such an extra abundant supply that if everybody else's lamp is gone out around us, we still have oil to keep our lamp burning.

The foolish were advised to go and buy oil, and while they were at the filling station trying to get some oil, the Bridegroom came. They that were ready trimmed their lamps and ran to meet Him. They had an extra abundant supply. They had enough oil to make a light. While the foolish went to shop, they that were ready went with the Bridegroom to the marriage, and the door was shut!

The door was shut! They that were ready went in, and the door was shut! Somebody said, "We missed it! Let's see what we can do." They began to knock! "Lord, Lord, open to us! Open to us! Open! Open! Oh, Lord, open to us." What does the next verse say? **"Verily I say unto you, I know you not."**

One by one they remind the Lord, "Now Lord, surely you remember me. I earned the honor pin for Sunday School attendance in our church. I've paid every pledge on the building fund, and always gave tithes and offerings to the church. I always testify how you saved me years ago and satisfied my soul."

"Verily, I say unto you, I know you not!"

"Lord, You don't know me? I've been saved, sanctified, filled with the Holy Ghost and done many wonderful works in Your name. I had a light burning in my lamp, but while I was asleep, the light went out, and I didn't have any supply on hand to light it. All I did was run out of oil. I got tired…tired of going to church so much, and the supply ran too low. But while I was trying to get some more, You came! You remember me, Lord! Open to me!"

"Verily I say unto you, I know you not!"

Can God do this? Will He forget those who forget Him? (The old prophet Ezekiel warned us in the Word of those things in Ezekiel 18.)

God said, 'I know you not!" Listen to this solemn warning, "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."

Friends, I am serious. It is midnight! Revival is in the souls of many, but some are sitting back and not entering in. This is the world's darkest hour. At any moment, we can hear the cry, "Behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him!" If you aren't careful, some of you will find yourselves waiting for the organ to start before you enter into the spirit of the service. If the choir has just marched in, then you are going to wait until they are through singing. But one of these days, the program is going to be interrupted. There will be no singing. There will be no introductions. The trumpet of God is going to sound, and the cry is going to go forth. "Go ye out to meet him!" And every one of you had better have some extra oil in your vessel with your lamp.

We are having revival! Are you? Even preachers can get so busy preaching, visiting and studying, they don't get an extra supply. Musicians and singers can get so busy praying and singing for God that they have no extra supply. We can get so busy working for God that we do not put any extra in storage…just enough to soothe our conscience. Just enough for personal appearance! I know that many of you people have come to Miracle Valley from many miles to attend this move of God revival. You want everything that God has for you. And I do not believe there is any danger you are going to get too much.

Some people seem to think, "Well, I have all that I need. I don't need any more." Some haven't actually said it, but their actions speak louder than words. In this day and hour, when persecution is on every hand, with the devil is attacking with all his forces, you need an extra supply of oil!

If this text that Jesus Himself gave us won't wake us up, what will? Even in the midst of revival where thousands are being blessed, there will be some who will let their lamps go out. In a great meeting like we are having, it's possible to sit back and backslide. You don't have to go out and commit open sin, fornication, adultery, or some other sin to miss the rapture. All you have to do is let your lamp go out, and not have an extra supply of oil. That means an overflowing experience with God!

We are going to ask God to give us all an extra supply of oil. Come on, friends. Sinners. Backsliders. I am talking to you. This is coming right out of my heart. I don't want to see you left outside the marriage supper, and that door shut!

I feel that I have got to have an extra supply. I have got to keep it. I have got to get all I can and have my vessel filled. We have got to have an extra supply...more than an ordinary experience with God.

A handshake with the preacher won't supply you with this oil. A feeling of remorse for your sin won't fill your vessel. God wants you to empty out all the sin and self from your vessel...completely surrender to the will of God so that He can fill you with an extra abundant supply. We are going to have to have enough to burn through the dark night, so that when we awaken to trim our lamps, our lamps will still be burning. We'll have a supply on hand sufficient to go out to meet Him without danger of running out of oil.

People who use oil lamps trim their lamps every night. When you trim your lamp it makes a more beautiful flame; it makes a more perfect light.

I have an object lesson for all of you tonight. I haven't got this lamp trimmed too good. It's making an awful flame, but thank God it's burning.

God bless all of you who work hard. Be careful that you don't waste your time with so much of the cares of this life like the man in the parable who had to try out a pair of oxen. You can't afford to let anything make you miss the rapture. Don't get so involved with your work. You are going to miss it!

Students, don't get so involved with your studies that you don't keep a supply of oil. Get filled! Stay filled! Get refilled! Just go for yourself while there is time, and get your own supply of oil.

One of my lamps here on the pulpit is a little hard to light. The wick is burned and needs trimming. Even after getting a refilling, it's hard to light up when you have been burning a dry wick. I used to fill the lamps every night when I was a boy. That was my duty. Some of you people need to get a refilling so we can get you lit back up.

My other little lamp here went out after it got a refilling, because it needs a new wick. Some of you people have been out of oil so long that you have burned up the old dry wick.

Let us pray that God will fill everybody who partakes of this sermon. I want God to fill everybody until our lamps begin to burn with a new fresh supply of oil. If you need a new wick, God will give you a new wick.

There is such a difference between a dry wick and one that is drawing from a new fresh supply of oil! We can get so churchy, so religious, and it for granted that every thing is all right when maybe it isn't. It's easy for God's people to get in a habit of going to church, singing, saying "amen" and "hallelujah!" We can get in a rut and keep on burning the dry wick long after the anointing and oil are used up.

Go back to your first love. There is nothing like your first love. I am not talking about girls and boys, or men and women. I'm talking about the first love for Jesus. That first love for Jesus! When I came out of that Methodist Church the night Jesus saved me, there wasn't anything I wouldn't have done for Jesus. There is nothing that I wouldn't do for Him tonight. Do you remember your first love for Jesus?

That night I surrendered my life to Christ, I went out of the old Methodist Church and got into a little Ford Roadster. I pulled out a package of Camels (I got saved with them in my pocket), put one in my mouth, and struck a match to light up. God said, "You won't be doing that anymore." I never heard a sermon like this in my life, but I heard God talking. He said, "You are a Christian now; you won't smoke anymore." I knew it was God.

It is amazing what "first love" will do. I had just fallen in love with Jesus twenty minutes before at the altar. I took that package of Camels and threw them as far as I could. I would not have done anything to make someone think I was not a Christian. I was willing to do more than just have a normal experience. I was willing to go all the way! More than all the way! I'd have given anybody my coat and my waistcoat, too.

I am not asking, "Is all that necessary?" My God, I am not satisfied with just necessity. I want more than I need. I want everything I can get…an extra-abundant supply!

We need to take spiritual servings, like I did when I was a child. Mama used to say, "Son, clean up your plate?" I would say, "Mama, I can't eat anymore." She would say, "Your eyes are bigger than your stomach." There I had good food on my plate, but I wouldn't have room to eat any more. When I put it on my plate, I had the feeling that I had room for all of it. I tell you, that's what I think we ought to do…just take out more of the Lord than we really need. Take a "double portion."

The secret of the church…and for you and me… lies in the constant flow of the Holy Ghost, which is the oil that keeps our lamps burning. Anytime we think we can substitute the power of the Holy Ghost for a program and a ceremony, it will never do. If we do, when Jesus comes, He will find our lamps without oil…not burning whatsoever. Many churches that at one time had the power of God and the Spirit of the Lord are darkened on Sunday night. You know why? Because they forgot to keep a supply of oil. And then Zechariah reminded us that it is **"not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."** This is the answer!

GOD'S LAST MOVE – IS THIS IT?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1965)

One day God will move for the last time! The last gospel message will be preached! The last sinner will answer the last altar call this world will ever know! God will heal and set captives free for the last time!

God's Word bears out the fact that there will be a day and an hour when the time of the Gentiles is fulfilled. This dispensation will be gone forever.

God has reminded us recently through prophecy and in the Word that this is His last move. Either you move when God moves, or you move with nothing!

I often visualize the children of Israel being led of God through the wilderness. The pillar of cloud led them by day. As long as they kept pace with God, they walked through sweltering wastelands in the cool shadow of God's presence. People who didn't keep pace with God soon found themselves in the blistering sun. That might be a good thing for some people today. At least they would be acutely aware when God is moving without them.

There are some churches today that haven't moved with God for hundreds of years. There's no move of God in those churches. He moved off without them years ago. But the members are faithfully sticking with the church as their parents and generations before them. They don't seem to care where they are going, just so they have their form of religion. If everybody in the church goes to hell, they'll go to hell with them. Religion can take you to hell. It takes real Holy Ghost-sent revival and old time salvation to get you ready for the coming of Jesus. It takes the power of God to empower you to cast out devils and heal the sick like Jesus said everybody ought to be doing.

The objective of The Church isn't to shake a preacher's hand, put your name on a card, have water sprinkled or poured on you, or even just be baptized, or to be churchy. The objective of The Church should never have been just to have somewhere to assemble to listen to a religious lecture. The objective of The Church is to carry out the Great Commission! Heal the sick! Cleanse the leper! Cast out devils and even raise the dead in the will of God!

What a far cry from fulfilling the will of God are most church people today. They say, "We don't believe in healing the sick. We don't believe in this Holy Ghost business. We don't believe in all this shouting and clapping of hands. We don't believe in this music with rhythm in the church, and all this dancing in the Spirit!

No, they don't believe in revival either. If you believed in revival, you'd have it. And if you ever get God's revival, you're going to believe in everything that goes with the move of God. If you ever get revival in your church, you're going to believe in shouting and clapping your hands in praises unto the Lord. You'll dance because you can't keep still when you get old fashioned, heaven-sent, Holy Ghost revival in your soul!

Why are the churches so filled with people who believe in nothing? You ask people what they believe and they don't know what they believe. So many preachers spend their time preaching what they don't believe; their people don't know what they do believe. Everything they preach is a negative gospel instead of something positive. Even many Pentecostal preachers today stand up in the pulpit telling what they don't believe,

and why they don't believe in it. Why don't they tell their people what God wants them to believe?

I have had some Pentecostal people say to me, "I don't even know whether my preacher believes in anything or not. He spends all his time behind the pulpit preaching what he doesn't believe in."

May God help them. I spend my time preaching what I believe. I spend my time preaching what God is doing!

So many of the world's church-going people, ministers, and denominations only have form and ceremony and ritual. They'll never make the rapture. They'll never get in God's revival. There'll never be revival in their church. They'll never pray for the sick in their congregation to be healed. Oh, some may offer a little prayer somewhere, hidden off in a corner behind a curtain, where nobody can see if God really does it. These are religious people who are bound by, abiding by, and continuing to be led by man-made traditions.

Modern denominational churches today are like the churches in Jesus' day. When Jesus came to the earth, it had been 400 years since there had been a prophet that could heal the sick. There were 400 years between Malachi, and John the Baptist and Jesus. There was a long, dark period when God had nobody that He could use in this earth to speak and minister to His people. John was the first one to appear on the scene, and then Jesus. The world was full of synagogues, religious leaders, Scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees, and elders. They had many so-called church services, their ceremony, form and ritual, but they were all cold, dead, and formal as far as God was concerned.

Jesus came with revival! He came with a gospel of deliverance, a gospel of power and of salvation and holiness. He came believing and preaching and practicing something that the formal church of His day was not preaching or practicing. They didn't believe it! In fact, the Bible says Christ came to His own, and His own received Him not.

Do you know why the religious leaders in that day did not receive Jesus? He had too much fire! He was too sensational? Hallelujah! According to their bylaws, Jesus was an extremist. When He foretold the destruction of Jerusalem, He was a calamity howler. The golden rule made Him a fanatic!

I'm trying to pattern my ministry after Jesus. So was Peter. So was Paul. If I'm a rank fanatic, Jesus was, too. If I'm a sensationalist, so was Jesus. If I'm an extremist, so was Jesus. At least I haven't lined the sick and suffering up and down Pennsylvania Avenue that runs clear to the Capitol Building and said, "I'm going to march by and heal the sick with my shadow."

Peter did! I said, Peter did! He didn't hide the sick down in a prayer room in the basement. He lined them up on the main street.

I'll tell you why Peter and John and Paul and all the rest of the Apostles did these things. They were following in the footsteps of Jesus. Paul even said, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ" (II Corinthians 11:1).

At midnight, a man fell from the third balcony as Paul was ministering the Word. Then they brought him up to Paul…he was dead. If Paul hadn't been converted from that old dead religion, Jewish ritual and tradition of the elders, he would have said, "Poor man. Too bad. Someone call the undertaker." But Paul said, 'The man is not dead, he is just asleep."

The Bible said he was "dead." Paul said he was just sleeping. Contradiction? Not at all! He was speaking faith, not circumstances. This is what Jesus said when He was

referred to Lazarus. Jesus said, "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep" (John 11:11).

Jesus didn't do things in His ministry for the people in the same manner as the elders of the church did. This is why the Pharisees and Sadducees came to Christ in Mark 7 and asked Him, "Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders?"

Jesus answered them with a thought-provoking question: "Why do you nullify and cancel and make of none effect, the word of God and the commandments of God, because you keep the tradition of men??" Because they were making of none effect or nullifying the Word of God.

Webster says a tradition is a belief or practice not derived directly from the Bible, but arising and handed down within the Christian community. A tradition has no Bible foundation. Nobody ever did it in the Bible, but it's merely a practice that originated when some people felt they had a good idea, and that idea has been handed down from generation to generation.

That's why the Lutherans are doing almost the same things today that they did back in the Fifteenth Century. They're following the traditions of Martin Luther. That is why the Methodist Church is still following John and Charles, the Wesley boys. That is why the Presbyterian Church has no revival today; they're still doing what Knox told them. Some of you Baptists will never get the Holy Ghost, because Calvin never had it.

Martin Luther had an experience with God. Knox had an experience. Calvin and Fletcher were used of God for revival in their day. The Wesley boys had an experience, too. But if I had stayed in the Methodist Church where I got saved and converted, I never would have been filled with the Holy Ghost and called into this miracle-working ministry for God. I never would have been able to cast out devils, heal the sick, talk in tongues, or have the supernatural gifts of the Spirit. Why, everyone knows the Methodist tradition and man-made laws are against their members talking in tongues, healing the sick, prophesying, and dancing in the Spirit. Some of you remember the day when shouts of praise came from in the old-fashioned Methodist meetings, but they don't believe in all this shouting today! Tradition can modernize and change because it's man-made. Only the Word of God changes not! I have no hope for the modernized denominations today, including some Pentecostal folk.

Once the power of God fell on Ezekiel and God said, "Prophesy to these bones…" Ezekiel didn't turn around and begin to argue with God. He didn't say, "Now Lord, it's not according to the elders' tradition for me to do such a thing. I have to meet with the board at the next convention and get their permission, because such an act is not in the tents of faith. The church doctrine doesn't give me permission to prophesy to these bones. They not only don't believe in prophecy, they despise it. And God, if I get up and prophecy what You tell me, they'll take my papers away and kick me out of my church. I won't have any place to preach."

Would Ezekiel ever have had revival if he had stayed bound by tradition of men? Suppose he had stopped to think about the old age benefits, like some ministers are doing today. 'Lord, I've only got two more years to go until I retire, and I'm not going to be cheated out of my retirement old age pension. I'm not putting any old dry bones together. I'll not cause any bones to shake. Besides, Lord, I don't want any trouble with the brethren. There's been a 'thumbs down' on all the Allen Campaigns, and for that matter, any other campaigns that are similar to his. I'm not going to cause any army to stand up and start marching. I'm not looking for any trouble from the 'Big Boys'."

I believe there's more of God in my shirt tail to heal the sick than there is in some whole denominations that bitterly fight, oppose, make fun of, ridicule, and brand God's Miracle Revival as "fanaticism!"

Do you?

I've just torn a piece off my shirttail. Ushers, bring me that woman on that wheelchair!

This woman had both her legs crushed when she was struck by a speeding car. The fractured bones have never knitted together. Both legs bear horrible scars. The accident took place on the Fourth of July, three years ago. She hasn't walked since. She also suffered spinal injuries, and she has no control over her kidneys since she was struck.

You know what I'm going to do tonight? I'm going to put a piece of my shirt tail on this woman's legs, and I'm going to ask God to make her every whit whole for the glory of God!

"Brother Allen!" A minister sitting on the platform came forward from behind Brother Allen, and touched his shoulder to get his attention. "That's my wife." A preacher on the platform…this is his wife. Come tell us something about your wife.

"She got run over three years ago. The car was running so fast, about sixty miles an hour, it just scooped underneath her and carried her about a hundred feet on the hood. It struck her from behind, and broke all the bones when it hit her. The bones in her legs were sticking out through the skin, all splintered up. The car never ran over her; just struck her, carried her along, and then dropped her off. Her spinal column is severed, she hasn't walked in three years, and doctors say she'll be paralyzed all the way down the rest of her life. But I believe Jesus can repair it. I know she's going to walk away from here. If God had power to raise the widow's son, He has power to do something just as sure as you're born."

I believe my shirttail has more of the power of God in it than some of these long black robes and collars backwards. And I believe that it's got more of the power of God in it than these silver chains hanging around necks, with images and crosses on them.

"In the name of Jesus! Now God! I'm putting a piece of my shirt, Lord, on each horrible scar. Now God, let something happen. Oh God, let the power of God go through this spinal column. Put these bones together. Put this spinal column together for a miracle! Don't fail me, Jesus!"

She's getting up! She's standing up! In the name of Jesus, start walking! In the name of Jesus! Here she comes! Come on! There she goes down the ramp! This is the woman doctors said would never walk again!

Ushers, bring her back up here, and let's see what's happened. Come here, honey. Stand up here now and let's talk. What's happened?

"God healed me!"

God healed you?

"Yes Sir!"

Are you surprised you're walking?

"No Sir! I think the Lord intends for me to walk!"

Praise the Lord! Now here's my shirt tail, minus a piece of material, but there's a woman walking whom doctors declared would never walk. If it'll make a woman walk, I'd be willing to take this shirt off and cut it up in pieces and give them to the sick and suffering.

Where's that man who has the steel hipbone? Bring me that man who has had arthritis for nineteen years. Some of his joints are fused together. We're believing God to

heal him when I point at him tonight. Where's the lady I talked with this afternoon. She is still with arthritis also. I'm going to point my finger at her tonight in the name of the Lord, and God is going to take that away tonight.

Man, tell us what's wrong with you.

"I was in a motorcycle accident in 1961, going to work. I was hit and my left hip totally broken. They had to take the hip out and put an artificial steel hip in. Now it's locking at the joint, and I'm going to have to have another operation. But I believe God will perform a miracle and heal it for me."

This man has no hipbone. They've put a stainless steel end or knob into an artificial socket. He walks with a crutch-like cane to keep the weight off that leg. He is in misery and pain day and night, because of that steel joint.

This lady with these two crutches has had arthritis for eight years. She says she has "ankylosis of the hip joints." In other words, they're stuck. The bones are fused together in the hips and she can't move very well.

Give me your crutches. I believe God! She's going to get up and run without her crutches tonight. How many believe it? God says, "Believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." Believe it!

In the name of Jesus, jump up from there! Out of that wheelchair and run for God! That's it, Lady! There goes the brother with the artificial hip joint. He didn't even wait for us to point to him. He's gone! Praising and shouting the Lord as he goes!

Friends, these are days of Restoration Revival! This is God's last move! He is doing great things for those who contend for victory. He is doing a new thing. Take your place in this great move of God. Ask God what He would have you do. Then, with a united effort for God, let us all do it with all our might!

POISON IN THE POT

(A. A. ALLEN – 1965)

"And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and there was a dearth in the land and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets. And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full, and came and shred them into the pot of pottage for they knew them not. So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O THOU MAN OF GOD, THERE IS DEATH IN THE POT. And they could not eat thereof. But HE said, Then BRING MEAL. And he cast it into the pot, and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no HARM in the pot."

- II Kings 4:38-41

Today across the land there is a dearth…a great famine. According to scripture, it is not a famine of bread nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the WORD OF THE LORD (Amos 8:11). Why? Because the field is wasted and the land mourneth, for the corn is wasted, the new wine is dried up, the oil languisheth. Never before in the history of the Church World has there been such a great famine for God in the land. Though the people living today are more religious than they have ever been…though there are more people than ever attending Churches and listening to dry sermons, there is still the greatest famine since the beginning of time. It is not necessary to number the proofs of such a statement. With paganism, immorality, hypocrisy, and such like filling the world, it is enough proof that there is a famine, no matter how many people attend church regularly.

Many evangelists today are trying to feed the people in the midst of this great famine; but the Sons of the Prophets, the religious leaders of today, have started to POISON all the good works they would do. Always when there is a move of God, the religious leaders try to KILL IT. They did kill JESUS for starting a revival. The tools are always the same. Many successful moves of God have been quenched because religious leaders have branded it "fanaticism or emotionalism." Every time the people of the Lord begin to rejoice in Him, the spiritual manifestations of JOY are branded "fleshly." They say it is 'wildfire" or it is of the devil if you shout and praise God in church. When someone gets healed, it is because of emotionalism…something that is "worked up." "Faith healing" it is called. Or, perhaps it is being done "through the devil."

An interesting fact is that the devil's POISON has not changed from the type, which he used against Jesus: "And many of them said, he hath a devil and is mad" (John 10:20). They accused him of being a doubt causer with the questions, "How long wilt thou make us doubt?" (John 10:24). They called Christ a blasphemer: "We stone thee for blasphemy!" (John 10:33). They said that Jesus was a bastard: "Where is thy father?" (John 8:19). He is a keeper of bad company, they said, "Why eatest thou with the publicans and sinners?" (Matthew 9:11).

They even said that the Son of God was ungodly: "This man is not of God" (John 9:16). They confidentially let their friends in on the truth, "We know that this man is a sinner" (John 10:33). They said Christ was a deceiver and a hypocrite: "He deceiveth the people" (John 7:15). "Thou are full of the devil," they said.

"This Jesus is a boaster, and imposter," they said, "Art thou greater than our father Abraham which is dead and the prophets which are dead; WHOM MAKEST THOU THYSELF?" (John 8:53).

They declared that Christ worked through the Prince of Devils. (Matthew 10:25). Unlearned! They cried, "How knowest thou letters, having never learned:" (John 7:15). Jesus Christ was from the wrong neighborhood. They accused: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (John1:46). Christ was false, THEY said, "Out of Galilee ariseth no prophet" (John 7:52). He is even a winebibber. THEY said, "Behold a gluttonous man and a winebibber" (Luke 7:34).

There is nothing new about Satan's POISON. But who are THEY? Jesus, the Son of God warned us of the persecution: "But all these things will THEY do unto you for my name's sake..." THEY who? The THEY that persecuted Jesus were Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees. The Scribes were the students and interpreters of the law and the scriptures. Pharisees were the largest group of religious people...the Holiness people of Christ's day. They adhered strictly to the letter, but had long since departed from the Holy Spirit. The Sadducees consisted merely of a small wealthy sect of modernists. But THEY, the religious leaders of Christ's day, were the ones to persecute Him. These false accusations, lies, and misrepresentations are the devil's tools, but Satan needs "THEY" to carry out his slander campaigns. THEY are the religious leaders, not only of Christ's day, but also of our day. If there is any persecution, it comes from the religious leaders. At every outbreak of JOY, THEY cool it down, water it down. THEY are still at work today. But, even as there were people who were not deceived by the POISON of the UNGODLY religious leaders then, so are people today realizing that they have been eating from a POISONED POT.

"O thou man of God, there is death in the POT!" There has been POISON (wild gourds) fed to thousands. People are realizing that they have been poisoned.

One lady, the wife of a pastor whom we had helped build and add to the congregation of his church, came to me recently. Her husband had the same fear that the Scribes and Pharisees had, that they were going to lose their people. They couldn't help them, so he started his own smear campaign against the ministry. Though his church was filled with a few years ago, now he is preaching to a small handful. She told me that she was not going to be poisoned any longer by jealous lies. People are waking up to the fact that they have been eating POISON!

These prejudiced religious leaders start smear campaigns in order to "snuff out" revival fires. The first visible signs of revival are a return to the Oil of Joy and Garments of Praise as God literally inhabits the PRAISES of His people.

"The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field are withered: because JOY IS WITHERED AWAY FROM THE SONS OF MEN! (Joel 1:12).

The reason there is no moving of God's Spirit, the reason there are no miracles, the reason there is a famine in the land today is because the JOY IS WITHERED AWAY. In the Bible, the figs are a spiritual type of healing God's children, and the pomegranates are a type of Holy Ghost manifestations and peculiarities and miracles. They are all dried up, withered away...languished, because there is NO JOY. The modernistic, self-righteous, the proud, the jealous, the blasphemous church leaders today are the cause of the lack of JOY in the churches. The Pentecostal, or so-called Pentecostal Church leaders are the ones being spoken of.

There was a time when all the Spirit-baptized were hourly awaiting for one event…the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. And they were ONE, flowing together in the Spirit of WORSHIP. But now, because of the "Sons of the Prophets" or those who are the religious leaders of our time, there is POISON in the POT that has been placed there by the religious leaders.

WHAT IS THE POISON? IT IS THE LIES, MISREPRESENTATION, THE FIGHTING, THE DIVISIONS, THE DISCORD IN THE CHURCH, THE DISPUTES AMONG THE BRETHREN, THE ARGUMENTS OVER DOCTRINE, THE DISSENTION! ALL CAUSED BY THE DEAD, FORMAL, HYPOCRITICAL SUBVERSION BY RELIGIOUS LEADERS!

The move is not only against God's man, but it is against God, and it shall not stand. God is going to send a man with enough grace to put MEAL IN THE POT, so that the Children of God may eat of the Word and be filled in the midst of the famine. God is looking for a man who will throw some meal into the pot and undo some of the damage that the Sons of the Prophets have done. After the meal was brought to the MAN OF GOD, THERE WAS NO HARM IN THE POT!

God is looking! "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth…" (II Chronicles 16:9). "And I sought for a man among them. That should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land" (Ezekiel 22:30).

I have declared in this revival that God will find a man! God will find a man in this revival if he has not already found one. My prayer is this: "If I am not already the man, Lord, get me out of the way so that the POISON may be taken out of the pot! **BUT GOD, LET ME BE ONE OF THE MEN FOR WHOM YOU ARE LOOKING TO TAKE THE POISON OUT OF THE POT! LET ME BE THE MAN!"**

SATAN'S MASTER STROKE

(A. A. ALLEN – 1965)

'Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." – Revelation 12:12

There are many unclean spirits loose in the world today whose duty it is to seduce, bind and destroy the souls, minds and bodies of every man, woman, boy and girl. The evil unclean spirits are no respecter of persons. They deceive with lies and strong delusions and snare the wealthy and the poor. They draw no radial lines and bind both male and female, young and old. They promise pleasure, "but the ends thereof are the ways of death." You can no doubt recall many poor souls during your short life who have fallen their victims.

I am dealing specifically with the demons of lust…tobacco…alcohol…narcotics. They leave behind a wake of broken homes, broken lives, hunger and poverty, twisted little children, invalids, and suffering and dying humanity.

Alcohol and tobacco are brothers-under-the-skin, partners in crime, and constant companions. They work together, aiding and abetting each other, and one is seldom seen without the other. The boy or girl who will smoke a cigarette has already laid the groundwork for the "dope pusher, " who generally begins his evil work by offering a "reefer" or marijuana loaded cigarette, which is soon followed by other forms of dope, as the fiend carefully spins his web of bondage around his unwary victim.

From addiction to tobacco, alcohol and narcotics stems every sin and vice known. And every sinner is a lost soul doomed to hell and eternity without God! Can any Christian be silent and fail to warn mankind? We are our brother's keeper, and we must preach the Word to seek and save that which is lost.

"Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness THROUGH THE LUSTS OF THEIR OWN HEARTS, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen" (Romans 1:24-25).

Immediately, when the word "lust" is mentioned, the average reader will connect it with sexual lust. However, in this chapter I shall deal with some other forms of lust as well. The demon of lust appears not only in connection with sex, but also with alcohol, nicotine, narcotics, etc. By lust, I mean an intense or overwhelming desire in the wrong sense.

Why do people drink alcoholic beverages, use tobacco, or become dope addicts, when they know that according to medical science, as well as from the Bible, and from all their former teaching, that these practices bring nothing but disease, heartache, pain, misery, woe, and agony to the body? These habits deteriorate, dull and degenerate the mind, and can cause insanity and ultimate death. Why do people indulge in these habits that demoralize, degrade, and finally destroy the soul? A controlling power or force, greater than any power of their own, controls their lives, forcing them past the protests of their better judgment to continue these addictions.

In all the history of human habit, there have been few changes so remarkable as the tidal wave increase of cigarette smoking in the United States. Within a single generation, a new habit has laid hold upon an entire people, to an extent that we do not begin to realize, and with a force that we do not understand. Last year, sixty million Americans consumed 12 hundred billion cigarettes. Every year, some 80,000 previous non-smokers join the smoking ranks. Two out of every three men, two out of every five women, and one out of every seven boys of age 14 smoke cigarettes. The average consumption is ten cigarettes a day. We spend some 12 billion dollars a year on tobacco products and supplies, twice as much as we pay all the public school teachers in the United States. Why this sudden upsurge in the use of cigarettes? Simply this: most people claim that smoking quiets and soothes the nerves. So almost a million people last year joined the smoking ranks as a means of escape. Escape from what? Escape from fears, worries, tensions. Escape from nerves.

Why do you smoke? Nobody has a natural craving for tobacco. On the contrary, every one is born with a taste against it. Tobacco produces sickness the first few times it is used. The human body certainly does not invite it. Of course, when people force it upon themselves, their bodies become adjusted and get along as best they can in spite of it.

Some claim smoking quiets and soothes the nerves. This is true. Chloroform does, too. A small bottle will soothe them forever. Chloroform, nicotine, and alcohol all belong to the group of poisons known as narcotics. Narcotics put the brain and nerves to sleep by paralyzing them. They deceive; they deaden the conscience and senses into thinking things are all right when they are not. Some people get to liking the soothing feeling of having their senses dulled. If the harm ended here it would be bad enough, but as soon as the comfortable effects have worn off, there are uncomfortable ones to be borne as the body is recovering from the poisoning and disturbance. The quickest way to escape these discomforts is to smoke again. And so the practice continues, and the more people smoke the more they seem to need it, until they become slaves to the habit.

Smoking is done to furnish a false sense of security. It deadens the keener sensibilities and causes the smoker to feel that he is in a better condition to meet emergencies. A recent newspaper account of a suicide stated that the man smoked cigarettes constantly through the night, and early in the morning took his life. Another newspaper account of a certain ruler who was forced to abdicate his throne spoke about his walking the floor and smoking cigarettes one after another. These accounts show that people facing crises attempt to ease the strain by this false stimulant.

It is cowardly to hide from the realities of life by using a drug to deaden the sensibilities.

The nicotine dissolved out of a few cigarettes and placed on the tongue of a grown man would kill him in 15 minutes. Luckily the bulk of the nicotine in tobacco is volatilized in smoke; you do not get the poison straight. But, if you smoke a pack a day, you inhale 500 milligrams of it in a week. That much in a single dose would kill you as quickly as a bullet.

This powerful poison is the source of all the "pleasure" derived from smoking. It touches off the mechanism by which the adrenal glands release quick energy from the liver and muscles. You do get a "lift" when you light a cigarette. But it's exactly like the lift you get from cocaine, heroin, and marijuana. All these things can stimulate the adrenals, cause a momentary increase of sugar in the blood. Under the flogging of the nicotine whip, the body burns up sugar faster; heart action, respiration and blood pressure

are kept at a ding-dong pitch. At the end of a two-pack day, the smoker's system has received an unmerciful beating.

The best authorities today agree that lung cancer is directly attributable to the use of cigarettes. And others have declared that we should not forget, in the excitement that has developed around recent discoveries concerning the relationship of tobacco to lung cancer, that it has been known for years that tobacco causes heart trouble, throat irritation, some forms of stomach disorders, and greatly affects the nerves of many users.

Alcoholism has hit a new peak in the United States. In the United States alone there are 4 million alcoholics. One million of these are habitually excessive drinkers who as yet are not organically damaged. The other three million are chronic alcoholics in the last stages of alcoholism, and will soon die. In addition to the 4 million classed as alcoholics, there are another 67 million classed as "problem drinkers." Of these millions of drinkers, one million die annually. ALL OF THEM COULD HAVE BEEN SPARED THIS UNTIMELY DEATH if they had faced reality instead of trying to escape it by drowning their sorrows, heartaches, pains, miseries, and woes in alcohol.

Now, let me ask you a question. Does the man who stops at the liquor store for a "fifth" actually escape? You say, "At least he forgets for a while, as long as the liquor lasts." But is it permanent? Even a child can come up with the right answer. No! In reality, the man is not escaping. He is merely deadening his brain, so that he can't think about realities. When the liquor wears off, nothing will be any better. In fact, frequently the reality, when he must face it again, is even worse than before.

To an ever increasing extent, the world in general is trying to escape reality, by self destruction (suicide), and through the deadening effects of nicotine, alcohol, and narcotics – any means of forgetting the unpleasantness of real life, and fleeing into a world of unreality. But reality cannot be escaped. There is no possible escape. The only real help for the situation of the world, and for your situation as an individual will come, not from escape, but from boldly facing life's problems in a realistic manner, finding a real solution for them, and then following it through to victory.

America manufactures enough cigarettes every year to furnish every boy and girl, father and mother, every grandfather and grandmother in the United States ten cigarettes every day. She also manufactures twenty gallons of liquor each, for every man, woman, and child in the United States. One New York officer estimates that 5,000 of the city's 300,000 high school students are users of narcotics. The tremendous upswing in the use of narcotics by teenagers in New York City is paralleled by similar increases in many other cities across the nation. No community seems to be entirely safe from this INVASION FROM HELL!

The user of liquor, tobacco, and dope very soon comes to the point where he has no choice in the matter. At first he believes that he can "enjoy the thrill" when he chooses, but quit at will. He soon discovers when he attempts to quit that a vital, compelling force has taken possession of his will, and controls him by means of his own inordinate desire. This force, though he probably has no idea of its identity is a DEMON OF LUST!

Yes, I agree with you that these are shocking truths, but the truth must be faced. Multitudes today are bound by these demons of lust, and will never be freed until they know the truth. "YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH AND THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE."

Ask the alcoholic in the gutter, the drunkard on skid row, or the executive sitting at the swanky bar, why he drinks. It is a domineering, controlling, overwhelming force – a desire that must be satisfied.

Ask the cigarette fiend why he smokes so many cigarettes. He will tell you that he MUST! He would die if he didn't.

Ask the dope addict why he takes the stuff. He will tell you plainly he would go insane without it.

Ask the husky convict behind prison bars why he committed the terrible sex crime which made him an outcast from society. He will tell you that "something got hold of him," some overwhelming force took possession of him, and seemingly forced him to commit the crime.

Every one of these is bound by a demon – the demon of lust!

In our own great MIRACLE REVIVALS across the nation, we make it our purpose to present these truths in every campaign, in what is termed a "Liberation Service." Generally two services in each three weeks' campaign.) In these liberation services, after I have preached on demonology, the altar call is made for those who are bound, oppressed, or possessed by any of these many demon spirits. Special cards are filled out for each person. A survey of these cards reveals that about fifty per cent are bound by the demons of lust. Hundreds come seeking liberation in a single service. After prayer, many testify that for the first time in years they have real victory, and are free from these binding forces. Confirmed drunkards, having tried unsuccessfully all the so-called "cures," have been set free so completely that they have never even wanted another drink. Many bound by tobacco for many years, who had found it impossible to quit, have been set free instantly. Sex fiends and sex perverts have followed along in the line and have been loosed by the power of God.

This does not mean that these persons can never again be tempted. Like any redeemed sinner, they will find it necessary to shun temptation and resist the devil. But the demon that formerly drove and enslaved them no longer has control, and resistance is made possible.

There is a two-headed monster loose in the world, devouring thousands of people and crippling millions of others in mind, body, and morals. Dr. John Harvey Kellogg says: "Alcohol is a drug antidote for tobacco. Tobacco contracts small arteries and alcohol's first impact is to dilate them – a relief to tension. Thus the body of a smoker demands alcohol. The two cooperate; they are like Siamese twins."

The inseparable character of these two menaces to humanity has been recognized by many scientists and doctors. Dr. Schrumpf-Peirron says: "From the anatomical point of view, prolonged poisoning from tobacco causes chronic inflammation and ultimate sclerosis of the nervous elements, exactly as in the case of alcohol."

Drs. Schweinitz and Uhthoff, in independent investigations and writing in regard to one effect, blindness, they say: "In most cases it is the consumption of tobacco as well as alcohol which brings the trouble. There are forms of amblyopia (blindness) which are caused solely by the use of tobacco."

Writing under the head of arteriosclerosis, Dr. Schrumpf-Pierron says, "Where liquor and tobacco are both used, the worst results seem traceable to tobacco, not liquor."

Dr. Daniel H. Kress says: "The worst and most hopeless drunks I have ever had to deal with have been excessive smokers. I never consider a whiskey inebriate cured who has refused to give up tobacco."

Reasoning along this line Dr.John D. Quakenbos, of Columbia University says: "Alcohol thirst is engendered and inflamed by tobacco smoke. Tobacco creates an intensive demand for alcohol. Intemperate use of tobacco explains 75 percent of all drink cases."

Dr. Alexander Lamber, a noted authority on drug addiction, says: "Drinkers suffer from chronic tobacco poisoning. They can not give up alcohol until they stop smoking."

Dr. Shoemake, another authority on drugs says: "Very few boys learn to drink without first learning to smoke."

Isn't it reasonable to think that the reason there is so much more alcoholism now than a few generations ago is that the interaction of alcohol and tobacco poisons is a great deal more destructive than effects of either of them where the other is not used?

The world today smiles at the use of nicotine, saying it is just a habit everyone has. Note that everywhere we look today – the billboards, the newspapers, the magazines – all the most attractive and "popular" are always pictured with a cigarette. This is obviously done for the purpose of wearing down public resistance to the use of tobacco, in order to increase the profits from sales, and just as obviously it is accomplishing its purpose. The tiny, white cigarette appears so common and so harmless that people scarcely give it a thought. Many parents take it for granted that their boys and girls will learn to smoke cigarettes as surely as they will change from toys and appearances of childhood into adults.

The use of dope is not regarded with as much tolerance as either liquor or tobacco. Generally it is considered a far greater evil. Yet, even then, addiction is considered a weakness – something into which the victim has fallen, either by accident or circumstance, which he cannot resist, and to which he must remain in bondage. The world knows no deliverance from dope. Medical science has prescribed only a "possible cure."

A frantic mother who had discovered that her teenage son was a dope addict was informed by a specialist that although she might be able to get him into a hospital which specialized in the treatment of dope addicts, and that there might be times when there would be evidence of improvement, the best thing she could do was to "FORGET YOU EVER HAD A SON." To her, his advice seemed heartless and unbelievable. But after years of expensive treatment, and much mental agony, she was compelled to admit that the doctor had been right. Her story was widely publicized in a number of leading magazines. It may seem like an "extreme" case. Yet, as her story was published, thousands of mothers, unknown and unseen throughout the land, were enduring the same agony of soul. The startling rise in addiction within the past generation is nothing more or less than an INVASION FROM HELL!

Spearheaded by the use of tobacco, which is Satan's wedge to weaken the will and make way for all other evils to follow, the attack is then stepped up to include liquor to provide a fresh "thrill" when the effects of nicotine have become commonplace to the body. Then the final conquest is assured when the use of dope has been added to the list. Is it not all too evident that this well integrated plan is no accident, but the strategy of a diabolical enemy?

Aside from the physical and moral tragedy of dope addiction, there is the spiritual tragedy. Once a person has become victimized by the devil, full and complete restoration is possible only through the power of God. The dope addict lives a very short life. It is one of the surest and quickest methods of destroying a person that the devil has. In a short time the addict loses touch with the world. He is soon an emaciated, sleepy, completely

unreliable being, whose only happiness is half-conscious awareness that, temporarily, he is not in torment. His fingers and clothes are charred by cigarettes he has smoked while "on the rod." He cares for nothing and no one but dope and the man who can supply it to him.

There is a complete release of mental restraint, which results in the loss of self-control and moral standards, often leading into a career of crime. The normal desire for life reaches a low ebb. If the victim is unable to continue regular dosages of dope, he is in for a very hard time.

Dr. Victor Vogel reports: "The patient has excessive sweating and yawning, and running eyes and nose. These mild signs become incessant after twenty-four hours. Then the pupils dilate and waves of goose flesh appear. After thirty-six hours, muscles twitch uncontrollably and severe cramps attack the legs, back and abdomen, followed by insomnia, diarrhea and vomiting. The temperature rises, the appetite is gone, and weight loss, in severe cases, is five or six pounds a day. These symptoms reach their height about forty-eight hours after the last dose and remain at a peak for about seventy-two hours; then gradually subside after four or five days."

Sexual lust is usually found closely associated, also, with the presence of the lustful habits already discussed. Excitement and stimulation of the sexual desires are prominent among the physical effects observed from the use of nicotine, alcohol, and narcotics.

Satan has always made it his business to disguise these many demons with the mask of deceit. Thus, the demon of lust may be passed off as a "disease," a "habit," or physical peculiarity – being "oversexed." But be not deceived by the devices of Satan. Jesus said, **"You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."** (John 8:32). When you are no longer deceived by Satan's devices, when you realize how hopelessly you are bound, who it is that has bound you, and why he has taken such pains to keep you bound – when you awaken from the devil's "sleep of death" and cry out to Jesus to save you and deliver you, you may rest assured that JESUS WILL SET YOU FREE! **"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."** (John 8:36).

Hallelujah! No more of bondage! No more of humiliation and shame of struggle and defeat. No more the anguished cry: **"When I would do good, evil is present with me, O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"** (Romans 7:21,24). But rather, with Paul, the shout of victory: **"I think God through Jesus Christ our Lord."** (Romans 7:25).

You say you have tried? You have gone to church. You have turned over a new leaf. (Yes, so many new leaves!) You have made New Year's resolutions. You have even read the Bible.

You may even have prayed! Perhaps you have been baptized in water – joined the church – sung in the choir or taught a Sunday School class. Perhaps you are deeply religious. Perhaps you go regularly to confessional, and carefully keep the ordinances of the church. But…STILL YOU ARE BOUND.

Let me tell you the true story of one whose hopeless bondage was broken in one of my own revivals – a person for whom Christian home training and religious teaching was not enough; for whom church membership and observance of forms could avail nothing; one for whom even earnest, heart-felt prayer and seeking after God had failed to bring deliverance.

Some time ago a young man approached me as I entered the auditorium where I was to preach that night. This young man had heard of the many who were being

liberated in the meeting and had come because he, too, was bound. The horrible demon of lust described in Romans 1:27 had possessed him as long as he could remember.

He had been reared in a full-gospel, Christian home where there was a daily family altar. He had always prayed as far back as he could remember. Although he had sought God for salvation many times, and as many times had tried to "take it by faith," he had never really been loosed or set free, from the evil force that was within him. He confessed that although he would go to the altar, confess, repent, and "by faith" claim salvation, deep down within him something would never let loose. It was this demon of lust. He said, "I've tried so many times and failed, that now no one, not even the pastor here has any confidence in me, or my desire to live for God. They say I don't really mean business with God, but I do. Every time there is a revival here or elsewhere, I go. I go to the altar because I actually desire to stop committing this sin and live for God. Of all the times I have gone to the altar for salvation, the personal workers always tell me to 'take it by faith.' I tell them I know that deep down within me there is something that has never come out. I try to take it by faith, but soon I am right back doing the thing that I promised God I'd never do again. It is not a mere temptation. **It is an overwhelming, compelling, powerful force, from which it seems I cannot be loosed by my prayers alone.** I believe the thing is a demon. If I can ever be loosed from this thing I will show the people that I can live for God."

I told the man I'd meet him at the altar call that night and would cast the demon out IF HE ACTUALLY WANTED TO BE FREE FROM IT!

At this point, some may say, "Why don't you just preach the Word? What people need is the Word of God. I believe if you preachers would just preach Christ, that is all that's necessary."

Let me remind you right here that Christ did more than preach the Word! He set the captive free! He cast out devils! If just preaching the Word was sufficient, why didn't Jesus stop after he had given the people the Word?

When Christ gave the Great Commission, He told them to DO MORE THAN JUST PREACH THE WORD! He said to them, "And as you go, PREACH, HEAL THE SICK, CAST OUT DEVILS..." (Matthew 10:7-8).

Preaching the Word will show people the possibility of freedom and tell them how to get free, but CASTING THE DEVIL OUT OF THOSE PEOPLE WILL MAKE THEM FREE INDEED!

When Philip went to Samaria, he did more than "preach Christ to them." He preached Christ AND healed the sick AND cast out unclean spirits.

The young man I am referring to had heard the Word preached all his life. He had prayed much himself. He had repented. He had "taken his salvation by faith" (so he said). But he had never really been born again, so that "old things had passed away" according to 2 Corinthians 5:17.

It is my firm conviction that in some extreme cases, such as the maniac at Gadara (Luke 8), a person must be loosed from demon power BEFORE he will ever be found "sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind" (Luke 8:35). The first thing Jesus did for this man was to loose him from demon power.

After I had preached, I met the man at the altar. He knelt and began to pray and seek God. I went to where the man was praying and as I stood by his side I laid my hands upon him. I meant to command the demon to come out of him. As I touched the man, he fell over prostrate. A group of fine spiritual men joined me. I knelt over him and began to pray and rebuke the demon forces. Suddenly as I prayed the young man began to choke.

He clutched at his throat with his hands and, looking up at me, said, "If you keep praying like that, I'll choke to death right here."

God revealed to me that it was the demon influencing the man to say these things, hoping I would stop praying. I told the man he wasn't going to die. He was going to live! He was going to be free! Now!

I again began to pray, and commanded the foul spirit to come out of the man. Suddenly the demon began to come out and at the same time the man began to choke, and then to vomit. The young man sat up with the glory of God on his face and a smile on his lips. He began to shout, "It's gone! Thank God it is gone! I felt it leave! It just let loose and came out! For the first time that I can remember, I am free from the thing."

And to prove it, he has lived a victorious life and has proved to the people he could live for God!

Friends, it is time that people realize that LUST IS A DEMON! An evil, diabolical force, which indulged too long, creates a bondage which one may never be able to break. It is a bondage that will hold the captive fast in its chains until his captor has dragged him all the way into hell, to be tormented there forever and ever. Yet it is a bondage from which they **CAN BE FREE!** No demon is greater than the power that God has made available to all His followers who will believe His promises and accept them as their very own. It was Christ Himself who said, "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold **I GIVE YOU POWER OVER ALL THE POWER OF THE ENEMY."** (Luke 10:18-19). It was Christ who said, "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." (I John 4:4).

We live in a day when multitudes of people are skeptical concerning the Word of God. Never before has there been a time when religious leaders have denied the truths of the Word like they do today. They deny that demons are real, that the gift of healing is in the church today, and that miracles can be performed any longer. Never has there been a time when religious skeptics have tried harder to explain away the Word of God. But my Bible says, "What if some do not believe; does it make the Word of God of none effect?" Demons are real!

Under our big tent in Phoenix, Arizona, a young man came to our meeting declaring he had demons. He had a young girl with him who was also demon possessed. God set them both free. Tonight they're married, living good, holy lives, liberated by the power of God!

ONCE DEMON POSSESSED! A DOPE ADDICT! NO HOPE OUTSIDE OF CHRIST! THIS MAN ATTENDED AN ALLEN CAMPAIGN AND WAS FREED FROM 18 DEMONS. HE COUNTED THEM! IN A FEW SHORT MONTHS HE WAS MINISTERING THE MIRACULOUS TO MULTITUDES. THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING STORIES OF DELIVERANCE EVER TOLD!

In our office files are many reports of this young man's ministry from the time God set him free. God has given him the gift of healing and the gift of miracles. Now he's healing the sick, casting out devils, and God is giving him miracles in his ministry. One letter contained a picture of multitudes of people standing as far out as the eye can reach. They came to hear him preach. He has been especially successful in the Latin countries.

Don't be discouraged, dear friend. If you re bound by one of these demons, or even if you are possessed by a LEGION, God has promised you greater power than the devil or demons. It matters not how long you have been bound, nor what kind of demon has bound you. JESUS CAME TO SET YOU FREE! YOU ARE GOING TO BE FREE!

To the Syrophenician woman, Jesus said, "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt" (Matthew 15:28). She WILLED for her daughter to be free! She would not take "no" for an answer. She would not be turned aside form her purpose to have deliverance, neither by inconvenience and effort of getting to Christ, nor by the race prejudice that would have closed her out, nor even by the suggestion coming from Christ Himself that she was not of the people of God – not one of the children of the household – and therefore unworthy to even ask for deliverance. She was so determined to have it that even her own pride could not stand in her way. Read her story in Matthew 15.

You, too, can be free – when you WANT to be free! SET YOUR WILL to be free. BE DETERMINED to be free. If you will definitely set your will to be free, and follow the instructions given in the Word of God, your victory is already assured – for Jesus said it, and Jesus cannot lie. **"YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE!"**

TRADITION OR REVIVAL?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1965)

Tradition! Why mention it? Is it really important? It's scriptural, isn't it? Tradition…doctrines of men…social…racial…religious! We find it in every religion, in every walk of life, and in every nation in the world.

Jesus was confronted with traditions daily...the Samaritan woman at the well…the Roman Centurion…the publican, tax collectors, sinners…the scribes and Pharisees! He made His stand on this vital subject plain and clear in the Word.

On one occasion, He called all the people to Him and said, *"Hearken unto me everyone of you and understand…if any man have ears to hear, let him hear"* (Mark 8). Jesus saw how bound some people were to traditions of men, and He wanted to set them free and bless them. This is still one of the greatest human needs today. Jesus still wants His message preached so He can set you free from the traditions of men and bless you in His New Restoration Revival!

God has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel to every creature, and bring them His Miracle Restoration Revival. We make no apology for the Word of God. *"For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit…"* I make no apology for the Bible! I make no apology for shouting and praising God, for the way you people are clapping your hands, singing and dancing in the Spirit. I have no apology for the way you're talking in tongues and prophesying. There should be no apology for what God declared we ought to be enjoying and receiving and having today.

The cold, dead, dry, modern preacher who merely has religion, who does not believe all the Bible, is not expecting it to be fulfilled. He's satisfied with form and ceremony and ritual. Should Miracle Revival happen to break out in his church, he would apologize for it and try to explain it away, because he doesn't know anything about it. He's never had it himself, and he's ashamed of it and does not want it.

Real Miracle Restoration Revival never takes place in any country until somehow tradition is broken down. When people begin to open their ears to hear, and their hearts to the preaching of the gospel of power, they begin to lay aside lifelong traditions of men that have had them bound, and they begin to worship God. Only then does the miracle-working presence of God come into the service and do marvelous things.

In Mark, the seventh chapter, the Pharisees came to Jesus and asked, *"Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders?"* The Pharisees and scribes who represented all the Hebrew religious leaders did not like the way the disciples had broken away from the tradition of the elders, and refused to follow the Jewish tradition to the letter. In fact, they didn't like the way Jesus was failing to conform with traditions of their time in their community and church.

So you remember what Jesus said? His sarcastic reply is still appropriate now for tradition-bound people. If you don't like what I'm going to say, it's right out of the Bible…the words of Jesus. We're going to preach the gospel! I'm going to tell you what it takes to bring God's Restoration Revival. There are too many church people who are bound by mere traditions of men. I would like to read you Jesus' reply from several Bible translations to give you a complete understanding. Jesus said, *"You are following the*

traditions of men, which make of none effect the commandments of God." According to the Williams translation, Jesus said, *"You are fine teachers that cancel what God commanded in order to keep what men have handed down."* The Amplified translation gives it to us like this: *"You have a fine way of rejecting and thwarting and nullifying and doing away with the commandments of God in order to keep your traditions, your own human regulations."* I quote from Weymouth, *"Praise worthy indeed, repealing the word of God in the interest of the traditions which you keep up."* Then according to Berkeley, Jesus' answer was, *"Politely you frustrate the Law of God, you neutralize God's Word."* Another says, *"You certainly do injustice to the commandments of God, as to sustain your own tradition, so you dishonor the Word of God for the sake of tradition."* And yet another says, *"You are clever in your making God's commandments of no account. But your traditions must be observed."*

When people come to Jesus with a question, He always has an answer.

Many people who come to our meetings are wondering why we do not follow the traditions of the elders of these cold, dead churches. Some of their beautiful edifices were built as far back as the fifteenth century. Some of these fabulous churches required centuries to build. Bless God, I'd like to inform you that God is doing a new thing that He didn't do back in the fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, or nineteenth centuries! We're living in the twentieth century when God said, "Behold, I will do a new thing." He didn't do it in centuries past, and some of these elders haven't got a thing in the world but man made, handed down traditions. And some of you people don't know a thing in the world about God's Word. You don't know what God has promised or what God is doing. All you know are the traditions of men. And you'll never have God's Miracle Revival in your country until you forget and lay aside and cease your following the traditions of men. When you look wholly to Him, God will do something for you!

A religious tradition is a belief or a practice not derived directly from the Bible, but arising and handed down within the Christian community, according to Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, and as it was with the Pharisees and Sadducees in Jesus' day, modern religious denominations actually have no scripture to validate their existence. All they have is a volume of man made laws, bylaws, and rules...tradition that has been handed down from generation to generation. Many people who come into our Miracle Revival meetings say, "Oh, this is funny way to have church. What are the people acting that way for? They don't act that way in my church!"

I guess they don't! It could be that the people in your church are following the traditions of the elders that they've handed down from the eighteenth century, which "nullify and make of none effect the Word of God or the commandments of God."

I could quote scripture hour after hour, showing how God wants His people to worship Him, and some people will say, "I know it's in the Bible, you read it out of the scripture, but it's not according to the doctrines of my church. We just don't worship that way." They will say, "It's not according to the Catholic Church...the Episcopalians...the Lutherans...the Methodists...Baptists...Presbyterians. It's not according to the Church of England!" But bless God, it's according to the Words of Jesus! It's in the Word of God! It's what the Lord declared He was going to do in this day and hour. Hallelujah!

The little woman in Luke 8:43 had that issue of blood for so long. She had spent all her money on physicians and yet she was none the better, but rather grew worse. As long as she abided by the traditions of men, she got worse and worse, sicker and sicker, poorer and poorer. That's like many of you today. But when she heard about Jesus, she decided to get away from tradition and do something she wouldn't be allowed to do in

her church. She was going to press and battle her way through the crowd until she could touch the hem of Jesus' garment. She reasoned, "If I can but touch the hem of His garment, I shall be made every whit whole."

If she had asked the elder's advice, they would have said, "Oh, that's hysteria." But she forgot about tradition and began to push and elbow her way through the crowd. "Excuse me! I beg your pardon! Oh, I'm sorry. But I must get to Him! I'll press my way through. I'm determined to get to Him!"

You may have read reports printed by newspaper reporters who see things that happen in our meetings. Some people get so thrilled and excited they almost get beside themselves, and reporters have called it "mass hysteria." And friends, you may hear, "You had better stay away from those Allen meetings. People get hysterical and push and shove. They shout and dance and run. They fall prostrate. They sing the liveliest songs and beat the tambourine. Why, it's unheard of! It makes you wonder!" I dare say you've heard reports like these.

They call it sensationalism if you dare to do the things Jesus did. Imagine what they'd say if anyone dared to smear a man's eyes with mud made from spit and dirt, and then tell him to go wash and he'll come seeing. If Jesus today would attend a funeral in some churches and open up a casket and command that the dead be raised, the people would call it "sensationalism." But Jesus didn't go into the dead, dry churches to raise the dead. He waited until they started the funeral procession down the main street. Then He stepped out in the middle of the street and called, "Halt!"

Jesus was brought up in a very devout religious home. He was carefully taught all the traditions of the elders. Yet He broke entirely away from the traditions handed down by men. He didn't do anything like the elders did. And I'm trying to pattern my ministry after the greatest minister I've ever read about or ever heard about. He graces every Miracle Revival service with His presence. His name is Jesus!

He opened up the casket right out in the public, and commanded that the dead come forth. I heard someone say, "Will, I think if you insist on praying for the sick, you should do it quietly, down in the seclusion of the prayer room. It shouldn't be sensational, out before the public." And why not? Jesus Himself gave demonstration of the mighty miracle-working power of God.

Talk about sensationalism and breaking away from the tradition of the elders! Peter was like his Master, only he went a step farther. He said, "I'm really going to be sensational!" He lined up the afflicted along the streets of Jerusalem. And he marked past, not even touching a single one, without anointing them with oil. He said, "My shadow is going to heal the sick and bring to pass the miraculous!" Hallelujah!

Speaking of sensationalism, Christ went through doors, the doors being shut. He walked on the water, and the water coagulated under His feet like concrete. He did what the elders had never done. Jesus' ministry was highlighted by sensationalism. As He rode into Jerusalem, a great multitude of disciples began to shout and praise the Lord with a mighty voice for all the marvelous things they had seen Jesus perform. These people had really broken away from the tradition of the elders. They were spreading their garments in the way, and tearing the branches off the trees and strewing them in the path, so the little ass that Jesus was riding wouldn't have to walk on the ground.

You know what they would call that today, don't you? The tradition of the elders today would probably call it "emotionalism and fanaticism!" They would say, "They've taken this thing to extremes! It's sensationalism!"

Just as Jesus did, in every country we evangelize we try to break down the high walls of tradition of the elders that have God's people bound. I'm not talking altogether about churches founded in centuries past. I'm talking about Pentecostal elders in the twentieth century, too. I'm talking about churches where no sick are being healed. No miracles are taking place. No souls are converted. Churches whose ministers stand behind the sacred desks, bound by the traditions of men that nullify, and as Jesus said, "make of none effect the Word of God or the commandments of God." We can be so bound by the traditions of men, just customs that have been handed down in the community, until the Word of God doesn't mean a thing!

Suppose the power of God would fall in your church today, and the people would begin to rejoice and dance like David of old did. But you see, he never would have done that unless he had kind of gotten away from the tradition of the elders even in that day. But the power of God hit him, and he danced before the Lord with all his might. If you should suddenly dance before the Lord, would your companion be like his wife, Michal? She didn't like it. It wasn't according to the tradition of the elders. And in sarcasm she rebuked it. She despised David in her heart because she saw God's power being manifested in a man. It wasn't flesh. It wasn't emotionalism, fanaticism or hysteria. It was old time, heart felt religion. But Michal didn't like it, and the Bible says "She despised him in her heart." David got away from tradition and let God do something special for him!

There's not much shouting when I preach like this. But if you shout...but you won't...this is, not in your cold, dead church. If your church friends and loved ones hear that you are shouting and praising God at the Allen Miracle Revival Campaign, you know they may despise and brand you. Tradition has already named and branded true worship of God, even as far back as Old Testament days. But as long as you stay bound by traditions of men, you'll never enjoy the blessing of God. You'll never have revival with signs, wonders, healing and miracles!

I am amazed how many Pentecostal preachers and people around the world are so bound by tradition. They too have drifted from their original experiences with God, and the older generation has made laws and bylaws, rules and traditions that they are passing down to this present generation...rules that nullify and make of none effect the commandments of God. If people shout and praise the Lord or dance in the Spirit, present day Pentecostal tradition brands it emotionalism and hysteria. If we preach an old fashioned sermon on the coming of our Lord, or on hell-fire and brimstone, against sin, and make an altar call where people come running by the hundreds to be saved and born again, most church elders say, "It's the result of mass psychology."

That's not what I call it! I call it the convicting power of the Holy Ghost. We call it REVIVAL! Come and shout with me! Hallelujah! Say "Yes"!

Let's worship God as we're admonished to do in the Word. Praise the Lord! Raise your hands and clap your hands! Rejoice in God...make a joyful noise! Praise Him on the instruments! Praise Him on the organ! We call the kind of music we play on the organ, "Miracle Music." Cold, dry, dead religious tradition will say, "That's rock and roll. It's jazz." Tradition insists everything has to be slow and formal and solemn. Why? Tradition bound people have never been born again, and never known the joy of the Lord. And if they would ever get born again and get their eyes on the commandments of God, they would soon forget all the tradition and would begin to live by the Bible and enjoy the blessings of God. But tradition will always oppose the worshipping of the Lord and the moving of God's Spirit. This is one reason why revival will never come to a country until

some people do away with man made traditions that nullify and make of none effect the commandments of God.

Jesus broke away from the tradition of the elders when he went to the tomb of Lazarus. "And He cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come forth!'"

Luke tells how the Pharisees and Sadducees and religious leaders called the Master aside and said, "Master, rebuke your disciples." Why did they want Him to rebuke the disciples? They had broken away from the tradition of the elders and were enjoying the blessings of God. They were fulfilling the Word of God spoken by the prophets, as they shouted and threw their garments and palm boughs into the way before the Lord. Jesus said, "Leave them alone. If they should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out!" Thank God that someone broke away from the elders' traditions. Hallelujah!

Over in the Book of Luke, a boy had spent all he had on riotous living, and wound up down in the hog pen eating swill with the pigs. Finally he came to himself. He had a home and a father. What was he doing there in such need? He crawled over the sides of that hog pen and started back home. To his surprise, his father ran and met him with a kiss. He had the servants put the best robe on him, shoes on his feet and a ring on his hand. The son had only hoped that his father would forgive him and let him be one of the hired servants. But the father took him into the house, which typifies the House of God. He killed the fatted calf and made a feast, saying, "He who was dead is alive, and the lost is found."

The man's eldest son came up to the house, and the Bible said he heard m-u-s-i-c…music and what? Dancing! He didn't know what it was. Why? He was still bound by the tradition of the elders. All he had ever known was cold, dead, dry, formal religious service. He called one of the servants and asked, "What do these things mean?" The servant said, "Why, haven't you heard? Your brother has come home. He who was dead is alive! He who was lost is found! Your father killed the fatted calf and we're all rejoicing and making merry before the Lord."

Where? This sounds like revival in the church. It was shouting and rejoicing and right at the place where the lost boy had been saved. I say it was a revival meeting!

The eldest son wouldn't go in. e heard the music, the kind people dance by. Some of the music you hear in the cold, dead churches you would not see or hear any dancing with it. It's too lifeless…hasn't got a ring to it…no note of joy or triumph…no rhythm. This son was so bound by tradition he wouldn't go in. The father wouldn't give him up that easy: *"Therefore, camest the father out and admonished him…"* But he refused to go in. He insisted on continuing to be bound, tied, and fettered.

Jesus came to His own, and His own received Him not. The greatest sermon He ever preached was to the religious leaders who should have accepted Him and known Him and recognized Him. They knew all the prophecies in the Word concerning Christ. They should have known and accepted Him. To them He said, *"Ye shall know the TRUTH, and the truth shall make you free."* But not a one of them ever got free. They answered Him, *"We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?"* Bound by tradition, blind to their needs. Blind leaders of the blind, and they crucified the Lord and went to hell. Why? Because they chose their tradition instead of the commandments of God.

Tradition says, "Well, it's in the Bible, BUT…!" But what? "We'll have nothing to do with it. We don't recognize it or accept it. We call it something else other than the commandments of God."

What would happen if Christ should come right into your church today to minister, and the rich young man would come running to inquire, "What must I do that I may inherit eternal life?" (Mark 10:17). Jesus' amazing answer would offend all those present who are bound by tradition. Instead of commending the ministry Christ offered this young man, tradition would declare Christ was just after the money. He was "begging." He dared to mention money in the confines of the church.

This is one of the greatest weaknesses among religious groups today. You're going to have to break through this thing…so is every other evangelist…if he ever has God's last day Miracle Revival.

I have been warned repeatedly, "You dare not say one word about money or giving in connection with the offering. You will offend. The people will say you are begging."

Well, let the devil say it's begging. They would say the same thing about Jesus. They don't know the commandments of God or the Word of God. Jesus wasn't begging when He said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over…" (Luke 6:38)

When the rich young man came inquiring the way of salvation, he went away grieved. Modernists would say, "Why, you're driving people away. Why don't you preach salvation instead of about money?" Why didn't Jesus preach the plan of salvation and about heaven instead of money? But He didn't. He preached money…money …money. Why? It was a divine ministry. That man's money stood between him and heaven. All the commandments he had observed from his youth, but Jesus preached his salvation message when He said, "One thing thou lackest…Sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up thy cross and follow me."

Jesus didn't have to beg for money. He had a ministry. And he had to preach what God told Him to preach. The rich young man didn't go to hell because he had money, but he went to hell because he was not willing to abide by Christ's personal ministry to him. No doubt he reasoned, "Ah! He's just after my money. He's not going to catch me selling all I have and following Him. I'll go to hell first." And if people who are so bound by tradition won't even let their preacher take an offering, or preach on tithes and offerings, you'd better watch out. It's the Word of God! It may be the *"one thing thou lackest!"*

Annanias and Saphira attended First Assembly of Jerusalem and one day God struck them dead. Why? It was over money…over their offering. Don't tell me He didn't. Tradition of the elders says, "God was too severe. He shouldn't have killed them. All they did was lie about the offering." I want you to know that GOD IS NOT CONFORMED TO TRADITION. He's doing things His way. He says, *"Be ye not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds."* If you're ever going to get in on the new thing that God is doing today, you're going to have to make of none effect and nullify all the traditions of men.

Right where you are, why not look up and say, "Deliver me from tradition, oh God! Set me free from tradition! Set me free and do a new thing in my life. In the name of Jesus!"

Tradition does such a good job of nullifying the body that it never comes to life. Some of you people had better watch out! You may never come to life. You have been nullified…dead…too long. If revival ever comes to your country, the preachers are going to have to begin preaching ALL OF THE WORD. That means preaching on money

...preaching on tithes and offerings. It's a definite part of this ministry. It is NOT "begging."

God has given us a ministry. We never beg for money. "Giving" is a ministry that we preach. God has promised, "It is He that giveth thee power to get wealth." And when John said, under the inspiration of the Spirit of God, *"I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health..."* he wasn't begging for the people's money. He was telling them that it is God's will for them to prosper financially, as well as to be healthy in their bodies (III John 2).

Job said, *"Thou shalt lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks...thou shalt have plenty of silver...thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay they vows."* (Job 22). Job wasn't begging for anybody's money. He was one of the richest men of his time. He wasn't after money when he said "pay thy vows." It was a ministry!

David wasn't begging! He was giving the people something straight from heaven. The people needed it in order to be delivered from their troubles. God spoke through David: *"...pay thy vows unto the Most High God: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me"* (Psalm 50:14-15).

The tradition of the elders that nullifies the commandments of God would say, "Listen to David begging for money. He's just out for the money." See what I mean? And if you preachers aren't careful, this very tradition that has kept many of your saints who sit in the pews, bound and poor, will bind you until you'll be afraid to even mention tithes and offerings. You'd rather get out and sell insurance or automobiles, be a carpenter, or follow some trade in order to get enough money to preach the gospel.

David stood as the power of God came upon him and said, "Vow and pay..." (Psalm 76:11). Someone says, "Listen to him taking pledges. I don't believe in taking pledges." Well, why don't you believe in it? Deliverance from your troubles has a direct connection with paying something to God. And the same blessings come when you don't have anything to give, but you promise to give when God provides it. It's the Word of God! *"Vow, and pay unto the Lord your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared."*

It's amazing how many Pentecostal saints are so bound by traditions and customs handed down by the old dead churches they came out of many years ago. They've never been liberated and set free from traditions. And tradition tells them that preachers have no business saying, "Vow and pay"...taking pledges. Tradition will so blind preachers that they can't do the will of God and get up and do what David did in days gone by. They've got to do it according to the ways of the elders. They can't do it like Peter and Paul, David and Job, and all the rest. Moses preached one of the greatest sermons I've ever heard preached in the eighteenth chapter of Deuteronomy. But he wouldn't be free to preach it in some of your churches today. Tradition would prohibit it. And people are so tradition-bound they would get up and walk out on him.

As one pastor from Finland said, "Remember one thing...you dare not say anything about money, giving, or even mention money in connection with the offerings. One preacher came in and said something about money in connection with the offerings and the people just got up and left him."

I said, "Do you mean that I can't come to Finland and preach the gospel?"

"Oh!" he said, "Yes, preach the gospel."

"Do you mean to tell me that if Jesus came to your church He would have had to answer the rich young man this way: 'Young man, I'm sorry I can't tell you what to do to

inherit eternal life, because I am bound by tradition in this church. I can't preach on giving, and it's your money that is standing between you and heaven. I'm sorry. I can't show you the way to heaven.'"

This pastor said, "Well, come on to Finland and preach about money, but don't preach it in connection with taking the offering. Preach it some other time. Then let somebody get up and sing, or do something else, and then have someone else take up the offering. Not you."

This was amazing! "Why?" I asked.

He said, "The Pentecostal newspaper in Finland..."

There you are!

The pastor continued, "The last evangelist who was there jumped over the tradition of the elders. He talked about giving and then took an offering. The Pentecostal newspaper, which is a national newspaper, printed that the preacher and the evangelist from America were out to get all the money they could, and then split it 50-50. That is the biggest lie a newspaper ever printed."

It was a Pentecostal newspaper, which goes to prove that even Pentecostal people, preachers, and their religious periodicals are so bound by tradition that if an American does something a little different than their tradition, they brand him as being out for money. They accuse him of splitting it with the pastor. God help us! *"A form of godliness but denying the power thereof. From such turn away."*

Jesus preached the truth, and they wouldn't receive it. They killed Him. They called Him a devil, casting out devils by the power of Beelzebub. They called Him everything including a winebibber. He had broken away and failed to conform to the tradition of the elders. That's the reason Jesus died. It's why every one of His apostles died a violent death at the hands of religious leaders. They would not conform to the tradition of the elders.

Moses had a ministry. He began to preach, *"It is He that giveth thee power to get wealth."* Even Moses dare not preach in some of your churches today, because your tradition has it that he shouldn't preach this way.'

If I can't preach it, what did God put it in the Bible for? I preach about power to get wealth...about the power to cast out devils and to heal the sick. There's a power to lay hands on people and bestow heavenly blessings. We lay hands on people and thousands have received the Holy Ghost. But if we had stuck with and conformed to and been bound and tied down by the traditions of my denomination that I was part of for twenty-five years, I wouldn't be having Miracle Revival today!

In order to have God's Restoration Revival, you will have to believe the commandments of God and keep them. But the Word says that your tradition nullifies and makes of none effect the commandments of God. This is why you find so many cold, dead, dry, formal church people. They're religious, but they don't know the moving of the Spirit and the reality of the anointing of God. If they have, they're afraid to let it do anything for them. Afraid that somebody is going to brand them as being super-spiritual.

You will remember how Moses went up into the mountain and spent forty days with God. He talked with Him, and God spoke to Moses. One thing God instructed him to do was to tell the people to bring an offering to their God (Exodus 20:24).

Moses came down from his visit with God, and his face shone like an angel. He was so anointed of God that he had to wrap his face up. The people could not bear to look upon the brightness. The first thing Moses said to the people when he came down from

the mountain, was to instruct them what God had said, to make unto Him an altar and to bring an offering.

Don't tell me that Moses was backslid! He had been talking with God face to face. He had been fasting and talking to God for forty days. But tradition would brand him: "He's just out for the money. Begging!"

"And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering. And this is the offering which ye shall take of them: gold, and silver, and brass, and..." (Exodus 25:2).

Oh, oh! God not only instructed them to give an offering of gold or silver, but He wants a freewill offering...not given grudgingly! The offering that is given joyfully is the offering that moves God!

Under the same anointing of the Lord, Moses admonished the children of Israel in Deuteronomy, the eighth chapter: *"Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day: Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwell therein; And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage...And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God; for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day."*

Here was a ministry! Moses warned God's people that when they possessed the land God had promised them, and they began to be blessed, that they must not forget to keep the commandments and to give God the credit for their blessings. They were not to feel that it was their own physical brawn that had gotten them their wealth. It was not their own ingenuity, ability, wisdom, knowledge and talent. He reminded them that it is God that gives us power to get wealth.

Here was a sermon of faith! Moses preached that their gold would be increased. Their silver would be increased...their flocks and their herds. He's preaching about money...but it's a message straight from heaven. Don't tell me he was out for their money.

It takes money to be able to preach the gospel. It takes money to meet the operational needs, and to supply Bibles, tracts and soul-saving literature. It takes many hundreds of dollars to broadcast the gospel of power over the world's radio stations to reach the unreached for Christ. And it is a supernatural power from God in heaven that enables His children to prosper and be wealthy, so they can have money to give for the glory of God, instead of having a flimsy excuse, "Oh, I just don't have a thing to give!"

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14). It will take millions of dollars to take this gospel around the world. That's why the world hasn't yet been evangelized. Tradition has so bound God's people that they have not been taught to give for evangelizing the world. But God is doing a new thing! He is giving His children power to get wealth! He is blessing His children who will take their wealth and put it into His great work to see the world reached for Christ. And when we preach this message, we're not preaching it for the money. We're preaching it for the millions of lost and

dying souls the world over. And we are preaching it for your benefit…to help you! God wants you to be one of those He can bless in this late hour.

Other preachers would like to preach it, but they can't. They're too bound. The elders and the deacon board won't let them. If preachers brush aside the traditions, the elders would take away their ordination papers, their license and their credentials, and kick them out of the denomination. Most of them would have no place to preach because they wouldn't have a ministry. But here's what I say – if revival ever comes to your country, it will be because the traditions become nullified, and of none effect by God's people, instead of the commandments of God becoming nullified and of none effect. That's the formula for revival. We're going to have to break away from and be delivered from the religious traditions of the elders.

Some of you will never be delivered from the traditions of the elders because you have been nullified too many years. You are dead to the Word of God. You are dead to the commandments of God. You are dead to what the Bible says. The tradition of the elders that you have practiced down through the years has made the Word of God and the commandments of God so nullified, lifeless, so dead and paralyzed that you'll never wake up. There will never be any spiritual life!

If you were going to have an operation at the hospital, they would give you an anesthetic to nullify the pain, so you wouldn't feel it when they cut you open. The pain is there, but you can't feel it. When the nullifying effect of the drug wears off, you begin to feel the pain. Then they give you another drug, another pill, another shot in the arm to keep your body nullified…unable to feel the pain.

Doctors can perform an operation on your extremities by just giving you a shot in the spine. They call it a "spinal." It does not put you to sleep…just makes you dead to pain. You can't feel anything. But sometimes that spinal permanently nullifies the body. We have had many people brought into our meetings who have had a spinal and who are left completely numb and paralyzed from their waist down. They can't feel a thing! You could run a pin into their limbs or feet…they can't feel it. They're nullified. They are helpless invalids unless God performs a miracle.

Some of you people haven't had a spiritual spinal, but you've had an injection right in the heart. You're never going to feel the commandments of God, the Spirit of God, the power of God, because you have been dead and nullified. Too long you have followed the traditions of men.

I have little hope for people who are nullified…they can't feel anything even in the midst of a mighty revival. Some come into the meetings and say, "Well, I don't feel this." No! And they possibly never will! After a long period of time, the traditions make you so nullified, dead and lifeless, there is no hope…short of a miracle from God.

There was no hope for the Pharisees and the Sadducees. They felt nothing. When the disciples came into Jerusalem shouting about all the miracles they had seen Jesus do, the religious leaders said, "Rebuke thy disciples!" And Jesus answered, "I won't do it." The elder brother was so nullified that he never came to life. He refused to go in and rejoice that his lost brother was saved. It was revival, but he said, "I don't like the music and dancing." They kept shouting and rejoicing, but he remained outside.

You had better be careful, friends. Some of you are going to be left outside. Your tradition which nullifies and makes of none effect the commandments of God will keep you from giving to God. Your tradition will keep you from being blessed and prospered financially. It will keep you from even receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost. It will even keep you from all the manifestations of the Spirit.

Some of you are so bound you won't even raise your hand to praise the Lord, and that's the least of all the manifestations. The Bible says, "Lift holy hands unto the Lord." It also says, "Clap your hands all ye people…Shout unto God with a voice of triumph …Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord…Praise Him on the organ…Praise Him on the stringed instruments…Praise Him on the high sounding cymbals!" Can you say, "Amen?"

Solomon said, 'There's a time for all things under the sun. There's a time to dance…" And he wasn't talking about ballroom dancing. David said, "Praise Him in the dance." Some of you will say, "Oh, that's a different story." But the same man who said "Clap your hands, shout, praise Him on the organ and the stringed instruments" also said, "Praise Him in the dance."

Tradition says, "Well, it's in the Bible…But!" You're afraid it's going to be called emotionalism, fanaticism or hysteria, so you just stay bound. But if you stay bound too long you may miss the rapture.

If you're bound by one thing, you might as well be bound by something else. You who are bound by one thing are no better off than people who are bound by something else. Some people are bound by liquor, some are bound by narcotics. Some are bound by tobacco, by one kind of a demon or another – lust, filthiness, uncleanness. Others are just bound by traditions. Traditions of men will make you sit there like old Michal, with hatred in your heart, while God's children dance before the Lord. Tradition will bring you in from the field to the church and say, "What is all this going on? I don't like it and will have no part of it." Tradition will tell Jesus, "Rebuke thy disciples."

But like the father, we won't give you up so easily. We entreat you, "Won't you join us? Won't you come on in and partake of the revival? Won't you join us in our praise and thanksgiving and worship?"

Did you say, "Well, if God ever makes me dance, I will."?

Well, why not lay aside those traditions of men and let Him? He wants to bless you and make you a blessing! Let the world and tradition say what it will. Be determined to have God's best for your life!

TRADITION OR REVIVAL?
(PART 2)

(A. A. ALLEN – 1965)

How can revival ever come to a nation or people when they brand the genuine worship of God as "fanaticism?" How can God move in an atmosphere where the manifestations of the Holy Spirit and the power of God area called "hysteria?" Can God's Restoration revival come to a place where His healing of the sick and miracles are downgraded as being done "by the power of Satan?"

How can God come into a church that forbids its members to edify the Body with the gifts of the Holy Ghost, does not allow praise to God, and that brands shouting and dancing in the Spirit as "fleshly?" Can God bring revival to a church world that calls every old-fashioned preacher a "calamity howler?" How can God bring revival to a people who call His ministers "sensationalists?" Can they ever know the real joy of salvation, who call the joyful miracle music nothing but "rock and roll?" What do you think?

Most major denominations in history were founded in the midst of a God-sent revival. Thousands of souls were swept into the Kingdom of God…they organized their denomination…made their own rules and settled down to govern their converts. Not a one of them has kept pace with God. And they hate anyone who does. Each group has its own tradition that has been amended and increased down through the years. Tradition is responsible for these mock names of the real moving of God's power.

The Apostle Paul never had trouble with the traditionalistic church elders until he refused to walk with them in all their tradition. After he was converted and broke away from the tradition, he found himself beaten and in prison, ridiculed, persecuted, hated, rejected, considered dung, the off-scouring of the earth. Pleases note that his miracle ministry began only after he was willing to forsake all for Christ. It was then, and only then, that miracles took place, sick were healed, and devils were cast out with the aprons and handkerchiefs sent out from his body. Paul even raised the dead!

How many preachers like Philip does God have today? Most of the deacons now would not have permission to leave the church long enough to go to Samaria and stir the city with a Miracle Revival. Pentecostal tradition today (refer to your church constitution and bylaws) has placed the deacon in the position of controlling the pastor and the church. But according to the Word of God, it is not the duty of the deacon to see to it that the pastor adheres to all the doctrine, bylaws, and unscriptural government of the modern church. Revival might break out if some deacons were not present in some churches.

No many deacons are being literally "gnashed upon" as Stephen was by the teeth of the elders today for refusing to walk after the church tradition. Revival in Stephen's soul set him so aflame for God that the religious elders who were listening *"…were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth…and ran upon him with one accord, and cast him out of the city and stoned him…"* (Acts 8:54-58).

Fear of criticism and persecution is the reason most preachers and church people adhere so closely to form, ritual, ceremony and religious tradition. Ministers are afraid of their denominational elders, bishops, and general overseers, district and general superintendents. Some are fearful they would have no ministry outside of their

denominational bondage. In God's sight, many have no ministry for Him even within their denomination.

Christ preached against church tradition, and was hated for His stand against denominational bondage. All His disciples in the days of the early church suffered a violent death for taking their stand for the gospel of the Lord Jesus. The followers of Christ today cannot expect to escape persecution and opposition form present day religious leaders.

Some people refer to the dead, cold, formalistic ritual as worship…as church. They would naturally think this, since they have never known anything else. When they defend their religious tradition, they may think sincerely that they are right in fighting. Christ called them "blind leaders of the blind." One can be blind, unsaved, and even demon possessed, and convinced in his heart that he is doing God a favor by persecuting the saints of God. In reality, he is destroying God's work for the devil: *"Neither yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God…and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God"* (Romans 6:13).

Paul, the great Apostle, at one time was the most bitter opponent of Christians. He held the coats of those who stoned Stephen. He was sincerely fighting for his religion, but not for the gospel of Christ or the work of God. His persecution of Christians ceased when he met Jesus on the Damascus road and found Him to be real. He conversely changed his entire life, then came his miracle ministry.

Men today are like Paul…they ignorantly fight the very gospel the early church saints died for. If some preaches today were not restrained by the law, they would stone or destroy all full gospel ministers and saints who persist in preaching against ritual and religious form and ceremony. After Paul was delivered from form and tradition, he preached boldly, *"…from such turn away"* (II Timothy 3:5).

The prevailing opinion among Pentecostal believers is that because they are Pentecostal in doctrine, they are right! Not so! Many Pentecostal believers and preachers who have gradually slipped from a real experience with God over a period of years, have become bound by form, and cannot recognize the difference between carnality and the spiritual.

This is true, especially with the younger generation, having grown up in the church and having never had a real, personal experience with God. Usually, their religion is one of "assent" rather than a change of heart. These are the most bitter opposers of genuine Pentecostal manifestations and worship in our revival services. Many, though they were raised in Pentecost, know nothing personally about old-time, heart-felt religion. They have never been converted, never known the joy of the Lord, never seen the sick healed, nor miracles performed and devils cast out. These people will laugh at poor Mrs. Jones, one of the old saints who still remembers the fire of God falling in the church services of days gone by, and criticize her for getting so "emotional" in church. All this group knows about the power of God falling is what has been whispered to them about the old-time "holy roller" meetings.

If there is some question about the manifestations of the Spirit, they do not go to the Bible to find the answer for themselves. Instead, they will consult their "dead" pastor. They will go to the church doctrine before they will go to God's Word. They are not open to genuine revival because it is contrary to their man-made ordinances and customs. If they fail to go along with the modernistic group in their church, they will be accused of being "disloyal" to the church. In order to get along with their church, they must do

everything the majority of the church does…even oppose and fight the true worshippers of Christ!

These members of modern denominations have no power to heal the sick or cast out devils. Neither do they provide deliverance for the oppressed themselves. They just accuse anyone who does have the power to do God's work as being "of the devil."

The best defense is to slander with words. It is much easier to say that no one else has any power, and declare all deliverance is of the devil, than to do the works of Christ themselves. How many of these modernists can say with Jesus, *"If I do not the works of my father, believe me not, but if I do, though you believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the father is in me, and I in him"* (John 10:37-38 & John 14:11).

A person must have a miracle ministry before he can say, *"If I do not the works of my father, believe me not."* If the modern preacher made such a statement today, he would be on the spot. His church people would want him to show evidence or proof that he was the Father. He would be on the spot, because his religious tradition would not let him believe or receive the power of God or the gifts of the Spirit in his life with which to heal the sick an perform miracles. Yet, Jesus said, "The works I do shall ye do also, yea, greater works shall ye do because I go to my father."

Why do most modernists condemn God's work instead of doing it? It's because they can't do it themselves. Either they don't have the faith to believe God to give them a miracle ministry, or because the doctrinal religious tradition will not permit them to do anything that is not included in their man-made church laws.

Why does the worst criticism always come from the dead, lifeless groups? Because new Restoration Revival is LIFE! This revival is a threat to their very existence. They feel they must fight it to keep the members they have. Evil words, slanderous words are their best weapons to fight with. They do not bother to back their statements with scripture because there is so little scriptural basis for any of their denominational operation.

It is easy for the critic to say, "This is not revival!" I say, if this is not revival, let some of those critics produce revival and I will get into it! Can they produce anything better? The blind see…the deaf hear the words of the Book…demons cry with loud voices and come out of many that are possessed with them…the lame leap as an hart…the broken hearted rejoice with the joy of their salvation…the oppressed sing unto the Lord a new song! Denominations don't really want anything other than what they have. They only want "religion" and their church tradition. All they have is "religion!"

The argument from the Pentecostal (so-called) churches is that they are very Pentecostal. They point at their church doctrine and say, "See, there it is. We speak with tongues, the constitution says so." I'd like to ask them, "Where is it in their church worship?" There are many people who speak in tongues today, whom I feel have lost the experience of the day of Pentecost. There is more to receiving the Holy Ghost baptism than just speaking in tongues. Speaking in tongues is only the evidence of the initial presence of the Holy Ghost. Many people fail to go on from the initial experience. God's Word says, *"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth"* (Acts 1:8). Without the POWER…God-given power…you may sincerely be misinformed about your present experience with the Holy Ghost.

According to old-time Pentecostal doctrine, Miracle Revivals are the real move of God; but according to your modern day Pentecostal tradition, you may not recognize it. It is impossible for you to have a move of God in your church or personal life while you are bound by religious tradition. Most people who are bound by their religion defend the coldness and indifference in their church by attacking anything that is the true moving of God. Attacking the character and ministry of preachers and workers whom God is using is the first step. With satanic inspiration, they said of Jesus, *"He is of the devil. He is casting out devils by the power of Beelzebub."*

A demon spirit was standing and speaking. It was a lying spirit. The object of his attack was not to cause Ahab to tell lies. His purpose was to DECEIVE Ahab with lies. The final objective was the destruction of Ahab, both soul and body. The one objective of all demons is to lead or drive the souls of men and women into hell. It is their evil purpose to get you to do the things that will be the cause of your going to hell. The prophets of Ahab prophesied lies to him, ad they were moved by a spirit…a LYING SPIRIT. It was not the Holy Spirit of God.

And false doctrines and lies, slander and accusations against servants of God and against the moving of God's Spirit is inspired by satanic forces, and are designed not to lead people into the light of the truth, but to BLIND THEM and lead them into darkness and eventual destruction. Such was the case of Ahab.

Are you associated with a church or group that teaches for doctrine any of the "DOCTRINES OF DEVILS?" The Bible warns us of such groups. If you find that you are, do NOW exactly what the Apostle Paul commanded: *"…and from such turn away"* (II Timothy 3:5). In other words, WITHDRAW YOUR MEMBERSHIP! Find yourself a church that believes and practices all of the gospel. Break away from these "seducing spirits and doctrines of devils!" Do it now!

It is dangerous to turn your back upon God's truth. When you do, you have opened the door for a lying demon, which God will then permit to come to you.

"And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth…for this cause God shall send them a strong delusion, that they shall believe a lie. That they might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (II Thessalonians 2:10-12).

Note that in the case of King Ahab, he had the privilege of accepting the truth. However, he rejected the truth God gave to him through a true prophet, saying that he hated the prophet who had spoken it. Of this man of God named Micaiah, he said, *"I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil"* (I Kings 22:8).

This is the picture of many today that have fallen prey to lying demons, because they will not endure sound doctrine. They too hate the prophet of God. And as the people in days gone by, they have said, *"Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits…"* (Isaiah 30:10).

Human nature has never changed. People today are still asking for things they want to hear instead of the things they need to hear. But here is one of the great Bible truths concerning demons: IT IS A DANGEROUS THING TO REJECT GOD'S TRUTH, whether it is pleasing to your ears or not. The moment you do, the way is open for the entrance of a lying spirit, which can come to you transformed as an angel of light, a messenger of God. This demon will make you "believe a lie and be damned."

Micaiah's last words to Ahab were, "If thou return at all in peace, the Lord hath not spoken by me." Ahab rejected the truth, and Micaiah was thrown into prison. Ahab turned for guidance to those who spoke pleasing flatteries. God permitted the lying spirit,

through the lips of his lying prophets, to persuade Ahab to make the course of action that led to his death. Ahab's prophets, inspired by the lying demon, prophesied saying, *"Go up to Ramothgilead and prosper: for the Lord shall deliver it into the king's hand"* (I Kings 22:12).

Lying spirits or demons have ways of influencing people. They may speak through some other person who is yielded to their influence, as in the case of Ahab's prophets. They may speak directly to the person they desire to influence in a voice that is, or seems to be, audible to the person spoken to. Often there is no sensation of an audible voice, but the demon accomplishes its purpose through persistent impressions or circumstances that bear the semblance of signs.

Lying demons were quite active in Bible days. There is much evidence they are even more active today. It is their business to make people believe a lie. Paul warned us, *"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in latter times some shall depart form the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats..."* (I Timothy 4:1-3).

"Seduce" means to lead astray...astray from God's way into Satan's way. Satan could resort to no better method than to assign seducing and lying demons to slander the real moving and manifestation of God's Spirit. No doubt, many today have rejected the truth and are believing a lie. Some are seemingly sincere in taking their stand and preaching the lie they believe.

Sincerity is not enough to prove that something is true. A person may be sincere in believing that he is putting baking powder into the pancake mixture, when in reality he is putting arsenic in by mistake. This happened in one kitchen. Someone had placed the arsenic in the baking powder can. The woman was sincere in believing it was baking powder, and she fed the cakes to her entire family. A short time later, they were all dead.

Sincerity is not enough. We must seek out the truth and be sure we are right. There is a terrible danger of closing one's heart to the truth, because it opens the door for a strong delusion. God permits these delusions today as surely as He did in Bible days. This is a curse from God...some thing that He permits to happen to those who deliberately disobey and reject the truth. For this reason, God will permit preachers, even Pentecostal preachers, to forsake the truth, BELIEVE A LIE AND BE DAMNED!

It is a proven fact that if a person repeats a lie often enough, eventually he will believe that the lie is the truth. The Word says, *"And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness"* (II Thessalonians 2:10-11). In other words, they insisted on having their own way, insisted in believing what they wanted to, regardless of the evidence against such belief in God's Word.

Not only will God allow a strong delusion to come and deceive those who reject the truth, but the Word goes a little farther than that: *"And it shall come to pass, that as the Lord rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the Lord will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to naught; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whether thou goest to possess it"* (Deuteronomy 28:63).

I know what God will do today, because I know what He did in the past. I know what God will do in the future, because I know what He is doing now. In what way will God rejoice over you?

The pattern for spreading of lies is the same the world over. When you hear one of these introductions it should be a warning to close your ears: "Have you heard the

latest…?" "Of course, I don't like to be the one to tell you, but you will hear it sooner or later…" "I felt it my duty to inform you…" Under the guise of the Lord's work, such lies further the work of the devil. Just look what was said about Jesus:

"He's a winebibber…" (Matthew 11:19).

"We know this man is a sinner." (John 9:24).

"He is mad…" (John 10:20).

"A division among the people because of him." (John 7:43).

"This man is not of God…" (John 9:16).

"He deceiveth the people." (John 7:12).

He was accused of being a boaster, imposter, a self-made man when they said, *"Whom makest thou thyself?"* (John 8:53).

He was accused of being ignorant and unlearned: *"How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?"* (John 7:15).

"He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of devils casteth he out devils." (Mark 3:22).

The defense offered by many who believe and spread lies against God's people is based on the fact that their source of information is from people they call "Pentecostal." They fail to realize that even Pentecostal people are not infallible, and it's possible for them to be misled, misinformed, and to backslide. Paul's warning in the Bible was given to the Pentecostal Church. It was the Pentecostal Church that he was referring to that would deny the power of God and resort to a form of godliness, that would give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. Certainly at the time the warning was given there were none of the present denominations. It would be well for Pentecostal churches and all to heed the warning.

"Tongues," the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost, is not enough to provide a claim of being infallible. Jesus said, *"…ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and he shall be witnesses unto me…"* (Acts 1:8).

In the church at Corinth there were some ministers who were "puffed up" and jealous of Paul's ministry. Paul's challenge to them is still appropriate for God's anointed ministers to use today: *"…not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power. For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power."* (I Corinthians 4:19-20).

The question is, "WHO'S GOT THE POWER?" Paul said in I Corinthians 2, that he was not coming with excellency of speech (vs. 1) but in the power of God (vs. 5).

Some preachers came to me one night after a service and wanted to challenge me to a "public debate." God did not call me to argue. In our services, we fulfill Christ's command to heal the sick, cast out devils; we bring deliverance to the oppressed, light to those who sit in darkness. The deaf are caused to hear the words of the Book. Like Paul, I say, "Who's got the power?" The Bible declares that "THESE SIGNS SHALL FOLLOW THEM THAT BELIEVE." If these lifeless, dead denominations do not have the same signs and miracles as Jesus, do not believe them – *"…from such turn away."* Who's got the power?

Elijah did not argue with the four hundred prophets of Baal. He just said, "Who's got the power?" Elijah demonstrated to the people that he had the power with God when the fire of the Lord God fell and consumed the sacrifice and all the prophets of Baal.

Moses did not argue with Pharaoh about whose God was greater. He just threw his rod to the floor…Moses just parted the waters of the Red Sea. Pharaoh found out too late who had the power!

The children of Israel were wondering who had the power, Aaron or the princes of the tribes. Moses did not arrange a debate between Aaron and the princes. Moses just said, "Show us who has the power." Aaron's rod budded…Aaron had the power!

I make no apology for the Bible. I make no apology for the way people shout and praise God and dance in the Spirit in my meetings. I make no apology for the loud noises of hundreds of people clapping their hands in praise and worship of God. People may shout, sing, dance in the Spirit, talk in tongues and prophecy in these meetings. I cannot apologize. For the blessings of God declared we ought to be enjoying and receiving today!

Samson did not argue with the Philistines and tell them that they had no right to oppress God's people. He just took the jawbone of an ass and showed them who had the power.

Two men in Acts 19 decided they would do the works of God without the power. They tried to cast out demons from one who was possessed. The devil-possessed man almost destroyed them when they tried to cast the devils out.

My challenge is "WHO'S GOT THE POWER?"

Satan's objective is to attack God's anointed Church and His ministers who have the power, the signs, wonders, and miracles in their ministry. He has no reason to attack religious groups that merely have tradition, words, lies, and only accusations and criticisms of others to defend their dead, powerless beliefs and denominationalism. All a man of God has to do is to defend his ministry with the Word of God: "NO MAN CAN DO THESE MIRACLES EXCEPT GOD BE WITH HIM." (John 3:2). That settles the debate!

Never have the critics and opposers to my ministry quoted John 3:2 to defend their ministry. Since they have no miracles following their ministry, they defend themselves by slander of others. They expect by pushing others down, they may appear to be lifted up.

Criticism will never obtain a miracle ministry from God. If anything, criticism will bring leprosy to you like it did to Miriam, Moses' sister, after she criticized him. It may bring a physical curse, as criticism brought a closed womb to Michal, David's wife. She criticized and hated his manner of worship, as he danced before the Lord with all his might. God warns, *"Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm."* (Psalm 105:15). One thing is certain, you will never see God with sin in your life. Leprosy is a type of sin; the cursed womb is a type of being unfruitful for God. Jesus is soon to return for His Church that is to be without spot or wrinkle…a Church whose members will meet Him rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them!

Whose got the power? Those people of God who are filled with the Holy Ghost, obedient to the Word of God, and fulfilling the commandment of Jesus to preach the truth of God's Word to every creature, the Lord working with them, confirming His word with signs following!

GOD'S SEARCH FOR MIRACLE WORKERS

(A. A. ALLEN – 1966)

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." – II Timothy 3:16

This is why I use the Bible when I preach or teach. This Bible is my doctrine! God says it is profitable for "reproof." I use it to reprove people. It's good for correction. And we use the Word "for instruction in righteousness." God has given us His Word that the man of God may be perfect and thoroughly furnished.

Some people move into an unfurnished apartment. Some move into an unfurnished house, but they have to get furnishings to be able to live there. God said that He was going to thoroughly furnish His children. Here is the furnishing – right here in your Bible. Look at it. Get your hands on it. Feel it. Turn through the pages. Say, "God, this is Your Word. This is my furnishing. Make me thoroughly furnished unto every good work."

What kind of work has God called you to do? Heal the sick! Cast out devils! Raise the dead! He said, **"Freely you have received, freely give."** What have you received? Everything that you have received from God is right in your Bible.

It is not enough to just read the Word. God says you have got to be doers of the Word, not hearers only. He is looking for those whose hearts are perfect toward Him, who will believe His Word and act upon it!

Did you ever stop in front of a nice restaurant and see all that lovely food in there? Some places put those big charcoal broilers right in the front window next to the street. They keep great big pans of those sizzling steaks just like you want them. You don't even have to wait; they have them there – well done, medium, and rare.

The most heart-rending thing is to see poor folk stop in front of the restaurant windows and just drool, as they look at all that good food inside. Did you ever smell those sizzling hot steaks, and watch them getting brown as they turned, and not have the money to buy one?

Do you know why they place that cooking up in that big front window? To make people hungry! But it doesn't do you a bit of good to sit down to a table of delicious food if you don't eat. You can look at that lovely food, and not have it do you a bit of good.

I believe that God today is giving many people an appetite that needs to be satisfied. It's not a steak that we need. What we need is to eat the "whole book." You are hungry for it! Take God's Word; begin to digest it, and to let this Word make you perfect and thoroughly furnished to every good work!

"All scripture…" Everything in the Bible, God has given to us. In my hand is a miracle. The Bible is a miracle! If this weren't a miracle, we wouldn't even have it today. It would have been destroyed during the Dark Ages. It looked as though there wouldn't be one Bible left. But in my hand today is a miracle! God has reserved this miracle for you, so you can have a miracle in your life!

I sit down to eat, fork in one hand, knife in the other, with a steak on the plate in front of me. You see A. A. Allen and a juicy, tasty piece of cow…entirely two different

things. One is a part of a cow, the other a human being. The piece of meat has no life in itself until I eat it. When I eat that piece of steak, it begins to take on life because God has fixed us up so that we can turn our food into flesh and blood...into power and strength. If I never eat the steak, it would remain just a piece of a cow. But the moment I eat that steak, something happens to it. It becomes a part of me...part of A. A. Allen. You can't say that there goes A. A. Allen and the cow. It's just A. A. Allen now!

In my hand is God's Word. It is distinctly separate from you. It is not a part of you until you start eating it. Jesus said that He had meat that you knew not of. Remember the scriptures say that John ate the little book God gave him. When he ate it, the whole book became a part of him.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God..." He has ordained that this Book is His written Word. When you read it and hear it preached...when you say "yes" to it...when you believe it, when you accept it and "eat" it, then it becomes a part of YOU!

You have the Word of God in you and it produces life and power. This is what the verse of scripture means: **"I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people"** (II Corinthians 6:16).

He is my God, and I am one of His children. I am an heir of God and a joint heir with Jesus Christ! What did Jesus have? He had holiness. He had God's anointing. He had a ministry of miracles. He was a man who could sin even as we, but He chose to resist the devil. Jesus could have sinned. He didn't come to this world as an angel...He came as a man. Jesus could have jumped off that pinnacle of the temple. He could have turned that stone into bread. Jesus could have fallen down before Lucifer, and let the desire for fame and popularity overwhelm His desire to please God. But He resisted the devil. He was tempted in every manner and in all points as you and I, yet He did not yield. And He has placed within us that same power of resistance to sin.

Temptation is not sin. God says, **"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape..."** (I Corinthians 10:13). God promises you a way of escape. Don't forget it. You have to look for that escape route. You may even have to grope for it, but God said the escape is there. God has made a way for you to live holy. He makes a way or you to stay clean. He makes a way for you to continue to walk with Christ within you. If He is there, He is walking, He is living, He is dwelling, and He is reigning within us!

Let me ask you a question. What kind of Christ is within you? Is He that perfect Christ? I will tell you the kind of Christ who wants to be walking...who should be dwelling and ruling and reigning in your life. He is the Holy Christ! The pure and clean Christ! The word "Christian" means Christ-like. This is why we have purity and cleanliness of heart, holiness of life. This is why we can even have the mind of Christ: **"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."** You can walk in a perfect way before the Lord. Webster says perfection is to be complete. It means, "whole, finished." I believe that every one of us can achieve a finished work in our lives.

"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you" (Philippians 3:13-15).

We are pressing on towards the mark for the prize. I am pressing on! Even if you haven't apprehended yet, and you haven't gained perfection, don't give up. Start eating this Book! Make it a part of you. This Book will make you whole.

Preachers and workers come and go in our Miracle Revival Campaigns. Many can't stay for the whole campaign. Some come and stay only a few days. People aren't looking for preachers. God is not just looking for preachers. The world is full of preachers. People are desperately looking for a ministry. People come to be saved, to be healed and delivered. And seldom does a sermon do it. God is searching for Miracle Workers, who will do the work of the Lord!

"The letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life." We are going to have to have more than a preaching ministry. I don't see how in the world any preacher can have a spiritual, scriptural ministry and only preach the Word. God has not told us just to talk. God told us to say...and to DO! The very first chapter of Acts says, "...of all that Jesus began both to do and teach..." To teach and to do! And Jesus just started His work. When He ascended, He turned the rest of the work over to us to finish. We are to do the same work that He was doing. It is not enough to teach. It is not enough to talk. It is not enough to preach. We are going to have to DO something after we preach.

What has God called us to preach? The whole Word or just a part? Well, you won't preach it unless you do it! This is why some preachers are not "Full Gospel" preachers.

Today, you hear very little about fasting. You start preaching about fasting, and you had better not be caught at that breakfast, lunch, and dinner table everyday. People will say, "You big hypocrite. You can talk to us about fasting...but why don't you do it yourself?" A preacher is a hypocrite if he will preach one thing, and won't do it himself.

There are a lot of preachers in this country, but we don't have many Full Gospel preachers who preach and minister like Jesus did. If they preach, "and these signs shall follow them that believe," they are going to have to follow Him. You can't preach it very long unless you do the works. You will have to put up or shut up! You won't preach on healing very long, if God doesn't work with you and heal the sick in your meetings; because if God doesn't heal the sick, and if unclean spirits are not cast out, people are going to ask why you are preaching so much about it and they never see it. You can preach about the gifts of the Spirit, but it is not going to do one bit of good unless you exercise some of them.

People want to SEE what you preach. God has not only called us to PREACH something, God has called us to DO something. Philip went to Samaria and he preached Christ to them, but he did more than preach Christ. He had a ministry: unclean spirits crying with loud voices came out of many of them, and those who were sick with palsy were healed. Philip did more than just speak. He had a ministry like Jesus. He healed the sick and cast out devils!

Paul said, "Preach the Word!" That means every bit of the Word of God. And we are to be "doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving our own selves." The Word says if we are not doers of the Word, we are like the man who looks in a mirror and sees a big smudge on his face, but he doesn't do what the mirror says.

God says that we do the same when we look to the Word, and then walk away and do nothing bout the sin and stains it reveals to us. We must be hearers and doers of the Word!

This may be the reason why so few preach the Full Gospel. You are not going to preach holiness, unless you are living it. You won't preach hard against sin, if there is sin

in your life. You won't tell saints of God to fast, if you are not fasting. You won't tell them to pray, without praying yourself. You won't tell them to heal the sick unless you are healing the sick. You won't bawl them out for not casting out devils, unless you are doing it yourself. God's ministers and workers must be "first partakers of the fruit."

God said, "These signs shall follow them that believe…" In a sense, every Christian or believer should be a miracle worker. You may not be an ordained minister, but I believe that every believer ought to be in the part-time ministry for God. That's why I say every believer ought to have a Miracle Revival Fellowship exhorter's card. If you have heard the gospel of Jesus Christ and have believed, then God has called YOU! There will be signs and a ministry of some sort for you as a believer. God has called you to cast out devils, to speak with new tongues, to lay hands on the sick and they will recover. Demon spirits are going to come out. Sick are going to be healed. Every one of us has a ministry whether we are in an active full-time ministry and carry a license of ordination, or whether we are just a believer or a lay member of the church. Every one of us is called in one sense or another to the ministry. And if you get to healing the sick and casting out devils, you're going to have to know enough of the Word of God to back up what you are doing. You'll find yourself exhorting and teaching and helping souls who do not fully understand this marvelous gospel.

Open your Bible to II Chronicles 16:9: "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout…" every state of our nation….throughout every nation of the world. God is looking for men and women of dedication. God is looking for those who will pray through, who will fast and pray until they touch heaven, until the power of God comes down and transforms their lives. I say God is looking for men and woman that He can use. God is looking for miracle workers, but God is not finding very many.

I am praying that the Lord will somehow move in such a way that here and around the world, He will find ten thousand miracle workers to turn this lost world to God!

Some of you have been wanting a job. Just so to speak, God has put an ad in the paper: **Looking for Miracle Workers! Wanted!** Did you ever read the want ads in the paper?

To me, this is what this scripture means: Wanted! Miracle Workers! The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth…looking for Miracle Workers…to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose hearts are perfect towards God. If God can find a man whose heart is perfect towards Him, God is going to use that man to perform miracles. He has found a Miracle Worker!

Why is it that God is not finding very many? We are not finding very many people today who even believe in perfection. But Matthew 5:48 gives a direct command from God: "Be ye therefore perfect even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Jesus Himself said, "Be ye therefore perfect."

Some of you, with your old dead, dry, formal teaching say, "Brother, who do you think you are? Jesus?"

No! But Jesus is walking in me and Jesus is talking through me. He said He would dwell in us and walk in us. Paul said, "Christ in us, the hope of glory."

No, I am not the Lord. I am an heir of God. Christians are heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. "Joint" means to share and share alike. As an heir, it means that everything that Jesus had, I can have. If I am a joint heir with Jesus Christ and an heir of God, then everything that Jesus had, I can have. He had it, and He said that we can have it. That same holiness…that same anointing…that same ministry to lost and dying humanity.

I know that old teaching, "Brother Allen, if you are perfect, and if you live without sin, then that puts you on the same level with Jesus." What's wrong with that? It's not bringing Jesus down to my level. It's just getting on Jacob's ladder and climbing up to Jesus' level. "Joint heirs with Christ." No man can be above his master.

Watch out! If you aren't careful and there is the least tendency toward doubt and unbelief, you won't believe what Jesus said.

You say, I know that is in the Bible, BUT....! Leave the "but" off of there. Say, "I know that it is in the Bible...period." Say, "I know it's in the bible...exclamation point!" Then shout, "Thank you, Jesus! It is my promise, and You told me that I could obtain it. By Your grace, I am going to fast and pray until God comes down and sanctifies me and cleanses and fills me with the Holy Ghost, and pours out a double portion upon me. God, give me a clean mind. Give me a pure heart and clean hands. Oh God, I am going to go forth as a Miracle Worker!

Paul said in Philippians 3, "Let us therefore as many as be perfect..." I have heard some people say, "Show me somebody who was ever perfect." That's not hard. What's wrong with Jesus? I don't pattern after someone else. Jesus is my example. Peter said, **"He also suffered for us, leaving us an example that we should follow in His steps, who knew no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth."**

The scriptures teach us plainly the man who guards his tongue, and is careful what he says, the same is a "perfect man." But the last thing some of you are going to put on the altar is your food when God calls you to fast, and that big, long tongue of yours when God tells you to shut up!

The Lord said in the first chapter of Job, **"Hast thou considered my servant Job...a perfect and upright man, one that feareth God and escheweth evil?"** And if Noah could be perfect in his own generation, we can be perfect in our generation. Complete...whole...finished...without defect...without blemish...lacking nothing...perfect likeness...blameless. Every one of us ought to raise our hands and say, "Sanctify me by thy truth. Let the Word of God cleanse me. Let the Word sanctify me, Jesus!"

In this day and hour, God is pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh...upon your sons and your daughters. God's eyes run to and fro looking for somebody He can fill and use, both men and women.

I believe there is a time for all things, and there is a time to remain silent. But I want to ask you a thought-provoking question. Who are generally the first to stand to testify for God? Who are the ones who answer the missionary call first? Who give the most time to prayer and fasting and searching God's Word? I find generally God can do some things for the women, when He can't even touch the men. Once in a while, God breaks through that old shell of a man, and gets hold of his heart. But, men are naturally unyielding.

I believe the reason God is calling and anointing women into the ministry is because He can't get some lazy men to do it. The men are supposed to be the stronger of the sexes, but in some things I find they are the weakest. Some of them have no backbone. They have no vision, no burden for God. But as far as God is concerned, there is neither male nor female, Gentile or Jew. We are all one in Christ, if we are saved and covered with the blood. And when God fills you with the Holy Ghost, He is going to put the get out and go tell in you! God is not only looking for men, His eyes are running to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong in behalf of them whose

hearts are perfect toward Him. Let Him perfect you with His Word, so that He will show Himself strong in your life and ministry.

You will need the power of God when you begin to teach and preach the Full Gospel message, whether in a tent or church, or in published articles, or sent out on telecasts or radio. You are going to run into opposition. The Word gives this warning: **"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places"** (Ephesians 6:12).

If Jesus had soft-pedaled the truth and compromised with the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the religious leaders of His day, they never would have murdered Him. If Paul had decided to preach what I call pink lemonade gospel, they never would have let him over the wall in a basket to save his life. When you are anointed of God, you don't care what people say…you don't care what they think. You will take your stand realizing that God has called us not only to preach this gospel of power, but God has called us to spearhead and lead the lost into the Kingdom of God!

I believe God has raised me up to lead the people of God out; to lead the people on; to lead them through; to lead His people into this marvelous power of God that He has ordained that everyone of us should exercise. God wants to show Himself strong in behalf of them that fear Him.

God is looking for people whose hearts are perfect toward Him…and He's not just looking for men. Women, if God can't find enough men to do His work, why don't you put your hands up and say, "God, use me."

If God didn't want to use everyone, why did He baptize us ALL with the Holy Ghost and power? **"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me…"** (Acts 1:8). You women who aren't allowed to preach, you can be witnesses. God has filled you with the Holy Ghost and you are going to be witnesses for Him with power. God made the gifts of the Spirit – tongues and interpretation, prophecy, and the gifts of discernment, wisdom and knowledge, and the gifts of healing, faith and miracles – available for both men and women. What are you women going to do with your gifts? If you dig a hole and bury your gifts, one of these days the Master is going to return to reckon with you, just as He will with the men, because Matthew 25 says that He "returneth to reckon with the saints."

"These signs shall follow them that believe…" Anyone can believe….men or women, boys or girls. God is looking for perfect hearts to show Himself strong in their behalf. If God has called you to believe, God has called you to minister to the sick and to those who are possessed and mentally oppressed.

Isaiah says: **"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?"** (Isaiah 58:6). God is looking for miracle workers! Women can break yokes the same as men. Whosoever will claim the promises of God…whosoever will fast…whosoever will pray…whosoever will meet God in a supernatural way, God says He will show Himself strong in your behalf…to minister and do exploits in His name!

As far as I'm concerned, there are more than ten commandments. Jesus said, "Be filled with the Spirit." That's not one of the Ten Commandments, but it is a commandment for us. "Be ye holy as I am holy." That's a commandment. "Be ye therefore perfect." That's a commandment. And don't tell me that the Lord would command us to do something, and then say that it is impossible to do it!

If God says we can do a thing, we can do it! The scripture says, **"...all these curses shall come upon thee, till thou be destroyed; because thou hearkenedst not unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded thee"** (Deuteronomy 28:45). God has spoken to us what to do, and we had better obey, or the first thing you know, curses shall come upon the disobedient.

Believer, as you let God's Word perfect your heart, as you let the Holy Ghost anoint you for a ministry, step out to obey God by faith. Faith isn't something that comes easy at first. Faith isn't something you can spread like an umbrella to keep off all the storms and rain. It is not just the accepting of some religious creed. Faith is a concrete trust that is built into the heart and mind and emotions of a man or woman that causes you to believe what God believes, to say what God says, and agree with Him, even if you have to disagree with your own opinions to do it.

Jeremiah found it hard to agree with God. He believed in God...he believed in all those old miracles that Moses did, but Jeremiah had a hard time believing in the miracle that God was going to make out of him. He thought it was a great idea God had of making a prophet of the nations. "God, You've got the right idea, but You've picked the wrong man." Does this sound like you?

God said to Jeremiah, **"Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee..."**

God forbids you as His child to say you are less than what God says you are. You have no right to assume that you can do less than God says you can. **The first law of faith is to always agree with God, even if you have to disagree with yourself.** How can you agree with God? Say, "I am what God says I am!"

God said to Jeremiah, "Before I formed thee...I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee as a prophet unto the nations...to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant." Jeremiah had the calling and he had the power!

What does God say you are? **"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be..."** We are the sons of God now, but we're going to be more tomorrow! You are what God says you are!

I care not how many mistakes you made yesterday, or what faults and failures lay in your path. The moment that the blood of Jesus washes away your sin, and you are robed with His righteousness, God see you, not in your limited form of humanity, but He sees you in the purity and perfection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Before you can be the man or woman God wants you to be, and fulfill your calling in this climax of the ages, you'll have to settle it in your heart that you're not going to be the judge of yourself. You are not going to decide how much or how little you can do for God, or how far you can go or how near you'll stay at home. If you are going to be used of God in this hour, you'll have to say what Isaiah said when he heard the voice out of the throne room: **"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"** Isaiah answered the Lord, **"Here am I; send me"** (Isaiah 6:8).

God's eyes are still running to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong in behalf of them whose hearts are perfect toward Him. He is still looking for men and women who will break the bands of wickedness, set the captives free, and break every yoke! He is still anointing men and women to be prophets unto the nations, to root out, pull down, to destroy and throw down, to build and to plant. He is still looking for

someone to fill the gap and make up the hedge! He is still calling, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

Be one whom God will use to save this generation! Answer Him: "Here am I; send me!" You will find that the Lord will work with you, "confirming the Word with signs following."

DISCERNMENT?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1966)

Sings and wonders are EXPECTED today in every phase of our lives. In order to create an interest in any field, wonders must be produced to get the public to respond. We are living in the last days when God has promised genuine signs and wonders for His elect. **"Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people, even a marvelous work and a wonder…"** (Isaiah 29:14). **"Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you"** (Habakkuk 1:5).

God is truly pouring out His Spirit in many places around the world today. He is doing many wonders for His people. And Satan is presenting a COUNTERFEIT for every genuine move of the Holy Ghost. Mark 13:22 tells us that his false prophets are on hand to show their false wonders for the very purpose of seducing or leading astray even God's elect.

You may be one who is not so easily deceived, and too well grounded in the Word to be easily misled. If Satan can't mislead you to believe his counterfeit wonders, then beware, lest he tempt you to disbelieve and doubt the genuine signs and wonders God is giving. If you can be caused to doubt that any sign or wonder if real, you'll still miss God in your life.

On TV, in national magazines, or the screen, in popular books, even in the daily papers, day after day, you are being brainwashed by this sudden interest in delving into the sub-conscious, into the past, and into the unknown. It's by public demand. This desire for a "wonder" is being met by the nation's top entertainers on down to the penny scale on the corner, where one cent will give your "Weight and Fate!"

They call it Extra Sensory Perception…E.S.P. But that's only the beginning. There's Psychology, Mental Telepathy, Metaphysics, Spiritism, and experiments with Hypnosis. These are so scientific, more dignified, and so much more entertaining than seeing the old fashioned fortune teller with the evil familiar spirit. And you don't have to line up and live right with these, like you have to for God to speak to you through the gift of the Spirit. These counterfeits cause men to wonder, and to be led into error, but they produce no miracles. These are no substitute for the wonder-working, miracle-making power of God. They have no place in God's Church. They will not fulfill Christ's Great Commission. Christian, beware that you are not led into iniquity by these counterfeits, these substitutes of the genuine manifestations of the gifts of the Holy Ghost.

What effect do these things have on the average church and preacher? You might be surprised. The preacher who will not pay the price for God's miracle working power is desperately seeking an effective substitute for God's gifts. He feels the pressure to please the people in order to have a crowd. It has reached the place today where the public fiddles, and their preacher is expected to dance to their tune. They demand discernment. They want a sign and a wonder. Too often they are accepting a substitute.

The genuine gift of the "discerning of spirits" is the answer. God says to contend for the best gifts (I Corinthians 12). This gift enables the Christian to spiritually discern whether signs and wonders are true or false. It helps the elect of God recognize evil

spirits, and detect their work. Thousands of laymen and ministers are being misled because they do no contend for God's genuine gift of "discerning of spirits."

It is well to remember that Jesus and the Bible always set the pattern for our lives, our ministry. Jesus is the pattern, not some other preacher or evangelist. **"We ought to obey God rather than man."** God says, "Let every man abide in the calling wherein God hath called him." Many a minister has made the mistake of trying to exercise a "gift" in order to impress the public that he has a ministry. Many a minister has tried to copy or imitate the ministries of others who appear to be successful, feeling that in order to be successful he has to give the people the same thing. Remember, ministries that are successful in the Kingdom of God are God given. They cannot be copied or duplicated. And the genuine cannot be substituted and still bear the blessing of God upon it.

Here are examples of what I am saying that will help you understand the perilous situation. No doubt you know of some yourself.

On a national radio broadcast recently, I heard a preacher say, "I discern there is someone listening to me who has an infirmity and desires to be healed. It has you worried and upset, filled with anxiety and distressed. The Lord shows me that you have a large amount of the Lord's tithe still in your possession. God is showing me that if you mail these tithes to me now, you will be healed of your infirmity immediately!"

Imagine the percentage of listeners to that broadcast who are sick with various internal disorders. No doubt a great number of them have at one time or another failed to pay their tithes. Immediately, my spirit did not bear witness with his spirit that he was manifesting a genuine gift of the Holy Ghost to edify the listening audience.

The preacher continued, "Right at this moment, the Lord shows me there are two people listening who have a twenty dollar bill in their billfold. God wants you to send it to me right now."

Let God and His Word speak to you concerning your life, your calling, and your giving. **"Obey HIS prophets, so shall ye prosper."** That man was no doubt speaking to many with twenty dollars in their purse, and by so generalizing, no doubt many felt they were one of the two mentioned. In all my years of experiencing the moving of the Holy Ghost, I have always noticed that when God speaks, He is specific. He does not generalize. He does not use schoolroom psychology. God speaks directly.

A popular evangelist recently stated from his platform, "The Lord has revealed to me that there is a woman here who desperately needs a healing. Lady, you have been afflicted with a female disorder for a long time. Your organs are not functioning properly, and you are irritable and nervous much of the time."

No need for a genuine gift of the Holy Ghost in a man's "ministry of generalities." This preacher's description would fit several in my congregation.

Some of the wonders being wrought seem to work only during the offering. In a recent campaign, a man informed a member of our party, "For days I have carried a hundred dollar bill around in this meeting. Why didn't the preacher "discern" that I had it in my pocket, and that God wanted me to give it in the offering?" He had been attending services where the offering was only taken up in this unusual manner. He no longer allows God to speak to him personally regarding his giving. The man went on to say, "I don't have it now. I gave it to my wife. If the preacher had just called me out, discerned that I had it, I might have given it." God wants our freewill offerings. This sort of thing is leading many Christians away from the genuine gifts of God and into error.

One young man had quite a problem getting his mother to come to our meeting because of her "super spirituality." Her son was very anxious to see her healed of an

infirmity she had for many years. When she arrived at the meeting, she remarked, "I'll just see how spiritual this man is. If he calls me out and tells me what my sickness is, then I'll believe he's got something." Since when is the diagnosing of a person's disease a test for a ministry from God? Since when should it be a basis for our faith in the healing power of God? God forbid! Yet this woman had been so brainwashed by attending certain services geared to this sort of thing, that it was her only basis for receiving her healing.

The gifts of the Holy Ghost are not for the pulpit or the church only. They are for the pew, for every believer, to be used to glorify God in church, on the street corner, and in the home. No matter what you are, or where you live, there are people all around you who are starving for help and understanding…for the Bread of Life. You can be a blessing to them through exercising the supernatural gifts of the Holy Ghost. Let God use you through the gift of the "word of wisdom." Inspire their faith to receive from God as you exercise the "word of knowledge," and God shows you their need. You will better understand how to pray and how to handle every situation, as you let God operate the gift of the "discerning of spirits" in your life. YOU can pray the prayer of faith! YOU can cast out devils! YOU can discern spirits, exhort, rebuke or bring comfort through the gifts of the Holy Ghost! Tell the Lord you will serve Him. Ask Him to endue you with the power and gifts of the Spirit!

God is all knowing. He knows all things, past, present, and future. Through the gift of the word of knowledge, He reveals certain circumstances in a supernatural way to His children. Some call it discernment, some call it wisdom, but these three supernatural gifts of the Holy Ghost work closely to edify the Church. The discerning Spirit knows more about people than just generalities. When God speaks, He speaks to THE ONE. No one else has to sit in the audience and wonder, "Is it I?" "Is he pointing to me?" God reveals more than just unseen diseases, internal disturbances, nervous conditions, worry, distress, and vexation. We know that MOST people have these troubles.

If I should stand up in my meetings and ask for all to come forward who were troubled with such generalities, there would not be just one person come forward, there would be MANY, perhaps a thousand or more to come forward for prayer. Doesn't God want to heal totally helpless cases too?

If I should mention on my broadcast that I discern a person who has some of God's tithe money, anyone who gives it any thought would know it could include any one of more than ten thousand people.

God is specific! God was specific with Cornelius. There was no room for any question. Cornelius was told who to send for, where to find him, and why he was needed. Acts 10:5-6 makes it clear: **"Send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter: (notice is was not for just any Simon) He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do."**

Ananias was given SPECIFIC instructions of where, who and why, in Acts 9:11-12: **"Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight."**

I am sure that if the gifts of the Spirit are working incompletely or only partially in one's ministry, fasting and more prayer are needed. Consecration, as well as humility, with no inclination or desire for exalting one's self might cause the gift to operate perfectly. God is not the author of confusion. He has a way of letting people know, so

they don't have to guess. Why confuse people? Without fail, God is specific enough that people do not have to guess when He is talking to them. Let God perfect His gift in you.

REMEMBER, the gifts of the Spirit are not given to impress the proud, to draw the crowd, nor to build a ministry. The gifts of the Holy Ghost are given to HELP those who need help and to give GLORY TO GOD!

DON'T BE A SELLOUT!

(A. A. Allen – 1966)

"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" – Mark 8:36-37

You can take everything this world would consider precious and worthwhile, and pile them all high on one side of God's great balance or scale, and on the other side place a human soul, and all the worldly goods would count for nothing! There is something that is more important than the silver that Judas jingled in his pocket. There is something more lasting and satisfying than the gratification of the flesh.

When God placed a human soul on the other side of the scales, it outweighed all the other things. Jesus said this in Mark 8:36 and 37, when He said, "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" If you had Rockefeller's millions, the billions belonging to General Motors and all the great corporations of the world combined, if you had all the wealth of Wall Street, when you stand before God, when you stand in judgment, all the billions of the world will never buy salvation for your soul. Today, your soul is more important than all the riches of the world.

Once an infidel heard a young convert talking about his soul. The infidel did not believe that there was any such thing. He talked to the boy saying, "Listen fellow, did you ever see a soul?" The boy said, "No, Mister, I never did see one." He said, "Did you ever taste a soul?" The young man said, "No, Mister, I never did taste one." The infidel said, "Well, did you ever smell a soul?" The boy said, "No, Mister, I never did smell one." The infidel asked him one more question. He said, "Listen, did you ever hear one?" The young man admitted that he had never heard a soul. The infidel said, "Well you're probably going to tell me that you feel it." The young man said, "Oh yes, Sir, I feel It!" Then the infidel said, "You see, there are four of your senses against one that you do not have a soul, so you don't have one at all."

The young man still argued that he had a soul, until he got an idea. He asked the infidel, "Say, Mister, do you believe in pain?" The infidel answered, "Why, of course I believe in pain. Everyone knows there is pain." The young man said, "I am going to prove to you that you are wrong. You do not have pain. Did you ever taste, smell, see, or hear a pain?" The infidel looked puzzled. He said, "You know, young man, I believe you have something." The boy said, "Yes, I've got something. I know that I have a soul because I feel it." We know that salvation is real because we can feel it.

Friend, you never know when the devil may make a bid for your soul. Remember this: no man or woman ever sold out to the devil except for one or more of the following five reasons: (1) The gratification of the flesh, like Samson; (2) the love of money, like Judas; (3) a promise of a promotion which may never materialize, like Balaam; (4) the desire for popularity or worldly applause, like Pilate; and (5), the satisfaction of physical hunger, like Esau.

We have a soul. It is a priceless thing, but it is amazing how many are selling out at dirt-cheap prices. The devil has a way of placing a blind in front of you so that you cannot see the result of your present action…your present gratification. He magnifies

your wants, needs, and desires, and says to you, "You've got to have it now! Enjoy it NOW! Spend it NOW!" You had better say, "Listen, you devil, just stop here!" Millions are in hell for a moment of pleasure they just had to have right then!

There was a little boy going down the corn row with his dad, who had come to steal corn. They got down to the middle of the corn field, and his dad looked on all sides and said, "There's nobody coming! Let's fill this sack full of corn." His son said, "Wait a minute, Pop! There's one direction you didn't look. You didn't look up!"

Don't forget there's Someone up yonder. There's a hand that's writing day and night. There's a recording angel. We're told in II Corinthians 4:4 – "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not, lest they see the glorious light of the gospel and be saved."

It is a trick of the devil to blind our minds so that we cannot see tomorrow. All you can see is, "I want things NOW! I want opportunity NOW! I want to satisfy this man NOW! I want applause now! I want promotion now! I want a bigger paycheck now! I want money now! I want a woman now! I want a man now!" I know I'm talking plain, but if I don't, who is going to?

A handsome young man was on his way to visit a beautiful girl. Little did he know that on this particular night, he would never again know the power of God in such a way that he could use it for His glory. Little did he know that as he lay in her lap that night, that he was going to lose everything he had ever gained in God. He could not foresee himself in a prison cell as a beast of burden, grinding at the old mill with both of his eyes burned out? Little did he know the devil was making a bid for his soul.

Samson lay there in her lap. Delilah ran her fingers through his hair and said, "Tell me the secret to your power with God." He said, "I am not going to tell you." But, when she squeezed out a few tears and acted broken hearted, he told her his whole heart. He revealed to her the sacred things in his life.

When he began to shake himself as he had always done before, his power with God was gone. He used to feel the glory and the anointing and the power of God, but it's gone. It's gone! A woman robbed him of it.

A young man looked at some red beans, or lentils, in a pot, and his body cried out for food. Little did he realize when he looked at that mess of red pottage that he was about to sell the blessing of God. Sell all for a bowl of beans! Esau sold his birthright for that which only satisfies the natural man. Hebrews 12:17 declares: "For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing he was rejected for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears."

Sure, Esau got satisfied…momentarily. The hunger pain subsided and his weak exhaustion left, but he forgot. The devil pulled the curtain and did not let him see any further than a bowl of beans. He didn't realize he sold out everything precious for just that moment of a full stomach. Some of you don't see any further than a pack of cigarettes, or a box of snuff. Some of you don't see any further than a little house sitting out there, and three meals a day. Some of you see no further than green grass, flowers, lovely furniture, a home, an automobile, or an apartment and lovely clothes.

One day God lifted the curtain, and here was a boy named Esau, at his father's bedside. He is saying, "Father, bless me, even me, also, oh, my father!" But the father said, "Esau, there's no blessing or you." Esau wants the blessing. He's forgotten all about the mess of pottage that he exchanged for his birthright. He's crying now for the blessing. He knows that he has to have it, so he says, "Bless me, even me, also, oh, my father."

When they brought Jesus before Pontius Pilate, clamoring for His blood, Pilate said, "I find nothing wrong in this man." But, they cried out against Him, saying, 'If you don't give him to us, you're no friend of Caesar's." But he said, "I find nothing wrong in this man. I will not turn Him over to you." They called for Jesus and said, "If you don't let us have Jesus, you'll be an enemy of Caesar's." Pilate said, "Wait a minute, boys. Bring me a basin of water." He said, "I'll wash my hands of this whole rotten mess. His blood won't be on my hands." They screamed, "His blood be upon us! His blood be upon us and our children."

Pilate said, "I'll wash my hands. You can take Him. He's yours."

While they dragged Jesus down the hall, old Pontius Pilate sat washing his hands. He said, "I won't have His blood on my hands. I'll wash my hands of His blood." He washed his hands, but he never washed his conscience.

You can wash your hands in water, but you can never wash your conscience. It lives with you around the clock. While they dragged Jesus on down from Pontius Pilate's judgment hall, they left him washing his hands, washing his hands, washing his hands, trying to cleanse them of the blood of the Son of God.

Someone knocked on Balaam's door and said, "King Balak has sent us. He wants you to come over to his country and prophesy against those people who are turning the place upside down." He said, "I'll have to pray over the matter." He got on his knees in his prayer closet and prayed. God spoke and said, "Balaam, don't you go! If you go, you'll get out of My will." Old Balaam came out and said to the king's messengers, "I'm not going with you. I prayed through. God told me not to go. Go and tell old Balak that I'm not coming." He felt good, because he was in God's will. He felt good because he had heard from heaven and had obeyed the voice of God.

In a few days, however, here came some more men, and knocked on his door. He said, "What are you fellows doing back here?" They said, "Now wait a minute, Balaam, we just want to have a little conference with you. You see, there's a possibility of great promotion for you. The king may even make you the mayor of the city, or a councilman, and then you wife and daughters can climb the social ladder. You'll be one of the social elite of the city…wear mink furs…have servants, lovely apartments, and automobiles with chauffeurs." Balaam says, "Well, that's worth praying about. Maybe you'd better stay until morning. I'll pray about this. I kind of think God will let me go."

It's kind of easy to get God's permission to do something when you've already made up your mind that you're going to do it anyhow, live, die, sink, or swim. Old Balaam didn't pray. He just tried to soothe his conscience. He got on his knees and said, "Now, Lord, will you let me go? Here I'm going to get a better job, and maybe I'll be promoted very greatly." He gets off his knees and says, "Boys, I'm packing my bag. Wait just a few minutes. I'm on my way." There he goes…sold out for a better job, even if it is an illegitimate job. Some of you preachers are selling out for a bigger church. Selling out for a bigger Sunday School. Selling out! Selling your soul! You're leaving the power of God, the blessing, and the glory of God, and the manifestations of the Spirit. But watch out! One of these days God is going to reckon with you.

Preachers aren't the only ones who are selling out. Many are selling out for worldly possessions and prestige. If you aren't careful, many of you will be a sellout for a few pieces of silver.

His name is Judas. He's rattling silver. He's going to have a time! He says, "I've run around long enough with this bunch with no money. I've had a chance to get me

some money, and I've got it. I've been running around with this bunch of "holy rollers" long enough."

"How did you get it?" He betrayed the Son of God. He failed to see himself hanging from a tree with a rope around his neck. The devil blinded him to the real cost. He sold his soul for those few pieces of silver. Thirty pieces of silver!

Matthew 27:14-15 reads: **"Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the Chief Priests, and said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver."**

This was the price of a slave. It is very likely that this amount was fixed by them to show their contempt of Jesus, and that they regarded Him as of little value. There is no doubt, also, that they knew Judas was wanting money so badly that he would be willing to do it for any amount of money. The money, usually described in the Bible as pieces, is a shekel - a silver Jewish coin, amounting to about fifty cents. The whole sum, therefore for which Judas committed this crime, was fifteen dollars.

Many today are selling out for less than fifteen dollars. They are selling out for a cigarette, a drink, or some other worldly pleasure. If you aren't careful, you'll sell out for less than Judas. Little did Judas realize that he was selling his soul for a few pieces of silver. Little did he know that he was putting a price of fifteen dollars on his soul.

"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Have you been a sellout for a moment of pleasure, wealthy gain, popularity or prestige, or for a full stomach? Has the devil blinded you to the cost of selling out? Do you always search for God's perfect will, or do you decide what you're going to do before you pray? Have you taken inventory recently and really counted the cost? When you stand before God, will He say, "Well done," or will He say, "He sold his soul to Satan."

Joshua 24:15 declares; "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." Sell out for God!

I Thessalonians 3:8 reads: "For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord." Make your decision now! Will you stand fast in God, or will you be a "sellout" for Satan?

IT'S IN THE BIBLE

(A. A. ALLEN – 1966)

I believe this is a message that would change the course of the entire world if preachers and priests alike would preach to the people from this portion of God's Holy Word.

God made a covenant with His people when they came out of bondage and captivity. He said, **"My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips"** (Psalm 89:34). A covenant is an agreement between two or more people, a contract. In the Bible it is the promise of God to man, carrying with it a condition that must be fulfilled by man. God says He will surely do something for you, IF YOU WILL DO certain things for Him.

God says in His Word, "…and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee" (Exodus 23:25). "And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness" (Deuteronomy 7:15). These are two promises of God! It doesn't matter who you are, or what kind of sickness you have, God is referring to you if you are His child, and He's referring to your sickness.

There are some who will say, "That's in the Old Testament. We're not living under the old covenant."

Well, thank God! According to Paul in Hebrews 8:6, we're living under a better one! **"But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which is established upon better promises."** A better covenant today! Better promises! If under the old covenant our obedience to the Word of God would take all sickness away, how much more will it take it away all our sicknesses under a better covenant!

The promise of God in this great covenant is to "take away from thee all sickness." Now let us deal with the condition that man must fulfill as his part in the covenant. What are we supposed to do?

God can't lie. God can't fail. When you look at the Christian world with its sicknesses and infirmities, you realize there is something wrong. I'm going to be bold enough to tell you what it is. This key of truth from God's Word will open the door of health and healing for YOU!

God says in Leviticus 26:1, **"Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the Lord your God."** It's in the Bible! This is God speaking to man!

God speaks very clearly to us in Exodus 20:3-5: **"Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me."** Did you know that was in the Bible? That includes images of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Jesus, or any other saint.

I'm quoting from the Bible! God declares in Exodus 23:24-25 – **"Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their images. And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless they bread, and thy water; AND I WILL TAKE SICKNESS AWAY FROM THE MIDST OF THEE."**

There is nothing wrong with God. He isn't dead as some modernists and atheists are declaring today. There's something wrong with men, not with God. When the conditions are met by man, God still keeps His covenant with us.

Too many people have not spent enough time working, preaching, and praying; too many haven't given God enough of their tithes and offerings to convert the heathen, who are steeped in idolatry.

We'll soon be on our way back to the islands of the sea, where millions bow down to images and idols every day. As early as 4:00 a.m., before the sun is up, you can hear the bells tolling; the streets are filling with people heading toward the great buildings where they bow and kneel before images that were made with hands.

God says He is jealous! **"For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images"** (Psalm 78"58). **"Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols…"** (Psalm 97:7). **"Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not: They have hands, but they handle not: feet they have, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat"** (Psalm 115:4-7).

God says He will take sickness away from the midst of His children who utterly overthrow and break down the images of the heathen. What have you done to tear down the idols of the heathen?

When we preach to the heathen, we point out Jesus Christ as the way. We proclaim Him as their Savior. He is the Healer of their sick bodies. Graven images and carved idols of Jesus and saints cannot hear their cries. These things are an abomination in the sight of God. Those who make them, and those who kneel before them are disobedient to the Word of God. It's in the Bible!

When we preach to the heathen, we try to emphasize, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). No matter what you do, you cannot save yourself. We let them know, "Now the just shall live by FAITH: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him" (Hebrews 10:38). We are saved by FAITH in Jesus Christ and His death on the cross for our sins, and not by our good works. "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by FAITH" (Romans 1:17).

To those who are accustomed to praying to images, we preach, "Neither is there salvation in none other name (other than Jesus) under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of JESUS every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that JESUS CHRIST is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11). They must be told that Jesus is the name that should be called upon for salvation. Every tongue must confess that Jesus is Lord. They may choose Him now as their Savior, or they will confess Him as Lord when He becomes their judge later.

We pass along God's warning, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you…" (II Corinthians 6:16-17).

It is so important that the heathen be taught that they become the temple of God when they ask the Spirit of Christ to dwell in them. As the temple of God, they should have no dealings with idols, regardless of what the image may represent or what name it may have. God says, "What agreement hath the temple of God with idols?"

When the people hear the Word of God preached, they want to destroy the accursed things in their lives. Hundreds fill the altar call for salvation one night, and they bring their idols to the service the next day. They want them destroyed! We have an idol-destroying service! We "overthrow and break" the idols and images of the heathen. God sets them free from their heathen bondage to worship Him in Spirit and in truth! He fills them with His precious Holy Ghost and heals their sick bodies!

One good way you can help us destroy images and idols is to give an offering or make a pledge to support our missionary work. If you cannot go yourself, you can pledge and say, "Brother Allen, I want to make this missionary pledge to send YOU to overthrow and break down the images and idols of the heathen for me." When you fulfill your part of the covenant, God will fulfill His part of the covenant. Your part is to break down images, destroy idols and their altars, and God said, "I will take away from thee all sickness."

Today, the earth's population is increasing at the rapid rate of fifty million. All the branches of Christiandom together are only reaching a scant two million. This does not mean that two million are being reached with the full gospel message. A large percentage of this number of people are only getting a weak, watered down, pink lemonade, social thing they call "gospel." What about the forty-eight million who aren't being reached at all? And the number increases each year with the population explosion. The Heart of Jesus must be broken today!

Jesus commissioned His church, "Go ye and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15). He declared in Matthew 243, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." In order to preach the gospel that will be a witness unto all nations, we should preach with signs, wonders, and miracles! A gospel they can hear backed up with results they can SEE!

How can the end come until we fulfill the Great Commission? How can Jesus return for His Church when they are not interested in winning the heathen who are steeped in idolatry? The average church member won't send someone to win the heathen, neither will they go themselves, nor will they even pray for those who are there.

I believe Christ wants to come back after His bride. The Groom longs to be with the bride. I believe the bride (the Church) ought to be as lonesome for the Groom, as He is for the bride. The bride He is coming after loves His appearing, and will be a Church that is holy, clean, and waiting.

The Church today cannot say she is ready. There are one thousand tribes of people who have never heard the name of Jesus. There are two hundred tongues with not even a Gospel of John translated into their dialect. There are eighteen hundred languages with no

portion of the gospel even translated. Four hundred tribes in South America alone have not been reached with the gospel. Ten percent of the world's population speaks English, and the other ninety percent speak other languages; yet, ninety-four percent of all the ordained ministers are in America, ministering to the small ten percent, while the other ninety percent of the world's population is going to hell!

Ninety-six cents out of every dollar given to church work goes to preach the gospel to the small ten percent who speak English. The remaining four cents of the church dollar goes to preach the gospel to the ninety percent in darkness.

Why should the English-speaking people keep ninety-six cents out of every church dollar, when they as a whole don't even want the gospel? They're already foundered on the gospel. You can hear the gospel on some radio stations a dozen times a day. In some places, there's a church on almost every corner.

Jesus wants us to pray, to send, and to go. What you ought to do is say, "Here am I, Lord, send me." If you would do what God wants you to do, half of you people wouldn't be where you are today. You'd be on some island of the sea, preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. But people are extremely selfish today. You like your home, your job, your salary, or Momma too well to give them up. You hear some say, "I've got a wife and a family. Let someone else go. My husband won't let me go. My denomination doesn't believe in women preachers. I'm too busy making money!

Right now, God is going to speak to you. He has made a covenant with you. Your part of the covenant that will bring healing and health to you is to break down images, destroy idols and their altars. God is speaking to some of you to prepare yourself to go. He wants you to go! God wants some of you to support the great Worldwide Evangelism effort with your prayers and your offerings. God wants you who have noting to give, to pledge, and He will give you the money from unusual and unexpected sources to pay your missionary pledge. This is the way you can break down images and tear down and destroy idols! You will be doing what God wants you to do. He will bless YOU!

JESUS REBUKED THEM NOT!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1966)

"And there followed him great multitudes of people…" – Matthew 4:25

On the closing day of our Allen Miracle Revival Campaigns, we generally introduce the local pastors to the congregation, and allow each to tell the people their church name and location, to give their service announcements, and say a few words.

You never hear these fine ministers get up and say like some I have heard about: "Now folks, if you don't have any other place to go to Church on Sunday, why don't you come over to my church. If you don't have anything else to do Sunday." That's not what I told people when I was a pastor!'

We appreciate the fine men and women of God, the ministers who sponsor and cooperate in our great Miracle Revivals across the country. We appreciate their ministry and the work they are doing for God, and we sincerely pray His greatest anointing and blessings upon every one of them.

It's always thrilling to see their revival enthusiasm. I detect their sincere desire to minister to the people, especially those present who have just been converted or reconsecrated to Christ during the campaign, and to those who especially need a "Spirit-filled" church to attend since they have been healed and delivered.

I would like to tell you how scriptural it is for some of you to go visiting this next Sunday morning. In some cases, I believe it's "Bible" to go church visiting on Sunday. When I finish this sermon, you're going to know why some pastors don't like me. But if Jesus were standing here today, He'd say the same thing I say, only He might be harder!

How many times did Jesus preach in the organized denominational church of His day? He went into one of the synagogues one time and preached, and they never would let Him come back there. You know why? Well, He went to this cold, dead, denominational church, and cast the devil out of a person, and from that time on, He never was welcome back anymore. And it would be the same today.

We find through the gospels that Jesus ministered and held His campaigns and church out on the seashore, on the hillside, inn the market place. And He had a big campaign wherever He went, for the Bible says, **"…there followed him great multitudes…"**

If you have been going to one of the cold, dead denominational churches, then it's entirely scriptural, according to Paul's preaching, for you to go church visiting! He said that in the last days some would have a "form of godliness, denying the power of God thereof, from such turn away." Turn away!

Paul didn't even say, "Go get your church letter." He didn't even say to withdraw your membership. They won't let you. The Word means just exactly what it says – Get up, find another church where the power of God is falling, and where the truth of God's Word is preached, and go there! Leave the cold, dead, powerless church behind. **"From such turn away!"**

You will find in the 34th chapter of Ezekiel, God is speaking to the preachers. He says woe to the shepherds who are only interested in feeding themselves: "should not the shepherds feed the flocks?" Ezekiel lowered the boom on those modernistic pastors of his

day, and he did it under the anointing of the Spirit of God. He said, **"Woe be to the shepherds that do feed themselves. Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock. The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them"** (Ezekiel 34:2-4). God says, **"Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand..."** (vs. 10).

God says there are some shepherds who stand at the gate of their man made sheep pens with a whip of wrath, a cruel whip of selfishness, a cruel whip of pride, jealousy and fear, denominationalism. God says that instead of feeding the sheep, they beat them. If the poor sheep had any fat or any wool on them, these cruel shepherds would beat it all off. A lot of God's sheep today, instead of getting fed in their fold, they're just getting a beating.

One woman came to me recently and complained, "Brother Allen, my pastor never preaches anymore. All he does is stand up in the pulpit and belittle and tear down and criticize everybody else. He spends all his time saying mean, nasty things about all the evangelists and everyone but himself. I get sick and tired of it. This is why we make such an effort to come to some of your Miracle Revival meetings, so we can get a little spiritual food. Our church is starving to death for some good spiritual food."

That lady had a problem. But I'll also say this, I wouldn't stay in a sheep pen where all the shepherd did was beat me and starve me! Jesus said to Peter: "Lovest thou me?...feed my lambs...feed my sheep." (John 21:15-17). God's ministers are called to feed the sheep, not to beat them!

Your God-given, Biblical, scriptural, Christian rights are to meet God anywhere you can meet Him. Find God anywhere you can find Him! Worship God anywhere you locate or find Him...whether it's on the mountainside or seashore as they found Jesus preaching and teaching and worshipped Him in New Testament times. If the only place you can get a good look at Jesus is to climb a tree like Zacchaeus, then climb a tree! Get saved in the treetop, and come down and make restitution. People will know you found God when you start giving back everything you ever stole. If the only place you can find God is like Jacob, in a hard spot miles away from anybody with your head on a rock...find God! And when you find God, call that place "Bethel!" Jacob named the place "Bethel" because there he found God!

And mind you, it was right then and there that he promised God to pay his tithes! That's a sure sign that he found God. When people find God, they want Him to have His part of everything in their lives.

"Jacob, what business have you got our here starting a new church? What is your pastor, your priest going to do if he finds out you're out here in this dry, barren place starting a new church and naming it 'Bethel'?"

Our God-given New Testament inheritance is to try the spirits to see if they are of God, instead of having some old backslidden shepherd who is mad at everybody else and jealous of all other preachers, to try the spirits for you. Paul preached, **"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father"** (Romans 8:15). The Spirit of God leads His own children!

Generally, if your shepherd is the same kind Ezekiel was describing, that old backslidden preacher is only interested in your wool and your mutton chops. He doesn't

feed you, and he doesn't want anyone else to feed you. He's afraid you're going to find out that there's some good food over somewhere else. He'll do everything he can to keep you in his fold, and away from going anywhere else.

You hear them say, "Our denomination is THE denomination. Our church is THE church. We are 'THE body.' You have no business visiting anywhere else. Don't you dare make a pledge anywhere else!"

He'll say it, but he can't back it up with Bible. Anyone who tells you that you can't give Jesus an offering wherever you find Him is a liar! The truth isn't in him. "Any man who says you can't worship Jesus wherever you find Him is a liar! You can find Jesus anywhere you want to make yourself an altar.

If some of these preachers have been telling you the only place you can worship and give to Christ is within the walls of their denomination, hear me, they are plainly declaring that's the only place Christ is…that Christ is no place else. And you know that isn't true!

Christ can't be confined to one church, to one little group, to one denomination. My God, He's everywhere! He said, "Seek and ye shall find!" He said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst."

When you seek Jesus and find Him in an A. A. Allen Revival Campaign, you have a perfect right to worship Him there. You have a perfect right to give Him a gift, an offering. You can give Him the tithe as you stand before His presence. The Bible says, "The tithe is the Lord's." Wherever you find the Lord, you can give Him His money. Is that right?

Any preacher who tells you where you have to go to church and where you can't go, what you must believe and what you can't believe, where you can give and where you can't give, what you have to give and what you had better not give, do you know what he is doing? He is ruling you with force and with cruelty! And if anything is unscriptural, it is for some so-called shepherds to rule God's sheep with force and cruelty. To build a man made fence around a group of God's children, and then lay his own law down to them. It's bondage! That's not the "liberty wherein Christ hath made us free." And God is against it.

God says we are all one big family, sons of God! The Word calls us "fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers"… brethren… children of the Lord. Amen? Jesus is the brother. God is the Father. We are all children of God…brothers and sisters in Christ!

I have four children: James, Mary, John, and Paul. I am their father. I'm head of the family. Jimmy got married first, went off and built his own home. Mary married next, and went off and built her home. Johnny got married next, and started raising a family and built his home. They are grown and married and have children of their own, but I am still their father.

Can you imagine me saying to Johnny, "Don't you ever let me hear of you going to Jimmy's house. Don't let it ever come to my attention that you have even sent Jimmy a present." Can you imagine my getting Johnny and Jimmy together and saying, "Don't you let me hear of either of you writing Mary a letter, or calling her on the phone, or paying her a visit."

My children are still brothers and sisters. They still visit each other's homes. They still have a good time of fellowship together.

During my San Jose Campaign, Paul, my youngest son, who is in the service, the only one who isn't married yet, came every weekend to visit with me. I'm still his daddy. He's still my son. He's still a brother to Jimmy and Johnny. He's still a brother to Mary.

And when Paul recently came home from Turkey, he stopped at Mary's house. From there, he visited at Johnny's home in California, and from there he went to Oregon to visit his brother James. Why? Because they are still brothers and sisters. Hallelujah!

If we are one big family in God, if we are all brothers and sisters, why can't we get together? Amen?

If you're my brother and you're my sister, and I'm a brother to all of you, tell me one reason why you can't come to see your brother! Who is it that has a right to tell you, "I'd better not catch you going over there to listen to your brother, or greeting your brother, or taking him a present."?

I'm your brother if you are a child of God, saved and converted. You're my brethren. The Word says we are born of God, joint heirs with Jesus Christ. We are brethren! Brothers and sisters!

What kind of a preacher is it that says you can't go and see your brother? I'm your brother. You who attend my campaigns know you are my brethren.

Some of you may laugh at this, but the fact is that the Word tells us "greet the brethren with a holy kiss." It didn't tell me to kiss the sisters…but it did say brothers. So you just don't see the brethren kissing sisters. However, once in a while, we do see some of the sisters "greet the brethren with a holy kiss." So I guess it's all right if you keep it holy. When you get to the place where it's not holy, you'd better quit kissing.

I think it's sweet when some of these dear old mothers sometimes kiss some of my boys. Gene, David, and Ross. I don't even mind when some precious old mother kisses me. But I avoid these young ones!

Well, we're all brothers and sisters. We are one big family. And God's family cannot be divided. Human racial differences and language barriers are only superficial; they do not separate God's children. Local customs and dress, varied backgrounds, do not separate God's great family. In Christ, there is that great love in each heart for the brethren. **"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another"** (John 13:35).

God's family cannot be divided by denominational lines and man-made barriers and walls called church denominations. God and His children cannot be walled into one big sheep pen.

God's Church is not confined to one church denomination. The Church isn't restricted to the four walls of any specific church. The Church is made up of all God's children around the world – black, white, yellow, brown, tan, red! It doesn't matter what color your skin is, as long as your heart has been washed pure and clean in the blood of Jesus. We're born again…children of the Most High God. We're the Church: and the Head of God's Church is Jesus Christ!

I say if you climb a tree and find Jesus, while you are there, like Zacchaeus did, then climb that tree and worship God!

If you have to find Jesus out by the roadside like blind Bartimaeus did, then find Jesus there by the road!

If you have to push and elbow your way through the press to worship Him and touch Him in the midst of a huge public meeting, where there are thousands pressed around Him, then get in the crowd and start pressing your way to Him. Get to Jesus! God wants you to worship Jesus! And you never worship Jesus until you meet Him and your spirit meets God.

Watch out for the person, whoever it may be, that tries to tell you what you have to believe and what you had better not believe. Beware of the preacher who condemns all

other preachers who don't have their names in his denominational book. When he tells you what you have to practice and cannot practice, where you have to worship God, and where you cannot worship God, where you can go to meet the Lord and where you cannot meet Him, and is unable to back it up with God's Word, you'd better disregard everything your ears have heard from that person. Take your Bible for your guide. **"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."**

We're living in the day and hour when you need to meet God whenever and wherever you can. That's why I believe if you're not finding God and meeting Jesus where you are going to church, you ought to go church visiting Sunday!

You say, "Oh, when my preacher or some of the saints find out I'm not there, then they're going to ask me where I was." Well, Honey, if you're that bound and that afraid of him, you'd better knuckle down a little more, and just let him keep beating you and ruling you with force and with cruelty."

I don't believe Jesus is a commercial shepherd. He's the Good Shepherd. He's not just interested in your lambs and your wool and your meat. He's concerned about you! He loves and cares for His sheep.

Listen, if it is sin according to some preachers and some denominations for you to come to my meetings, then it would have been a sin before God for all those Jews back in Christ's day who belonged to the synagogue and the cold, dead denomination of Jesus' day to follow Jesus to the mountainside or seaside or the park or the marketplace to hear Him and to be healed. But the multitude that followed Jesus to all these places to hear Him and see the miracles He did, were out of cold, dead denominational churches…the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

Did it ever dawn on you that not one time did Jesus rebuke the people for leaving their denomination to come hear Him? He didn't rebuke them for coming to meet Him and to receive His teaching and His touch.

Jesus did not rebuke Zacchaeus. I'll tell you this, Zacchaeus was certainly out of his church of that day when he climbed the tree, but they were having "church" with Jesus on the roadside that day. When he climbed that tree he got saved then and there, and when he came down he confessed all of his faults and said, "I'm going to give back all the money to those I've wronged. I'm going to make restitution." Jesus never rebuked him for getting saved in a treetop!

When the rich young ruler came running to the Lord, He had come straight from His church, his denomination. He came to Jesus and inquired the way of eternal life. He wasn't getting what he needed in his church, so he had to leave his church to get a little knowledge, to learn something from God. He asked, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus did not rebuke him and send him back to his denomination.

As far as some of our modern day denominational preaches preach and teach today, Jesus sinned when He allowed that young man to leave His church and come to Him. The preachers who tell you where you can go to church and where you cannot go, think Jesus sinned when He preached to that young man that day and told him to go sell what he had and distribute it to the poor. As far as some preachers go today, this was the unpardonable sin! They don't want their church members today to go to a great revival service and hear a sermon like Jesus preached to that wealthy young man: **"Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor…and come follow me!"** (Luke 18:18). Amen?

"Yet lackest thou one thing…" That young man had great potential. Jesus asked him to follow Him. Only one thing he lacked: he had not learned to give himself AND his money for God! He could not make a change!

I want you to also notice that Jesus commanded him to go and sell all, but He did not command him to take the money back to the old dead, dry denominational church. This lets me know Jesus is not interested in promoting denominationalism. He does not approve of their program or their selfish man made walls of separation and prejudice. He is more interested in helping the poor out of their poverty! In fact, Jesus said, **"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor…"** (Luke 4:18).

God is our Father! We are His children! He wants to lead and direct us by His Holy Spirit. He wants us to worship Him and to know Him. He wants us to give to Him. He wants us to work for Him. **"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you"** (Matthew 7:7).

In the sixth chapter of Luke, the Bible said the multitudes came to hear Jesus and to be healed. Who were these people? Most of them were church members of organized denominational churches of that day, who had come out to hear an independent, nondenominational preacher, who didn't belong to any of them. This is why their church leaders did not like Jesus. This is why**…"the chief priests and all the council sought for witness against Jesus to put him to death; and found none"** (Mark 14:55).

When Jesus began to preach at the seaside or mountainside, He preached to everybody. He ministered to all who came to Him, Jew and Gentile alike, regardless of race or creed. He wouldn't be tied down with denominationalism. Jesus is no respecter of persons. Jesus healed them ALL!

If you will notice in Luke 6, one of the places where He healed them all, Jesus preached His greatest sermon on giving**: "Give to every man that asketh of thee:…as you would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise…love ye your enemies, and lend, hoping for nothing again:…Give and it shall be given unto you: good measure…A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good…"** According to Jesus' teaching, the field of giving is wide open. If somebody stops you on the street corner and says, "Friend, I need help," and puts his hand out, according to Jesus it is pleasing to God for you to even give to an old sinner. He said to give to your enemies. When we do it in the name of the Lord, not expecting reward from men, then great shall be our reward from the Lord.

Jesus preached on giving, but never once did He tell the people where and to whom they had to give. He did not tell them to give to their own denomination. He left them free to give as God directed them. Even the rich young ruler whom Jesus instructed to give his all to the poor was free to give anywhere and everywhere he judged the poor to be worthy of his help. Christ told him to give "all" – this included the tithe and offering and all!

I was in the service the other night and God spoke to me: "Reach into your pocket and get something for that woman." I never had seen her in my life before that night, didn't know her name, and had never met her. While she was coming down that line, I quickly reached in my pocket, pulled out a bill, without even looking to see what it was, and put it in her hand. God said to give. She was a sister in Christ. God knows what He's doing – she had given her last two dollars in the offering. It was her grocery money, and she said she had no money to get home on. Where is the preacher who would dare tell me I can't give a sister in Christ an offering when God speaks?

I can give God an offering wherever I find Him, wherever I locate Him, and wherever He is. Psalm 76, verse 11, says: **"Vow, and pay unto the Lord your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared."**

How do I know where God is? **"...God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty"** (II Corinthians 6:6-18).

Some of us go so far as to obey Jesus and "Give to every man that asketh thee," but we let it stop there. What have you done for your needy neighbor who hasn't asked you for anything? You remember Jesus told in Luke 10 how the denominational priest and Levite both passed by the dying man on the road to Jericho. No doubt their time and their finances were all tied up in their denomination, and God couldn't speak to them about helping the injured man who was not a member of their church. But Jesus emphasized how He wants us to be open to God's voice. He wants us to minister to those about us, and He wants to speak to us in our giving. The Good Samaritan delayed his business and gave his time, his effort, and his money in order to save a neighbor. A neighbor with a need who did not ask him for help. Jesus preached this sermon to a denominational people in a great public gathering. When He preached on giving, He taught the people to be free to give as God would lead them.

Some Christians draw back from any publicity, fearing God is displeased for anyone to see them give. They feel they must give their alms in secret, and they should not let their left hand know what their right hand is doing. According to the Word of God, there is a time NOT to be seen and there is also a time TO be seen, so that you might inspire others. Anyone who would give publicly for the purpose of being seen, Jesus says, "verily they have their reward." David, a man after God's own heart, testified with his giving in Psalm 116: **"What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?...I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people."** David felt inspired to testify at a gathering of God's people. He knew God was there, and he gave unto the Lord before them all!

In these great Miracle Restoration Revival Campaigns around the world, thousands of God's people gather in one place to worship the Lord. Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). Paul said, "Christ in me, the hope of glory." With all those saints gathered to worship together, Jesus is there! And in the presence of all God's people, you can worship and give Him an offering or a present – you can pledge and pay your vows. Others will be inspired and blessed!

Recently a dear saint came to me with a large offering for missions. It was a payment on a missionary pledge. Her request was this, "Please don't sent me a receipt, and don't mail me any of your literature. I believe in you and this marvelous Miracle Restoration Revival, but if it ever got back to my pastor that I was supporting your ministry, I would never hear the end of it."

I expressed my sympathy by saying, "I'm sorry you are so in bondage that you feel it necessary to hide to give Jesus an offering."

Quite often, people come to me after services, asking for a pledge or offering envelope. On some occasions I ask them why they didn't come forward during the service at the time the people were given an opportunity to pledge, during the time we prayed especially for those making pledges. Their answer is almost always the same: "I

don't want to come forward then because my pastor or some of my church friends were here tonight, and my pastor disapproves of any of his members giving to any place other than to his church."

Is Jesus in these Miracle Restoration Revivals? Is this the work of God? Are we one big family...brothers and sister in Christ? Did you ever give a gift to your brother or sister without being asked?

Many thousands of evangelists, pastors and active ministers attend our campaigns each year. God-called and anointed ministers testify that they recognize God is in the meetings and how they have been blessed. They know the power of God, and many of them have the same moving of God in their services. I preach against the same shepherds that Ezekiel preached against, so that sheep that are being ruled with force and cruelty will come out of their dead, cold denominational sheep pens and go visiting until they find a church, like the churches of our sponsoring pastors, where the power of God is manifested, where there is liberty in the Spirit, and where there is God-sent Restoration Revival! The Spirit of God bears witness that Jesus is in this miracle-working ministry. You should be free to go to these meetings, to receive something from God and to give Him an offering.

How many of you ever saw your brother with a certain need, and you gave to him? Jesus taught us to "Give to every man that asketh of thee..." The New Testament giving standard was "...neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed were his own...and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need" (Acts 4:32-35). Every minister who is doing God's work is your brother and sister in Christ Jesus. The evangelist and radio preacher who is reaching the multitudes with the gospel is your brother. God called and anointed pastors are our brethren. Missionaries, regardless of how far from home they may be, are brothers and sisters in Christ. This is God's work, done by God's children, and God's money pays the bills, the wages, and the expenses. Jesus said, regarding His ministers, "...the labourer is worthy of his hire."

God has a lot of good shepherds who love and care for their flocks. They feed their people the good Word of God and they seek out the lost, bind up the broken, and heal the sick. God is blessing and anointing these ministers today as never before. He is increasing and blessing their flocks. Thousands of these Christ-like shepherds attend our meetings each year.

Ezekiel commended the good shepherds, but he prophesied against those who were just in the ministry for what they could get out of it. They clip the wool, take the lambs for themselves, and rule their flocks with force and cruelty. These are the ones who make you "belong." The reason why most of them make you "join" is so they can stand over you with that membership whip and rule you. Their poor sheep obey, or they wish they had! Don't tell me that they have scripture for standing over their sheep with a whip saying, "If you belong to this church, here is where you have to come. This is what you must believe. This is where your support "belongs."

I don't believe in church denomination membership, because God says, "With force and with cruelty have ye ruled my flocks." Too many preachers use church membership to rule their people. Any preacher who uses a church membership whip to rule you is on the wrong path. You have no business being on the wrong path with that kind of preacher!

In I Kings, a woman gave an offering to a prophet of God who came by her house. She didn't give it to her pastor; she didn't give it to her church; and yet she was in the perfect will of God for her life. I she had had a pastor like some we have today, he would

have given her a good tongue-lashing she wouldn't have soon forgotten: "What do you mean giving that old bald-headed prophet the last cake you had. You belong to my church. It's your first obligation. If you were going to make a sacrificial offering, you ought to have brought that to my church and given it to me. Who does that prophet think he is asking my church member for an offering?"

Poor woman! She had been giving to him for so long, and his ministry had never brought her the material blessing from God she needed so desperately. The only thing that had happened to her under his ministry was the barrel got more empty every day. Bound by poverty and starving to death! God had to send a nondenominational preacher to her house to ask her for an offering, and in turn to loose her from poverty and starvation, and bring God's blessing.

God had already talked to Elijah and told him, **"Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there; behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee"** (I Kings 17:9). Elijah was a true prophet of God who needed sustaining for a while. God had already told that widow to take him into her home, feed and give him a room and a bed. It all happened outside her denomination, and it happened outside her church…but it was all in God's will.

One of the most important things in your Christian life is for you to be led of God in your giving. Here was a widow, at her own home, who heard the voice of God, and was led by the Spirit of God to give a sacrificial offering…not at the synagogue…not at her church and for her pastor or priest this time…but to give it to the man God sent to deliver her. An offering for a deliverance prophet!

Do you believe Elijah was a man of God? Do you believe he sinned when he asked this woman for an offering, knowing she was not a church member of his? God was in that offering because He performed one of the greatest miracles of all times for that widow, when she obeyed a man of God.

It is scriptural for you to give to a man of God, give your last cake if he knocks on your door! "Give to every man that asketh of thee…" Whoever taught you to confine all your giving and your paying of vows unto the Lord into one "storehouse?" Every one of us should be as free as the little widow in I Kings 17, to be able to hear God, to be led of God and directed and blessed by God when we give to the prophet whom God has sent to us.

Again and again in Revelation, God tells us, **"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."** God is speaking and directing His children who will open their ears and listen to His voice. You ought to be able to hear God say, "Give and it shall be given unto you again, good measure! Lend hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great!" We should be able to hear God speak through His servant, just like the widow, "Fear not;…make me thereof a little cake first, and after that make for thee and thy son. For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth."

She went and did according to the saying, **"And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by Elijah"** (I Kings 17:8-16). Elijah's lips, tongue, and vocal chords made the sound, but it was God up in heaven doing the talking. And He still uses men of God today to speak the Word of the Lord to His people. Are your ears open to His voice?

I turn the dial of my radio and sound comes from the radio speaker. Somebody else many miles away is doing the talking; my radio is merely producing the sound for

me. Elijah was just God's mouthpiece, like a radio speaker, producing the sound. God was transmitting the message from heaven.

God still transmits messages to His people, and He is still using men's lips to produce the sound so that you may hear God's message. God can still be a transmitter and just speak through my lips.

Saul, who is also called Paul, was a very enthusiastic denominational church member. He left the synagogue in Jerusalem, in Acts 9, with a letter of permission and authority from the high priest to persecute all who believed in Jesus Christ, both men and women whom he hoped to find in the synagogues in Damascus. As he journeyed down the dusty road to Damascus, Paul met Jesus Christ. Blinded by the light of His presence, Paul fell to the earth and worshipped the Lord, and Jesus told him exactly what to do. Paul met the Lord in the dirty road, went from there to Straight Street, and began a prayer meeting at the house of a man named Judas. This was his first miracle revival service there at the Straight Street prayer meeting! The gifts of the Holy Ghost were in operation. It was there he had his first heavenly vision. There he received his call to preach through the gift of prophecy, and it was there God performed a miracle of healing, and gave him back his sight.

Can anyone tell Paul that he should not have found Jesus on the road? Could anyone correct him for worshipping God in the house on Straight Street? Aren't you glad he did stop to worship God where he found Him? Just think of the multiplied thousands of souls Paul's ministry has reached. Aren't you happy he stopped helping his denomination that was putting Christian men and women in prison and to death?

I say, "The Lord is my shepherd." Is there anything wrong with Jesus being your shepherd and pastor? He's the greatest preacher I know, the greatest I have ever read about, the One who preached the greatest sermons ever! He's the great pastor that David called his shepherd. Some preachers say it is wrong. They preach it is a sin for you to leave their denomination to follow Jesus.

If it is a sin for you to go to a preacher's revival where the fire of God is falling, then it would have been a sin also for those saints in the New Testament times to go out on a hillside to hear Jesus. The great multitudes that followed Christ were from the dead, cold and formal religious denominations of their day. Never once did Christ rebuke them for coming out of their church to hear Him, to receive His teaching and His healing touch!

I thank God for true shepherds! God has many of them around the world. But God is trying to upset some of the unscriptural preaching done by some unscriptural shepherds. God said in Ezekiel 34: **"I will deliver my sheep out of their mouths."** It is about time some of these shepherds stopped chewing on God's sheep!

Some of you sheep are in the wrong sheepfold. God have mercy on you if you stay in an old man-made sheep pen, where the shepherd never feeds you the good Word of God, and where he rules you with force and with cruelty. If you insist on staying in an unscriptural place like that, feeling that it is the easiest way out, God will let you and most of your family go your own way into hell. What you ought to do is "Come out from among them, and touch not the unclean thing." Find a church where you are free to worship the Lord in Spirit and truth, where you can hear the Word and believe it, where you can do the works of the Lord, and where you can give as you feel led to the Lord!

In my recent Detroit Campaign when I finished this sermon, I asked how many throughout that vast auditorium believed I had preached the Word of God. I asked for a show of hands from all who believed God was against the shepherds who neglect and

abuse God's sheep with force and cruelty. Thousands responded with "Amens" and upraised hands.

Then I asked everyone to stand to their feet if they believe God approves and loves and blesses the good shepherd who feeds the people of God the good Word, who seeks the lost, binds up the broken, and who heals the sick. Almost every person present stood to their feet.

Suddenly I felt led of the Lord to do something I had never done before. I encouraged those who were standing to march over the platform ramp with an offering for the support of Miracle Restoration Revival in what I called a demonstration march in protest of the force and cruelty of selfish denominational methods that keep so many of God's people in bondage. In this demonstration march offering, nearly every person present marched over the ramp and either gave an offering or pledged to spread Miracle Restoration revival worldwide. In this manner, they testified to their stand for the Full Gospel message of power that still fulfills the Great Commission of Jesus today. They demonstrated their belief in this ministry that seeks the lost, heals the sick, sets the captive free and breaks every yoke!

The people responded because God revealed to them as I preached that for too long God's people have been so bound…they have not been free to hear God's voice and to obey Him. The Church has been assaulted with force and cruelty too long without making a protest.

I am sure God has spoken to you as He did to the thousands of Christians in that Detroit auditorium that night. As you have heard this message, I believe you have heard the Lord speak, and you, too, want to protest against the rule of force and cruelty by commercial shepherds who have assaulted God's sheep. You can protest by following Paul's instructions to "Come out from among them…and from such turn away." You can demonstrate your stand for Miracle Restoration Revival Worldwide in the same way they did…in the way that will do the most good for the work of God…with your offering and pledge. Not only will you protest church bondage and demonstrate your stand of faith, but also you will have a part in keeping the Word of God in action!

God Promises to

REVERSE THE DECISION!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1966)

Recently I was reading three verses of scripture from Psalm 76, verses 10 through 12. Verse 11 was perfectly clear to me, but I didn't know exactly what the other verses meant. I asked the Lord as I was praying, "Lord, give me a revelation concerning this portion of scripture." I heard straight from heaven!

The portion I had questioned read: **"Surely, the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of the wrath shalt thou restrain…He shall cut off the spirit of princes: he is terrible to the kings of the earth"** (Psalm 76:10,12).

God said for me to tell you that if His people will obey the voice of God and stay in His perfect will, He will reverse the decision that the devil has made against them, whether it's body, soul, mind, or spirit. This is a marvelous promise from God.

Some of you are sitting on the sideline saying, "Well, I guess it's God who put this terrible thing on me." God never put anything on His children that causes pain and agony, misery and woe, poverty and death. There are times He permits the enemy to try and test us, like He did in the case of poor old Job. He was a perfect man, hadn't done a thing wrong, yet God permitted the devil to try his faith. But according to the Bible, and I've searched from Genesis to Revelation, nearly every one who has troubles, has asked for it.

Jonah had trouble…REAL TROUBLE! And his trouble was like about nine out of ten people today. They're in serious trouble, and they can only blame themselves. Jonah asked for it.

The Book of Jonah records the story, how Jonah ran from the will of God and rebelled against exposing their sins to the people of Nineveh. He didn't realize then, that he needed to move in the will of God more than anything else in this whole world.

God loved those sinners in Nineveh. He wanted them to be warned of judgment, so they could repent and be saved. God loved Jonah too, and God has a way of permitting His disobedient sons to get themselves into such trouble, they will repent and come back to Him. It wasn't long before Jonah found himself thrown overboard in the middle of the seas. He cried out of the belly of the great fish, **"I am cast out of thy sight…the waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped around my head…When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came in unto thee…I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving: I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord"** (Jonah 2).

God decided that if Jonah wouldn't obey Him, the waters of the sea could overflow him. It was just His great mercy that prepared a great fish to swallow him up, to give him a little more time to make things right so that he might be saved. Isn't God good! His grace and mercy saves us so many times.

Jonah prayed, but some prayers don't move God. It took three days and nights at the brink of death before Jonah became willing to pray the kind of prayer that made God reverse His decision, and bring Jonah back up to life.

First, he began to offer God a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for all those things He had done for him in the past, and for his life at the moment. He renewed his vows once more "to pay that that I have vowed." And then he admitted his helplessness and dependence upon God when he said, "Salvation is of the Lord."

I'm happy to say the story had a happy ending. I'm glad we can report that God reversed the decision: "And the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land." You can believe that was one preacher who learned to listen to the voice of God and to obey.

Right now! You who are in trouble, why don't you surrender your will and your way to God, as Jonah finally had to do, and follow the three steps that he took that made God reverse the decision? Do it now…right where you are. Start at the beginning, and count the many things God has done for you down through the years. Start thanking Him for those blessings. Now, promise God you will "pay that vow that you vowed." Right here I'd like to say to that one who refuses to vow anything to God, so you will have no chance to break it, God wants His children to draw near unto Him; He wants us to vow, and then to show our love and devotion to Him by fulfilling that vow. So, in your disobedience and self-will, you have equally displeased God as much or more than the one who intended to pay, and then failed along the way.

Make a vow unto the Lord. Do it now! And trust the Lord each day to help you pay it all. This one thing will bring more victory, faith and power into your life than any other one thing.

The last step is to put your life in God's hands, and just admit that your salvation is of the Lord and Him alone. Look up from whence cometh thy help. Get your eyes off every circumstance around you. Don't look at the hopeless situations. Look to Jesus! He will deliver you out of all your distress.

Some people look to their friends to get them out of their troubles. Some lean upon their children. Many children look to their parents every time they have a little need. Some folk depend on their denomination, or they call the welfare. Then there are those who run to and fro, seeking help from every place they can. God's children should realize that their Father wants them to call and wait upon Him. Meet the right conditions in your own personal life, and let God reverse the decision the devil has made concerning you. Then God can pour His blessings into your life once again. **"Salvation is of the Lord!"**

There are still many, many of God's people today who know and believe that our God knows how to cut off the spirit of princes, to reverse the decision of the doctors, judges, juries, governments, denominations, even demon spirits and all the devils in hell. God can get the devil in the corner and say, "Change your mind about that man or that woman!" And he'll have to say, "I change my mind. I'll let them go!" AMEN!!!

Some of you know the devil's got you in a corner. You know you're in prison. The devil has made a decision about you. My God is going to make the devil change the decision.

In the eleventh verse of Psalm 76 are three words that will cause God to reverse the decision in your favor. **"Vow and pay."** When you have turned this key into the lock of God's great storehouse of blessings, you can expect miracles in your life!

A few years ago, Uncle Sam, the most powerful government in the world, said that I owed more than a half million dollars in income tax from offerings we had received down through the years since we had entered into Miracle Revivals. This was tax on offerings we had received and spent for revival campaigns, for the radio and TV ministry,

for missionary efforts and support, in order to preach this gospel of Christ with power and anointing of the Holy Ghost. They said there was no way to get out of it. And we had no way to pay it.

When we prayed over this grave crisis, we prayed in confidence knowing that we have always vowed and paid. We have paid out of our substance and our life for this miracle-working ministry. We reminded God that our only salvation was in Him. God says He'll reverse the decision. "I'll make them reverse the decision because I'm terrible to the kings and rulers of the earth. I'll cut off the spirits of rulers and princes."

God knows how to cut them off! He knows how to cut off those who are enemies of the cross of Jesus Christ, who are not sympathetic to this ministry. God says He'll make the wrath of these men glorify the Lord. The decisions God will cause them to make will be for the good of His children, and will bring glory to God.

Let the devil get mad! God can cause him to praise and give glory to the Lord!

We prayed and waited upon the Lord until the court decision came. We shouted the victory as we read the decision over and over again: **"A. A. Allen Revivals, Inc., was organized and during the taxable years was operated exclusively for religious and educational purposes. No part of the net earnings of petitioner inured during these taxable years to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. During the years involved, petitioner qualified as exempt from taxation. Its activities and guiding principles represents the faith, creed, and religious observances of thousands of people who worship at its meetings and support its activities by their efforts and contributions. The purpose behind petitioner's organization was religious. And the means employed in attaining that purpose was education, exhortation, personal and public contact and by example."**

God indeed reversed the devil's decision. The words that came forth in the court record indeed gave glory to God and His work. We had used God's key: "Vow and pay," and we saw fulfilled God's promise: "Surely, the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of the wrath shall thou restrain…He shall cut off the spirit of princes: he is terrible to the kings of the earth" (Psalm 76:10, 12).

Let the enemy raise up against you. When it seems that everything has gone wrong, there's no way out, and things are getting darker and blacker. When there seems to be no hope in the natural, God says it matters not how powerful they are, He knows how to make those in authority reverse their decision.

Some of you say, "I don't believe God wants people to have anything." Well, if that's really true, then you're one of the biggest sinners I ever saw to keep trying all the time to get ahold of so much, if God doesn't want you to have anything. If you're persuaded God doesn't want you to have anything, why don't you get where God wants you to be and have nothing? You can do it overnight. You can stretch a little pup tent on the city dump, or sleep under a tree, go barefoot, and rummage out of garbage cans. You don't have to have anything!

God says, **"I would that you prosper and be in health."** He wants you to prosper, and He wants you to be healthy and strong to work for Him. He says He "taketh away all thy diseases." If God wants you to be sick, He wants you to be poor. If he wants you to be sick, He wants you to be sinful. But if God wants you to be holy and clean, He wants you to be prosperous and healthy.

It's the devil who has made the decision that you're going to die of a horrible incurable disease. If you'll stand on the promises of God, the decisions that the devil has made against you spiritually, physically, mentally, and financially can be changed

overnight. God can change that whole thing and pin the devil in the corner in a split second's time.

Sister Ruth Hovatter came into the Louisville meeting in a dying condition, just out of the hospital. For seven long years she had suffered with her back. Bone had been taken from her hip and fused into her spine to replace three disks. She had fallen and broken the fusion, suffered with arthritis, and had to wear a heavy back brace to keep her upper weight off the spine as much as possible. Her blood pressure was extremely high and doctors expected her heart to stop at any moment. The devil had decided that this Pentecostal Tabernacle pastor would die soon in pain and agony. God reversed the devil's evil decision in a moment's time.

When the prayer of faith and power came forth, God instantly worked a miracle. X-rays made upon her return home confirmed the miracle. God gave her new disks, and her blood pressure and heart rhythm checked out perfect!

Sister Hovatter plans to be in the great August Summer Campmeeting to give the multitude who gathers from every corner of the nation her thrilling testimony how God reversed the decision for her. She expects to have her medical report and X-rays with her.

A Chicago mother's heart sank when she received the message that her daughter, who had been an addict for a long time, was dying in a den from an overdose of drugs. Quickly, she called an ambulance, and rushed to the scene in a taxi. She instructed the ambulance to take her to the nearest emergency hospital.

The mother was well-fixed financially, and she expected that with emergency treatment and expert attention, the doctors could save her daughter. But when the hospital saw the needle marks all over her daughter's arms, they refused to admit the dying girl. From hospital to hospital they rushed. The story was the same each time the attendants saw the needle holes and realized she had an overdose of drugs. Finally the last hospital rejected her. There was nothing to do but take her home.

A close friend suggested to this broken hearted mother that she call Miracle Valley, Area Code 602, (Sierra Vista phone) 458-4355. Weeping, she poured her heart out to the Spirit-filled Miracle Valley operator, who is on hand at all times to receive prayer requests and to pray and to encourage those who are in great need. She sobbed, "My money wasn't good enough for anybody! No one would help her!"

There, in spite of all she could do, she helplessly watched her daughter die. Her heart was broken. Like Jonah, it seemed like everything closed in on her. A doctor came out and signed the death certificate.

At this point, most folks give up, but Callie Davis decided not to give up. The devil had decided that daughter would go to hell. This mother still believed God would reverse the decision now and restore life!

In desperation, like some people do, she rolled that corpse from side to side, looking to God in faith to do a miracle for her. The doctor told her it wouldn't do any good to do that – she would just bruise the body and make it look bad at the funeral.

For seven hours she rolled it back and forth and prayed. Suddenly, her breath came back into her body. She came to life! Nine days later she was back on her job working. God reversed the decision!

I do not stamp m approval on sin; I do not believe in doing that. God says, **"The soul that sinneth it shall die…Be sure your sins will find you out."** But there are times when friends, loved ones or unsaved members of your family may break the law or get into serious trouble. There may come a time when one of your loved ones sinks to the

bottom; the devil pulls them down and decides to destroy them. It will take God to break his hold and to pull them up and set them free to serve the Lord.

A minister in Baltimore, Maryland, received a telephone call one morning early. The Chief of Police was on the line. Brother Chavez was informed that his son was being held in jail without bond for shooting a man in the head with a 32-caliber pistol. The man's brain had been damaged, and he was expected to die at any moment. His chances for living were very small, and the doctors declared if he did live, because of the brain damage, he would be a blind invalid the rest of his life.

Here was a wayward, disobedient son facing a murder charge or a prison term at best, if God didn't undertake. Here was a son who had the call of God on his life, but the devil had fought him every step. Brother Chavez wondered how God could possibly work out the trouble his son was in this time. He was even more concerned about the man's life and health who had been shot. He must not die! He must not be impaired for life! Whether the man was saved or not, whether he had any faith or not, God just had to give this man a miracle!

In his desperation, Brother Chavez called on the phone from Baltimore to Miracle Valley for the Miracle Million Prayer Band to pray with him for victory. He knew he could reach someone for prayer day or night. He had learned long ago that there is nothing too hard for God. He had learned the secret that when he vows and pays, God can give a miracle when you need it.

God reversed the decision the devil had made! He called for prayer at 9:00 PM; by morning, the sheriff was calling that he could come get his boy and go his bond. Overnight, the injured man was able to sit up. Today, he is normal and working at a good paying job. The son was released to his father's custody, and charges were dismissed!

The devil decided he'd destroy that preacher's son. God reversed the decision!

The devil has decided a lot of your boys will never preach. He has decided a lot of your loved ones will never be saved. The devil has made a decision he'll drag everyone of them to the pit. God wants to reverse the decision!

It's time you as Christians and children of the Most High God tell the devil where to head in! God's going to reverse the decision for you in honor of your faith and trust in the Living God.

Rev. Chavez stood on the promise in Psalm 76:10-12. He said, "God, I believe in vowing and paying unto the Most High, and I believe your Word. He will cut off the spirit of princes: He is terrible to the kings of the earth. I claim the promise that **'Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain.'"** To Brother Chavez, that meant the sheriffs, the Chief of Police, the judges and the courts.

God will change the decision of the devil, and reverse the order of things when He reaches down and pulls your loved one out!

In one of our California meetings a man came into the tent. He wasn't really a man. He was half man and half woman. Some of our crew asked me what kind of a person this was. I didn't know. In the afternoon, I had an interview with him. Tears ran down his face as he said, "There is no hope for me, Preacher. I read in your magazine that someone gave me that God can help someone like me. The headline on the cover said, 'I lived twenty-one years as a girl, now I am a man.' I can't be blamed. Sometimes I dress like a woman with high heels and bag, dress and lipstick. It's not my fault. When I came into the world I had this. My doctors say I'll have to live with it for the rest of my life.

"Why should I have to live with this and be a misfit the rest of my life? If God can heal that person in Georgia, can't it happen here in California? I believe He will do it the

moment you lay hands on me. I believe God is either going to make me all man or all woman."

That was Saturday night, and there were so many sick and afflicted awaiting prayer, I had them line up across the entire front of the tent. There were too many to give extra attention to any one, but as I passed along the line, praying a short prayer for each one, scores fell under the power and anointing of God. That young man, who was also half woman, was among the number in the prayer line that night who fell in the tent shavings. As he lay there, God saved his soul and did a miracle in his body. The very obvious feminine traits vanished! God made him a man!

On Sunday afternoon a handsome young man came up to me as I was asking for those under the tent who had received a miracle to come forward and get ready to testify for the Allen Telecast. He said, "You'll want my miracle!" And he insisted that I hear him right then. He felt his miracle was the greatest! I didn't recall ever seeing him before, so I asked him to wait while I finished interviewing. I said, "I'll get to you in a few minutes."

He said, "You remember me, Brother Allen. I was that hermaphrodite you prayed for last night!"

I said, "But you've had your hair cut! You're dressed in a suit like a man!"

He had been to the big bus terminal and got his hair cut on Sunday morning. He looked like a man.

The next night he brought his doctor. Before the television cameras, the doctor told of the physical changes that had taken place. He declared, "This is a miracle!" God reversed the devil's decision. God reversed the doctor's decision. He didn't have to live with it the rest of his life.

A boy came home from school one afternoon and found his teenage sister on the floor of the bathroom. Green foam was running out of her mouth. She had gone in the bathroom and swallowed every poison pill she could find…box after box after box. There she lay…dying.

He rushed to the phone and called the police and they sent an ambulance. His sister had fallen in love with a young man who did not want her. The devil tormented and oppressed her until she decided she'd rather die than live without him. She thought the quickest way to die was to take all the poison pills she could find in the medicine cabinet. There were many boxes there that had been prescribed for her father during a serious illness several months before.

The ambulance rushed her to the hospital, but the doctors said they had found her too late. They pumped her stomach out, but too much of the poison had entered the blood stream. The doctors could do nothing more for her. She was dying.

The father said, "The God we serve knows how to undertake for her. The devil says she'll die, but God can make her live." He left the emergency room, crossed the foyer to the nearest telephone in the lobby, and called Miracle Valley. A Holy Ghost anointed operator answered the call, "May I help you?" The broken hearted father poured out his heart, "My daughter has attempted suicide. She's dying now. Please pray!"

Right there on the phone, as they prayed and agreed together, God reversed the devil's decision. Before the father could get from the telephone back to the emergency section, God had already reversed the doctor's decision. When he slipped into the daughter's room, that girl was sitting up in bed! Color was back in her face.

Doctor's asked, "What in the world has happened? A miracle has happened to your daughter!"

The father said, "I know it! I called all the way to Arizona to some people who believe God is able to reverse a hopeless decision, and make everything all right. I needed help in prayer. God reversed the decision!"

Friend, if you are in trouble, distressed, oppressed, and don't know which way to turn, God wants to help you. Whether this is just a trial of your faith, or whether you have just asked for it by your careless acts and deeds, God can reverse the devil's decision concerning your life. Get in earnest with God! Be determined to do the will of God for your life! Say one eternal "yes" to Him! God will reverse the decision!

CHOOSE YE LIFE!

GOD is Love! HE is Life! And God is a KILLER!

(A. A. Allen – 1967)

The decision is yours! No man can be neutral. Since time began God has insisted that man make a choice. He will not force you to love and serve Him. You have the privilege of choosing, and your life depends on the choice you make.

God is love…He is life! And God is a killer! **"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you,"** says the Word of God in Deuteronomy 30:19, **"that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live…for he is thy life, and the length of thy days…"**

You hear about the God of love, and blessing, and of grace. I like to preach about the God Who heals, delivers, prospers, and answers prayer. God is indeed all these things to those who choose life and blessing. But God is judgment and death to those who choose curing and death. God is a killer! **"The soul that sinneth, it shall die…"** (Ezekiel 18:20).

During our last trip to London for Miracle Revival, we rode to the large auditorium on an underground train. If I ever heard God speak, I heard Him there on that underground train. God said, "You are going to preach something tonight you never preached in the same manner before. I want you to tell the people tonight that I am not only a God of love, but I am a killer. I am a killer!"

That night, I obeyed God. I took my text from I Samuel 2:6, **"The Lord killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up."** It is indeed the Word of God.

I hear someone say, "Oh, that's Old Testament. That isn't for us today." I want you to know Luke tells us it is for us today: **"And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all"** (Luke 17:26-27).

You don't have to believe a thing I preach. In fact, Noah preached that God is a killer for one hundred and twenty years. The longer he preached the message, the more skeptical they became: "You will never make us believe that God is going to send a flood." There had never been a drop of rain. Up until that time, God watered the crops on the earth from dew that came out of the ground at night.

They mocked Noah: "That crazy old preacher, trying to scare us, trying to get us excited, trying to make us religious. What a pity those boys of his are wasting their lives following the footsteps of their crazy old father, who is nothing but a 'calamity howler.' What a pity they are wasting their lives pounding nails into an old thing they call an ark."

To everyone who passed and asked Noah, the answer was the same, "A flood is coming! Judgment is coming! God is going to send rain." No one believed a word of that judgment message.

God says, **"As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man."** Husbands are out running around after other men's wives. Wives are

looking for a man who is richer, or a little more handsome than their old "bald head." You know I'm telling the truth.

Bars are packed and jammed to capacity. Liquor stores are doing an overwhelming business. People are standing in line to get a ticket to a theater. They don't believe judgment is coming. Nobody believed Noah, but he kept preaching.

Preacher, don't be discouraged because they're not coming by the thousands. This faithful man preached day after day, year in and year out, and nobody believed a word he said: "Judgment for sin is coming! God is going to kill and destroy?"

After the old ark was finished, pitched within and without, and the gangplank was out, there was a sudden strange phenomenon that caused a stir in the city. People began to gather around the entrance of the ark. There was something strange and supernatural about it. Denizens of the forests were walking up the gangplank, two by two, two by two.

Those who felt impressed were soon dissuaded: "Now don't get too religious. Don't get too excited. If the flood does come, all you have to do is just walk up the gangplank like the animals did. The door is open. You've been invited. There's no hurry, let's go have another beer, have a cigarette."

The strange phenomenon of wild animals marching into the ark two by two no doubt impressed a few: "Do you believe it's possible that the old fanatic could be telling the truth? Maybe God is about to kill all the people."

Those who did wonder were held back by evil companions. Human nature hasn't changed. They no doubt mocked just as they would today: "Now listen, wouldn't you feel silly if you would get in there with those crazy fanatics; you would eat up all the food and it wouldn't rain. Wouldn't you feel silly to have to come out and admit to everyone that you had been deceived? All your friends would laugh at you, and point their finger at you, and say they told you there was nothing to it."

What keeps men from being saved, even when the Holy Spirit of God tugs at their heart strings? Fear of public opinion! Fear of loss of popularity or worldly applause! Fear of what people might say! "Let's stay away! If it comes to a showdown and a climax, all we have to do is run up the gangplank."

God in His love and God in His mercy gave that wicked generation seven more days of opportunity to be saved, after the last animal was in the ark.

I want you to know that we are just about near the end of the seven-day period in this generation. God is once again warning the world. They are rejecting His warning. They are mocking His servants in many places. God is about to start killing again.

After the time of grace was past, God shut the door! The bar was locked and jammed. Opportunity was past! The time for judgment was at hand!

Suddenly somebody said, "What is that I hear? What do you think it is? I never have seen or heard anything like this. There is water coming out of the sky...big drops...maybe this is it!" The thunders rolled and the lightening began to flash. The rain came down and the floods came up. God's Word says all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened!

The most popular spot in the world right then wasn't the tavern with its liquor and beer and girls. It wasn't the movie. The most popular spot in the world right then was the old ark. But my God...the door was shut! While they fought for standing room on the highest mountain through the storm in the night, by the flashing lightening, the few who remained could still see the great boat on the crests of the rising waters.

The judgments of God are sure! The last baby as washed from the last mother's arms. The strangled cry of the last sinner was swallowed up as they sank the last time in

the waters of the flood. The waves pushed the last soul off the top of the last peak. But going through the night was that old ark, that ship they said wouldn't float if it did rain.

My God, friends, there was room for everybody. The wrath of God didn't come down and destroy those people because there wasn't room for them on the ark. They were drowned because they were rebellious; they were not afraid of that preacher's sermon, of that preacher's God. They didn't believe a word of warning he had spoken.

Listen, he was the mouthpiece of God for them! Whether you believe it or not, I am a mouthpiece of God.

I am reminded of the young man in Mark 10 who was so anxious to know how to get to heaven, and the price of the ticket, that he fell on his knees at the Master's feet. He said, "Good Master, what must I do to be saved?" Jesus began to point out the commandments to him. That young man had been in church all his life, but the reason he was in such bondage was that he didn't know the truth. The man who preached and taught him his religion was bound himself by the denomination of his day. He didn't expect Jesus to begin to preach something else in addition to what he had already learned: "Why," he said, "Good Master, all of these things I have observed from my youth up, what lack I yet?"

"Son, one thing thou lackest." Then Jesus put His finger on his pocketbook! He instructed him to place everything that he had for sale, and give away the money he received for his possessions.

I can hear someone ask what Jesus wanted to say so much about giving for? Christ preached a sermon on giving to the whole congregation, too. He preached on giving, because it was their money that stood between them and God. It is not a sin to have money. It is a sin to lust for it more than you love the Word of God.

Jesus told that rich young man what the cost would be for him: **"Go thy way and sell whatsoever thou hast and give to the poor and take up your cross daily and follow me."** Jesus gave him the same invitation to be a disciple that He gave to Peter and to others. Would this young man be able to say with Peter, **"Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee"** (Mark 10:28)?

No! He went away grieved. Not just because he had great possessions, but he didn't see how he could make it without his possessions. You can see him as he turned away sorrowing, his head bowed. He had seemed so anxious when he came: "Did you get saved?" "No, I didn't get saved." "Well why didn't you? The Master told you what it would cost to get to heaven. He pointed out the way and asked you to follow Him."

"They won't catch me joining up with that bunch. The price is too great. All they preach about is money. It's all Jesus talked about all night. I didn't ask Him what to do with my wealth; I asked Him how to get to heaven. You know what He said to me? MONEY! MONEY! MONEY! Bless God, I'm going to go to a church where they don't preach about money."

Just because you slip out and leave the presence of the Lord doesn't mean it is all over. Because the scene changed with this young man. The next time we see him, he is reclining. Those like him today are in their easy chairs watching TV. Look out the window; there are barns and granaries overflowing. There are rows of tractors and equipment. He had no problems. He had it made. Nothing to worry about. Money in the bank…cattle in the stalls…freezer full of T-bones…barns filled with plenty! Mink coats…chauffeurs…Cadillacs…stocks and bonds…servants. Some don't even draw their own water. Have you reached the place where you have laid up much goods for many years? Push the button and the waiter comes in and says, "Can I help you, Sir?" Are you

going to eat, drink, and be merry? Are you telling your soul to take its ease? Will you be like the rich young man in Luke 12:16-20?

He said, "Waiter, I'll have anther bottle of champagne. What brand do you have?"

"We only have one brand, Sir, and that is the best."

"Bring it to me. We are going to eat, drink, and be merry."

Somebody tapped him on the shoulder. He wondered why the waiter was so rough. **"Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou has provided?"**

Judgment was swift and sure. In hell, he raised his eyes in torment. He could have sold all that he had and followed Jesus. Instead, he saved and put away, and gained more, to his own ruin.

"Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin" (Ezekiel 18:30).

"See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand" (Deuteronomy 32:39).

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." We are living in a day when millions of people who belong to a church are not free. They have gone to church all their lives, yet they are in bondage and in captivity.

Their spiritual condition reminds me of the man they rolled in here the other night, bound in chains that were padlocked. His little wife has been watching over him since they took him out of the insane asylum. She says, "I dare not take the chains off of him day or night. He tears up everything. He becomes a wild man. The only way in the world I can control him is to keep him in chains."

The Lord spoke to me as they rolled him in, "Son, this man is literally in chains. He is bound." Jesus declared that He came to "set the captives free, and to break every yoke."

How parallel this is today to multitudes of people in churches. Even preachers! The church is bound by unbelief, doubt, and skepticism. "Churchianity" instead of Christianity! You can be bound by formality, coldness and indifference. Jesus came to **"open the doors to them that are bound."**

You don't have to have chains padlocked on your arms or wrists to be in bondage. You can be in bondage to a church, or to a preacher. You can be in bondage to a denomination, a bishop, to the presbyter or general superintendent who sit in high places, until you are not even free as a minister to preach what God has called you to do and to preach. You aren't free to fulfill the Great Commission Jesus has called you to do. Saints of God sitting around in modern church pews are so in bondage, they dare not shout or rejoice in their worship, even though God may bless them. Bound by pride! Bound by fear of man! Bound by formality!

Are you bound? Are you afraid of the person who sits in the pew next to you, fearful of ridicule, persecution, criticism, constantly in fear that somebody is going to point a finger at you and you are going to lose some of your prestige?

Pentecostal pews are filled with people so bound by pride and fear that they dare not glorify God. About the only time an "amen" or "hallelujah" or "praise the Lord" comes from the congregation is when the preacher or the song leader tells everyone to say it. He pushes the button, so to speak, and says, "Everybody say 'praise the Lord!'" If they prime the pump, and pump the pump, there will be a few "amens" and "hallelujahs" in your church. But the very moment the pumping stops, the service is right back in the

same old rut, as quiet and calm and cold as it was before, because the praises aren't coming from the hearts of the people.

Praise that comes from the heart is a "river of living water." Praises don't have to primed and pumped out of Spirit-filled Christians like a stagnant old cistern. You will have to confess that the professed church tonight is in bondage.

The reason the professed church is so in bondage is because the preacher, pastor, and evangelist are bound…to say nothing about the apostles, prophets, or teachers whom God declares He has placed in the Church. These don't even exist in their organization any more. They are in bondage! They don't really know what freedom of the Spirit is.

Suppose Ezekiel had been in the same bondage. When the Spirit of the Lord came upon him and God told him to prophecy, he would have answered, "God, I can't do that. Prophesy to a valley of dry bones? Why Lord, I will have to get a letter off to headquarters, and get an approval first. I don't know if they'll approve of this use of the gift of prophecy. I'll have to wait until the next mid-winter convention, or the district assembly, to see if it is approved by the general presbytery or the bishops. I do want to keep in good standing and keep my papers. I don't want to be kicked out!"

You know it is the truth! Try to visualize what would happen if the Spirit and power of God should suddenly come upon you in your big assembly, and you would stand up and obey the Lord and say, "Thus saith the Lord God, you old dry bones, hear the word of the Lord…" You may have already seen it happen. You would be ushered out! Yes you would!

They might call an emergency business meeting to decide what to do, to be sure that doesn't happen in the service again. I dare say you have enough cold, dead, dry members who are always meddling in other peoples' affairs, and who don't want the truth or the Word of God. They could get enough of your church to sign a petition so that it wouldn't even be necessary to have a special business meeting to put you out of the church. The deacon board could just hand you your letter, and you would be long gone!

You shouldn't stand up in that church and call that fine group of Christians "dry bones." Not and get away with it. They would say, "Listen, Son, we were running this church before you came, and we are going to be running it long after you are gone. You are gone as of now!"

Ezekiel would have to get on a long distance line and say, "Dear Brother Bishop, the Lord is telling me to prophecy that all of these bones are going to be joined together. All the dry bones in the Church of God, the Assembly of God, the Foursquare, and the Pentecostal Holiness, to say nothing about the rest, are going to join hands one of these days, and become a mighty marching army alive for God! There's going to be a coming together. There is going to be a revival! God is going to breathe upon them. God is going to not only put on skin, but sinews upon those old dry bones, and there is going to be a mighty marching army. MARCH! MARCH! MARCH!"

You don't believe it? You Assembly of God folk can't preach this. I couldn't either when I was Assembly of God. Even if you Church of God boys believed it, you couldn't preach it and you know it. Too long you've been teaching that you are "THE" church, "the" Body, "the" doctrine. That's why you can't let anybody else preach in your pulpit unless they are Church of God, because nobody else has got it but you boys. Some believe it so strongly, they don't believe anyone else is going to get to heaven. They believe God is going to come all the way to Cleveland, Tennessee, to get the record book, and if their name isn't in your book, they won't be up yonder.

Some of you disagree with this. You think God is going to get the record book from Springfield. The Foursquare folk think God is going to have to come down to Los Angeles and say, "Rolf, where is the book?"

Come on, you Nazarenes, Baptists, Lutherans, Presbyterians, Methodists…you know most of you preach it. But my Bible declares that we are all going to be ONE! Hallelujah! That's what I believe. One in Christ!

Some of you Miracle Revival Fellowship preachers shouldn't be so proud that you are INDEPENDENT. You can go to hell, because you are too free. Somebody said, "Bless God, I don't belong to nothing. I'm independent!" Some of you independent folks are independent of God! You are independent of the Word of God, and the blessing of God, and the power of God, and the power of the Holy Ghost, and the signs following, and everything that God promised to the Church. Some independent folk think they can do as they please, and live as they please, and that God will say nothing about it. My Bible tells me in no uncertain terms: **"…they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God"** (Galatians 5:21). You can go to hell because you are too INDEPENDENT!

It is not enough to preach John 3:16 – "God so loved…" It is not enough to preach just one side of God. We are going to have to preach the gospel from Genesis to Revelation, so that people will know God. "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free!" Not half-truths…but the WHOLE TRUTH!

When God spoke so plainly to me in London, He said, "I want you to tell the people that I have even been known to slaughter people. I have fed some to dogs. I have opened up the earth and taken them to hell alive, and as I have promised, 'I laugh when their fear cometh.' When they cry for mercy, I shut the door in their face. Their time for mercy is past! Tell the people that I have caused the waves of the sea to roll over a whole army and drowned them all. Tell them that I am a God of judgment!

"Tell them that I was the One who struck Miriam with leprosy. Under certain conditions, I am a woman striker…even little old women.

'Tell the people I was the one who killed Belshazzar. It was I who gave lying demons permission to direct Ahab in the wrong direction."

I am talking about God…not the devil. **"THE LORD KILLETH…'** (I Samuel 2:6).

If God ever gets on the rampage and pours out His judgment upon the major cities of this great nation, I want you to know there is going to be an awful lot of dead lying around when God gets through. Some of you whose names are on church books might be shocked to know that your names are included on God's list of the disobedient who will be killed by the wrath of God. You will be among the number of slain of the Lord, because deep down in your hearts, you know you refuse to serve God with all of your heart.

You have built a wall between you and God. You carry around a can of "Sweet Peach" in your purse. You have a package of Luckys along with you, or those extra longs "that satisfy longer." I don't know what the new warning says, but it is supposed to tell you that if you smoke them you could die of cancer. That means that if you persist in smoking, you are committing suicide.

Some of you keep six packs of beer in your refrigerator at home. Some of you are so in bondage to sin and evil habits and the devil, you can't even sit through a church service without wishing the preacher would hurry and get through, so you can pull out another fag and light it up. I know what I'm talking about. I am telling you the truth.

People get nervous when I preach against sin. When I begin to preach that God is not only a God of love, mercy and kindness, patience and long-suffering, but God is a consuming fire, a God of judgment, you don't like it. You get nervous. But I am a mouthpiece for God. When He tells me to preach the truth, I must tell you ALL of the truth.

You may go to a church where you won't ever hear a sermon like this. A pastor or evangelist won't be very popular if he preaches that God is a killer. They don't want to preach that it was God who sicked the pack of hungry dogs on the fallen Jezebel.

A lot of people blame a lot of things on the devil that he had nothing to do with. God is a God of judgment, and He has a reason for everything He does.

God warned Pharaoh, and told him not to pursue the children of Israel, but to go back. He hardened his heart and stiffened his neck and said, "I will do as I please." But in his self-will he crossed over God's deadline, and his lifeless form sank to the bottom of the Red Sea that day.

Many of you are sitting by doing exactly as you please. You are living just like you want to live. You say, "Let that preacher keep his nose out of my business. I'll drink beer if I want to; I'll smoke if I want to; and I'll do as I please. It's none of his business if I don't pay tithes or go to church."

What makes you think it isn't my business? It's my business because it is God's business, and that is what He has called me to do, to warn you of His wrath to come. By the preaching of His many of you will turn from your sin and be saved.

God is a KILLER to those who go their own way in disobedience and unbelief. Turn around now! Say one eternal "YES" to God's will for your life! Choose ye life! Why will you die?

RECEIVE YE THE HOLY GHOST
(A. A. ALLEN – 1967)

The last sermon preached by Christ before His ascension was on the Holy Ghost. He said, **"Behold, I send the promise of my father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye e endued with power form on high"** (Luke 24:49). This message was of the utmost importance; Christ reserved it until just before He ascended.

John the Baptist promised, "He shall baptize YOU with the Holy Ghost and with fire" (Matthew 3:11).

Eight hundred years before Calvary, the prophet Joel prophesied, **"I will pour out my spirit upon ALL flesh and your sons and daughters shall…:** (Joel 2:28). This promise was fulfilled in the second chapter of Acts. Peter, one of the hundred and twenty who were filled with the Holy Ghost on the Day of Pentecost said, **"This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel"** (Acts 2:16-18). Later, Peter speaking to a multitude (Acts 2:6) said, **"The promise is unto you and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call"** (Acts 2"38-39).

Can God's promise fail? No! A million times no! **"For all the promises of God in him are yea and in him Amen"** (II Corinthians 1:20).

This experience is promised to saved people of every age. Peter's preaching, the list included **YOU, YOUR CHILDREN, THOSE AFAR OFF, and even as many as the Lord our God shall call**, all those who have repented. (Acts 2:39).

John preaching to a "multitude" (Luke 3:7), said, "He shall baptize YOU with the Holy Ghost" (vs.16). Then the promise is for any or all the multitude who will meet the condition, for all God's promises are conditional.

Joel said it was for ALL flesh (Joel 2:28). However, that "flesh" must be obedient according to Acts 5:32: "…so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that OBEY him."

Certainly everyone needs this experience today. Even Mary the mother of Jesus, whom the Lord chose because of her purity to be the mother of Jesus, felt her need for appropriating this promise. She was among the first to receive (Acts 1:14).

Jesus said, **"Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you"** (Acts 1:8). This is God's POWER. Every Christian needs, should desire, and earnestly seek for the gift of the Holy Ghost.

This experience is not a mere privilege but rather a direct command. **"…And being assembled together with them, COMMANDED THEM that they should not depart for Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father"** (Acts 1:4). We are COMMANDED to be filled.

Jesus said, "If you love me KEEP my commandments." If you really love the Lord, you will do as He has commanded, and…"BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT" (Ephesians 5:18). We need to be filled wit the Holy Spirit because we need POWER to be a witness and an overcomer for Christ.

You have no excuse if you have not yet had this experience, inasmuch as it has been promised to "all flesh."

Further, since you have been COMMANDED to be filled, there is but one thing for you to do. Settle this here and NOW that you are going to have this experience.

Regeneration – conversion – confession – confirmation – New Birth – or whatever you may call being saved, is not the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Salvation is the first step, and of course very wonderful, but the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a different experience. Peter said, **"Repent and be baptized…and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost"** (Acts 2:38). Here it is plain that salvation is a different experience than the Baptism in the Holy Ghost.

It is possible for one to be saved and filled with the Holy Spirit almost simultaneously the same day or night, but he receives two separate and distinct experiences. The scripture bears this out when we read of the experiences recorded where many received the Holy Ghost.

The Samaritans were converted, had "given heed" to the Word of God, and many had received healing. They had also been baptized in water (Acts 8:5-12). They did not receive the Holy Ghost until later (vs. 16) when Peter and John laid their hands upon them (Acts 8:17).

The Apostle Pal was converted on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-6). He did not receive the Holy Ghost until three days later (vs. 17).

At Ephesus there were some saved men who were asked, **"Have ye received the Holy Ghost SINCE (not when) ye believed?"** (Acts 19:2). They were baptized in water in the fifth verse, but did not receive the Holy Ghost until Paul laid hands upon them in the sixth verse. In Philip's revival at Samaria some had been baptized in water, but not until Peter and John came did they receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 8). Simon had been baptized in water (Acts 8:13), but he had not been baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Cornelius and his company were baptized in the Holy Spirit, but were baptized in water after receiving that experience (Acts 10:46-47).

Water baptism may or may not be administered before receiving the Holy Spirit, but water baptism definitely is not the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Sanctification is very blessed but is not the Holy Spirit's Baptism. It means to be free or set apart from sin. When we are saved, the blood of Jesus washes us free from sins instantaneously. There is also a progressive work that follows on our part. Old man "self" must be crucified daily. With the Apostle Paul in Philippians 3:12-14, we **"press toward the mark."** We are changed into the image of the Lord from glory to glory (II Corinthians 3:18).

Remember that your faith has a vital part in your receiving the Holy Ghost. Concerning the Holy Ghost, Jesus said, **"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ASK Him?"** (Luke 11:13).

In asking, you MUST **"Ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For LET NOT THAT MAN THINK THAT HE SHALL RECEIVE ANYTHING OF THE LORD"** (James 1:6-7).

There is but one way to ask in faith. This is found in Mark 11:24: **"What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, BELIEVE THAT YE RECEIVE THEM, AND YOU SHALL HAVE THEM."** The moment you BELIEVE, YOU RECEIVE. God will fill you.

If you find it hard to believe that God will FILL YOU NOW, it would be wise for you to search your heart for the reason. The Bible teaches that there are definite hindrances to real faith. Eliminate the hindrances and the result will be FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN GOD THAT CANNOT BE DEFEATED OR DISCOURAGED… OR FAIL!

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise" (Psalm 100:4). Praise Him for what HE IS, for what He has ALREADY DONE, and for His faithful promise to give YOU the power that He has promised (Acts 1:8). As soon as you are obedient and ready! (Acts 5:32). Wait patiently in His presence, in an attitude of worship, with praise, and holy hands uplifted!

Ask God to fill you with the Spirit, so that you can have real power to serve Him. Purify your heart, be obedient, and come boldly into His presence with praise. Then, let Him fill you!

When praying for the Holy Spirit, you will feel a mighty moving of the Spirit upon you. Everyone does not have the same experience. It may cause you to shake (Jeremiah 23:9), or to tremble (Acts 9:6), or if God's power is mightily present, even to fall (Acts 9:4). Not that when Daniel prayed and sought God, he said, "I fell upon my face. I was in a deep sleep" (Daniel 8:17-18). Your lips may stammer; you will speak with a new tongue (Isaiah 28:11 & I Corinthians 14:21). The Holy Spirit's coming can be accompanied by a vision (Acts 2:17). You may even stagger as one that is drunk (Acts 2:13-15). DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THESE MANIFESTATIONS.

YIELD YOUR ALL TO GOD! This is important. YOU have a part in receiving the Spirit. John likened the baptism of the Holy Ghost to water baptism when he said, **"I indeed baptize you with water, but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire"** (Matthew 3:11). The word "baptize" means "to dip" or to "put under." When being baptized in water, one must submit to the one doing the baptizing. Just so, one must be yielded if he expects to be baptized with the Spirit. The baptism in the Spirit is Christ submerging every part of our being – soul, mind, spirit, hands, tongue, lips, voice, and your ALL. Yield fully and let Him possess ALL of your being. If you are fully yielded, you need not wait long for Him to fill you.

In Zechariah, the outpouring of the Spirit is likened to the natural rain that falls from the sky. "Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain" (Zechariah 10:1). (See also James 5:7). The rain began to fall on the Day of Pentecost. It is falling today. Get where the (spiritual) rain is falling and get your vessel full! WHY NOT BE FILLED NOW? THIS VERY MOMENT!

WHAT OF THE NIGHT?
(Isaiah 22:11-12)

(A. A. ALLEN – 1967)

In Ezekiel 33, God warns the watchman who sees the sword coming and fails to lift up his voice to warn His people. Today, with hundreds of thousands of souls looking to me and Miracle Revivals for spiritual food and help, I feel I cannot sit by and keep this message to myself. I am responsible before God to warn everyone about what I have seen and heard and know is taking place in the world today.

Not everyone is called of God to be a watchman. Some people are not capable of watching or observing developments to comprehend the meaning, so as to be able to forewarn anyone. Not everyone serves in a place where they are able to see and know what is taking place. God may use them in other fields of His service, but they are not watchmen.

Those of us today whom God is using on the advanced front line positions KNOW what is going on. We are in a position to be watchmen of God, both seeing and hearing what is taking place. In this spiritual warfare there are times when we push on for Jesus far into the enemy's territory. Quite often we discover his plans and strategy against the Lord's people and His work. It is the watchman's duty to report his observations, both good and bad.

THE WATCHMAN in Isaiah gave a good answer: **"The morning cometh and also the night."** The message sounds ordinary, but it is a good report for us today.

"The morning cometh…" Words of inspiration for the world! For the worker! It is a message of victory! Light had dawned, new life, warmth, a new day filled with opportunities and blessing. God is giving His people revival and victory!

In Miracle Revivals around the world, souls are being saved and delivered; bodies are being healed. New doors of opportunity are opening. Revival fires are spreading. Workers are bringing in the harvest. Now is the time to work, **"while it is yet day, for the night cometh when no man can work."**

"NIGHT COMETH!" The watchman let us know it would not always be day. He warned of coming darkness. Today, I want to also warn you of darkness, so you will be watching and prepared. You will not be caught in the enemy's snare and be lost.

While God is pouring out revival in a great measure and a new day is dawning for many, we can also see approaching night. Satan is presenting a COUNTERFEIT for every genuine move of the Holy Ghost. You may be one who is not so easily deceived, and too well grounded in the Word to be easily misled. If Satan can't mislead you to believe in his counterfeit wonders, then he will tempt you to disbelieve and doubt the genuine signs and wonders that God is giving. If you can be caused to doubt that any sign or wonder is real, you'll miss God in your life.

AROUND THE WORLD there is a startling and alarming increase of witchcraft, deceptions, extortions, and "ministries of intimidation" that are bringing people into fear and bondage. Evil workers, men and women who have departed from the faith, are adopting **satanic methods for ruling and robbing the children of God!**

The gifts of the Spirit were never given nor intended by God to be prostituted into cheap fortune telling, divinations, or mind reading. The true ministry of deliverance has

no need of voodoo, gimmicks, ruses, potions, or articles of magic. These are works of darkness.

Among modernists and in denominations, there is a falling away as forewarned in the Word. Instead of souls being saved in their midst, professed sinners are being accepted into their churches and given a voice in their activities. More and more their youth are falling into the drug snare and being destroyed, because they find no reality in their church. Hospitals are overflowing today, because so-called ministers do not pray for their sick and afflicted. Mental institutions are packed; penal and correctional facilities are inadequate, because "sin doth abound," and there is no deliverance for these people in denominational churches.

Listen, all these things sound like "night." It's the gross darkness spoken of in God's Word. **"The morning cometh and also the night."** Let us let God shine His light brightly into our souls! Jesus says we are the light of the world! A city upon a hill that cannot be hid!

'WHEN THE SON OF MAN COMETH, shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8). Christian, that measure of faith the Lord has imparted to you is a priceless treasure that is to be cherished and guarded. Satan is out to destroy you and your faith. Christians need to be wise to his evil ways. So often we see good Christians who are truly anointed and filled with the Spirit of God fall victim to his deceptions – **not because they are not good, but because they are not wise!** They weren't warned; they weren't aware of the devil's snare. Today, I'm warning you in time!

THE WORLD IS UNCERTAIN OF THE FUTURE, and because of this it has turned to divination, enchanters, consulters of the dead and of familiar spirits in order to know the future. Men want to be "called out" and told about themselves and their future. They are seeking some supernatural sign. Church people are seeking out ministers and asking, "Can you tell me the will of God for my life?" "Tell me if God has called me to preach." "Do you have a word from the Lord for me?"

LAST WEEK, a sponsoring minister handed me a testimony published by a prominent figure. If I would mention his name, many of you would know him. I read through the lengthy account with interest, and will pass along some it to you.

This top-notch E.S.P. specialist who has performed on radio, TV, in places of entertainment for more than ten years, confesses that during all the thirty years he has been ministering as a preacher and spiritual adviser, HE HAS BEEN A SINNER! He testifies that this July, three months ago, he was genuinely converted and delivered from religious cults.

In the same account of his being saved, however, he offers his many publications for sale, and makes an appeal for tithes and offerings to further his ministry. Will he be able to help others immediately following his conversion? Or will he need to do as Paul – set himself apart to be with the Lord, to forsake the old doctrines and ways, and to learn God's ways and what He would have him do now that he has been saved?

It is my sincere prayer that this man, who has attracted so many thousands of people to himself in the past, will prove to be genuinely saved and converted, and in the future will influence even more numbers to forsake sin and accept Jesus Christ.

What about the testimony? Some statements I found to be debatable in the light of the scripture. Does God give His gifts to sinners? He declares that a preacher recently prophesied to him that he was "gifted even from his mother's womb." Has God had anything to do with his strong psychic tendencies? Haven't his extensive studies into all the psychic cults played a great part in his evident success?

On one three hour E.S.P. television show, presented on a San Francisco channel, forty-two thousand phone calls came in, breaking all records. Their questions were typical: "Can you tell me something about myself?" "Do you have a word for me?" "What is in the future for me?" His answers as an E.S.P. specialist have been consistently near perfect.

Today, he declares God has rescued him from religious cults, and he is saved. Let us sincerely pray that this man will have enough of God's genuine anointing and discerning of spirits that he will be able to discard the counterfeit from his future life and ministry.

Many preachers are encouraging this type of ministry when they should be encouraging the people to hear from heaven for themselves. It is an abomination to put crutches under a man's arms when he doesn't need them. These ministers are making people dependent on the evangelist, pastor, or so-called prophet, INSTEAD OF BEING DEPENDENT ON GOD!

I believe that God can speak through a prophet, but I also believe the scripture that says, **"The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way"** (Psalm 25:9). There are times God deals with us without the help of anyone. Generally, God has already dealt and talked with me concerning a certain matter, and then He may confirm it by the mouth of His prophets, and always by His Word! Beware of being led and guided entirely by prophecy. Let God speak to you. Let the Holy Spirit lead you. Let the Word be your guide. It is the foundation that shall never pass away!

I am not saying God cannot use a man to speak to you, but it is not the best way. If the children of God are going to get their calling and leadings by man in order to know what God wants them to do, then they will NEVER BE SURE IT WAS FROM GOD. There will always be a little doubt.

Not long ago, a preacher who supposedly had the gift of knowledge and could "tell people things" called out a woman one night and told her some things about herself. Thank God she took a stand for the truth! She looked up at this preacher and before everyone she said, "Listen here, I told your assistance all those things this afternoon, in the back room. You are not telling me anything."

SOME REVELATIONS that preachers think they receive from God are results of jealousy, spiritual pride, and other manifestations of the flesh. Let me give you a good example.

Recently, there were two rival sponsoring pastors in a large crusade. One was following God with all his heart. A member of our party announced that he would be preaching at this pastor's church on Sunday morning. The rival pastor came to our staff member and advised him, "The spirit tells me that it is alright for you to go to that church and preach, but be sure not to eat anything, because they are going to try to poison you."

Perhaps a "spirit" did speak to this jealous pastor, but it was not the Spirit of God, since the member of our party preached and ate at the church, and is still ministering in our party. Some people, puffed up in their own spiritual pride, "receive" convenient revelations to help bring about their own purposes. This is not of God.

THE TRUE GIFTS OF GOD cannot be bought with money. I have received many letters recently from sincere Christians who have been approached by so-called preachers who are actually just "peddlers of fear." These preachers have tried to extort money from these innocent Christians by telling them that unless they gave them money, they would come under a curse, would become sick, OR WOULD DIE VERY SOON!

This kind of religious racketeering is nothing but WITCHCRAFT! This is exactly the same method used by heathen witchdoctors to extort money and other things of value from their victims through fear and threats.

A lady from St. Louis recently gave me two letters from a certain so-called prophet, the first was written on January 27, 1967. (Many other people in the same campaign also told me they received similar letters from him.) The letter said:
"Dear Brother and Sister (surname):

"Greetings in Jesus' name. Brother and Sister (surname), I am way behind in my rent and no food, no money to feed my family on. I think I will have to get a job, until the great ministry starts. I have prayed and prayed, and the Lord shows me you are wonderful people of God that I have never asked for help before.

"I have asked for help, but I have nothing to go on, and even to look for a job. My rent is $120.00 behind right now. God is bringing many of His words to pass. I don't understand why no money is coming in. My family is hungry, and I must go to work soon. I prayed and God told me to ask you for help, as he also told David and Moses to borrow from their brothers in the Bible.

"Brother and Sister (surname), I humbly ask, may I borrow $200.00 from you? I will pray it back as soon as I can." (Notice he doesn't say "pay," but "pray." Even the postal authorities couldn't get him on this.)

"God will bless you all greatly for blessing a man of God. Please help me now for I am broke. May God bless you too is my humble prayer. Pray for me, and let me hear by return mail. God bless you.

Signed: Rev. (full name)."

When this man and his wife got this letter, they prayed about the matter. They had just been converted from the Catholic Church. God said to them, "Do not give that man $200.00. He is not hungry or starving." This couple then wrote the man and told him "NO."

On February 2, 1967, came the second letter cursing them:

Dear Brother and Sister (surname),

"I was asked to ask you for the loan by the Almighty God, that you turned down. I know you all don't believe God's prophet, for if you did you would visit me and give me all the help you can. You won't come to my house. I do know there is no healing for either of you unless you obey God. There are two things you are holding, your past church idols, and your treasures and your money.

"Now, as a prophet of God, I see great evil coming your way, and I am afraid for you two people very much. God showed me much about you all. The year 1967 will take both of you to the grave. I'm not trying to scare you. I want to see you all blessed, but you have given very large amounts of money to a man and got nothing." (This so-called prophet of God attended our meeting, watched the people who made pledges, then wrote them the next day. One preacher stated that this so-called prophet told him that if he would pay him the $50.00, God would release him from his $100.00 pledge at our campaign.)

He continued the letter: "God's prophet comes along to you, and you turned and believed not, so you two are under God's curse now. You can stop the evil now, by coming and letting us pray over you and help you like God told you to.

"I am working on my car now, the pistons are broke and it costs about $75.00 for parts alone, so I have no car to use now, but I am very concerned over the evil I see

coming your way. I AM THE ONLY MAN UPON THIS EARTH GOD HAS CHOSEN TO HEAL YOU, OR TO CURSE YOU THIS WAY." (This sounds like WITCHCRAFT to me.)

"We love you very much and hope you obey God now, or it will happen." (This does not sound like "love" to me.) We omitted the man's name.

CHRISTIANS, BEWARE OF PEOPLE WHO CLAIM TO BE PROPHETS OF GOD WHO HAVE A WORD FROM THE LORD FOR YOU. God still uses the genuine gifts of the Spirit, but they do not work like this. This man was not willing to pay the price in his life for the genuine gift of God, so he settled for the counterfeit. When a minister begins to get low spiritually, then comes the temptation to pattern his ministry after someone else. This is dangerous. They might pattern their ministry after the wrong person. It is better to let God perfect each individual's ministry. It must come from God if it is going to edify the Church, and if it is to last.

WHERE IN GOD'S WORD do we find warning about these things? Throughout the Bible, in both Old and New Testaments.

God speaks out plainly against wicked pastors and false prophets alike in Jeremiah 23: "...in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly. I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings. How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? Yes, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart. The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is chaff to the wheat? Said the Lord. Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the Lord, that use their tongues and say, He saith. Behold I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the Lord, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the Lord." (See Jeremiah 23:20-40).

A GREAT MANY CHRISTIANS received a letter a few days ago that is an excellent example of deception employed by some today. The unwary often fall for the personal tone of appeals such as this one:

"Well here it is! You seemed to come before me in a vision...I felt impressed to send this your way...'Thus said the Lord, My servant....' The telephone is ringing.....

"I just got back from the phone. It was just another person calling for my help...Please pray for me. I need your help as you need mine."

FRIENDS, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE before God to see that the Lord's money is placed in the Lord's work were it will help fulfill the Great Commission. Put your tithes and offerings where you know it is going into all the world to preach the gospel to every creature. Have a part in taking the gospel to the unreached, in saving the lost, healing the sick, casting out devils, and helping men and women receive the Holy Ghost! (See Mark 16:15-20).

Everyday news developments can keep you informed on what is taking place along these lines. News items in the papers and on newscasts in just the last few days have told some shocking things.

Talk about the revival of witchcraft! The first international convention of witches was scheduled to meet in Coney Island last month. A spokesman for the convention reported what happened to the Associated Press. The report appeared under the title, "WITCHES SO NUMEROUS CONVENTIONISTS DELAYED TO CHECK

CREDENTIALS." They said such an avalanche of people arrived for the convention claiming to be witches, the assembly had to be temporarily postponed until they could separate the witches from the "which's."

Te convention was called by Sister (of course they call them sisters) Donna Antonia Demagena, an astrologer and self-proclaimed fortune teller. She operates a fortune telling shop in Coney Island. They supposedly operate only for good, but a declaration is made if you press them, they operate for bad.

MIND READING FOR MILLIONS was the title of another news article in New York's Picture Newspaper that declared we're on the verge of mind reading for the millions. According to men who know, the cult arts are "in" again. These witchcraft demons tell your past, present, and future. And the religious world is on the verge of it when they turn to ministers that leave off the preaching the gospel of power, and start telling you everything you do, what you are, where you are going, and what you are doing.

Christians, either you're going to have part in God's last day revival in your church, and take a stand for the genuine power of God and manifestation of the Holy Ghost, OR, you're going to see and take part in the great witchcraft revival that is spilling its evil from the demon's caldron over our nation and the world! The Word warns us: **"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."** Don't be caught in this evil web. Don't fall into the horrible pit. Don't take the path that leads to the devil's hidden snare!

Did you read about LSD and other hallucinogenic drugs being used as part of religious activities? It is a wonder that the High Priest of LSD, as recent news articles have labeled the former Harvard University psychology professor, has not also included in their number those with delirium tremens. It would be just as logical. He was reported to be in Arizona studying the culture of drug-oriented religions of the Southwest Indians in preparation to forming an LSD religious colony.

Are you alarmed when you see how the public is being brain-washed to the place where witchcraft, spiritism or spiritualism is more acceptable? There is an ever-increasing parade, especially on TV, of witches, fortune tellers, warlocks, sorcerers, mediums, and scenes to familiarize the public with spiritist's séances.

Recently resigned Bishop James Pike fought the baptism of the Holy Ghost with the speaking of tongues called glossolalia in the Episcopalian Church with every means at his disposal. Headlines appeared in newspapers across the nation in 1963 when Bishop Pike rose up against the experience that hundreds of Episcopalians were receiving of the Holy Ghost. A terrible dispute ensued, and he barred talking in tongues in his own diocese. A full page of these news articles appeared in Miracle Magazine in July, 1963. Where is the man who fought the move of the Holy Ghost? Have God given him up and turned him over?

A recent news release of the resigned bishop declares he talked with his dead son, who committed suicide last year, through a medium who is a Disciple of Christ minister. The séance was taped for television and appeared to the public in Toronto, September 17, over CTV. It was reported the medium blindfolded himself, went into a trance, and spoke with a number of persons in Bishop Pike's past. For all the people he talked to, he used a "spirit control" named "Fletcher," a dead French-Canadian whom the medium says brings forth third person messages from deceased persons.

Publicity given this incident involving this former bishop will not doubt influence many to turn to spiritism. God is against those who reportedly call up from the dead, necromancers. God says, **"There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord…"** (Deuteronomy 18:10-12).

Matthew recorded Christ's warning to us in the gospel: **"Take heed that no man deceive you…Many false prophets shall deceive many…If it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before."** (See Matthew 24:4, 11, 24).

Mark gives us this note of warning spoken by Jesus: **"Take heed lest any man deceive you…false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible even the elect. But take ye heed: behold I have foretold you all things."** (See Mark 13:5, 6, 22, 23).

Luke also repeated the warning: **"Take heed that ye be not deceived."** (Luke 21:8).

John included his note of warning too against deceivers: **"Little children, let no man deceive you…"** (I John 3:7).

If a warning had not been so important, Jesus would never have spoken these words, and the recorders of the gospels would have overlooked it. God wants us to take heed. Watch out! Be on your guard! Know what the Word of God says, and reject unscriptural teachings and false teachers.

Peter said, **"Seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfast."** He warned of false prophets and false teachers among God's people, **"who privily shall bring damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them…"** (See II Peter 2:1; 3:17). I want you to especially note the word "privily." This is the way so much of this deception takes place…private meetings. More churches have been split and destroyed through private cottage prayer meetings than any other way. Just certain ones selected and invited, privately of course. Not everyone would fall for the error they are about to present. Dealing privately with just a few at a time, they gather in those who have problems, those who are not well founded in the Word, those who can be easily swayed by any wind of doctrine. Their false doctrine is far more easily presented with no one around who can skillfully quote the Word of God.

Paul prepared Timothy for deceivers when he warned him, **"But evil men and seducers shall wax worse, deceiving and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them"** (II Timothy 3:13,14).

Paul made it plain, **"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,,,For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts. Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth"** (II Timothy 1:7).

As never before, I believe the time has come, **"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables"** (II Timothy 4:3,4).

The Ephesians too were plagued with false prophets and deceivers. Paul warned them: **"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive"** (Ephesians 4:14).

The Romans who had been saved from heathenism had to be warned of false brethren: **"...they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened...Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator...For this cause God gave them up...And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient, Being filled with all unrighteousness..."** Here Paul listed all those evil works and ended with this warning: **"They which commit such things are worthy of death!"** (See Romans 1:21-32).

The Galatians received the same warning when Paul spelled out the evil works of the flesh. Some of them you see in the lives of some so-called Christians. "By their fruits ye shall know them." Paul ended the list with this warning: **"They which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God"** (Galatians 5:19-21).

People today are stumbling into dark places, being deceived, losing out with God. I have had hundreds of appeals for help through the mail just in the past few weeks. Again and again God has given us a warning.

In His mercy, God is setting many free; He is restoring many back into the fold. For them, **"morning cometh!"** A new day has dawned.

As a faithful watchman of God, I am going to preach the gospel in the power and anointing and demonstration of the Holy Ghost that it will save the lost. My vision is to win a billion souls to Christ. I will not be able to accomplish that alone, but God has always been so good to send me Holy Ghost-anointed workers and helpers, who faithfully labor with me. He has inspired thousands of partners around the world to pray and work and give to make this ministry a success for God. Will you let the Lord speak to you about being a partner in our great Billion Souls Crusades? What we do, we must do quickly...for "night cometh!"

"I BELIEVE GOD"

(A. A. ALLEN – 1968)

THE MESSAGE WE PREACH today is encouraging people to believe that our God is a provider. He can make a way out of "no way!" It is He that giveth thee power to get wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18). Ye shall eat the riches of the gentiles (Isaiah 61:6). Riches and wealth are the gift of God (Ecclesiastes 5:19). I believe it! Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store, and everything you set your hand unto. Thou shalt lend and not borrow (Deuteronomy 28:5-8). He will fill your barns with plenty (Proverbs 3:10). I'll make you the head, and you won't have to be the tail! (Deuteronomy 28:12-13).

Sometimes we have to start at the tail to end up at the head. I remember the number of years I was nothing but a "tail!" Some of you feel like you're still the tail. Don't worry – God has a head position that He can move you up to!

I believe according to the scripture that we will be tested and tried. All through the Bible, every person who was blessed of God or prospered, or ever made heaven their home, sometime or another hit the bottom. They had to stand through one of the storms of life. They came through victorious!

I wasn't born a Christian; I wasn't born to Spirit-filled parents. I was born a sinner. I learned many things when I was a sinner that help me today. I have learned that as surely as you sin, you're going to pay for it. Some of the things you learn when you're a sinner helps you walk right after you get saved.

I preach God's blessing of prosperity. It's the Word of God. And God is blessing people today. Some of you are still being tried and tested. You're still down at the bottom of the meal barrel, and you're still getting mad, murmuring and complaining at God because Elisha hasn't come by your way.

Some of you are like the poor widow in II Kings 4. You are just about to sell your own boys into the slave market. You're mad at God, and made at the preacher, too.

What are you discouraged about? Don't you believe God's promise? I believe God has a reason and a purpose in letting some people get to the bottom of the barrel. God has a divine purpose in permitting some of you to see your own boys put on the auction block. The reason is to see just what you're going to do, how far you're going to trust Him. There are times in everyone's life when God puts you to the test to see if you are going to trust Him, and if you're going to be willing to obey the man of God…the Word of God…the Spirit of God. Every person who has been brought out of bondage has been tested and tried.

What were the children of Israel going to do when they looked back and saw that great host of Egyptians coming to take them back into bondage? They believed God! After God performed that mighty miracle and opened the Red Sea, don't tell me they were never tested again. They had hardly gone through the Red Sea when they were going through the greatest test they ever had. Pharaoh and all of his army with horses and chariots pursued them. The Bible says that fear gripped their hearts.

Even after God performs a mighty miracle to set you free, to deliver you and bring you forth with silver and with gold, there may come a time when you look back…and if you're not full of faith, fear will grip you.

They looked back…to see how far they had already come, or they would never have seen Pharaoh. They would never have seen what God did to Pharaoh and his great army. They would not have had as much to shout and dance about on the sands at the far side of the seashore. The very thing that blessed them and made them shout and dance, was the fact that they looked back and saw what God was doing to their enemies who were so determined to take them back into bondage.

Don't tell me it isn't good to look back once in a while to see just how far God has brought us. To see what He has brought us through. To see the mighty, mighty long way He has brought us. It's good to see the way God made out of "no way!" It will be something to remember that will give you faith when you're scraping the bottom of the barrel…when you get down to the last cake.

Widow, don't cry because you're husband is dead. You might be better off without that man. God knows what's best for us.

Preacher, don't cry if your wife has packed her bag and gone. It might be the best thing that ever happened to your ministry. The Bible says, **"And every one that hath forsaken…wife, or children, or lands for my name's sake…"** (Matthew 19:29).

I have heard some say, "My momma doesn't even like me since I got saved." "My sons and daughters persecute me." God says to rejoice! Go ahead and shout!

Some of you preachers would do a better job of preaching if you didn't have a companion anyway, because some of you got married completely our of God's will, and you got the wrong one. God just might cause them to pack their bags and move off to help you to get into His perfect will.

Some of you wives, God called you to preach twenty years ago, and you got married to a man who won't let you preach. God might get you in His will yet!

Remember, a man's worst enemies are those of his own household. Don't cry if everything isn't as smooth as cream in your home, in your job, or in your purse. God may put you in a place where you may have to act in faith!

Generally, all through the Bible, no one received a miracle unless he did one of four things. It's unreasonable when you and your boy are starving to death, to take the last handful of meal and give it to a preacher who has just been sitting around eating twice a day form God's special catering service. It doesn't seem logical when you haven't had a full meal in months.

So, God generally asks you to do that which is unreasonable, which doesn't correspond to your natural reasoning. That which you'd never think of doing.

You will find that if you obey God, it may make enemies out of your best friends. It's going to make you the target of persecution and ridicule. Some of you, if you obey God, your own husband will slap your face…your wife will get into your hair…your children will say, "Why that's not God!"

That little boy over in I Kings 17 could have said, "Now, Mamma, don't you let that bald-headed preacher talk you into taking our last cake. It's unreasonable! Anybody with any sense at all would know that God is not in this, to take the last cake we've got when we're starving, to give it to a preacher who's not even hungry."

Sometimes God puts us into a place to be tested. You're down to the bottom of the barrel, and God is letting you stay that way a while just to see what you're going to do…if you're going to trust Him. God wants to know if you're going to take the limit off, or if you will limit Him to one little handful of meal.

The biggest sin in the Bible was when the children of Israel limited God to what they could see at that present moment.

God performed one of the greatest creative miracles of all times for that widow's household. She saw the hand of God move for her continuously, daily, every time she went to the meal barrel, it contained a supply of meal. Then the Bible tells us, **"And it came to pass that the son of the woman fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him"** (I Kings 17:17). God can perform a miracle for you financially, and then let you hit the bottom in your home life!

There lay her boy dead! She got mad at God. She blamed the preacher. Don't get mad if that boy of yours dies. The same man of God who delivered you from the empty meal barrel can deliver your son from the coffin!

You know what I'm talking about. Don't get mad at God because there has been a death in the family. God's got an answer. He wants us to praise Him even under the most adverse circumstances.

Job said, "Though God slay me, yet I'll trust Him. I shall then come forth as gold." Here's a man who lost everything he had. Nothing left! He was a millionaire twice over, but he lost every possession he had. God allowed the devil to do it for a reason…for a purpose. Quit crying if everything is running in reverse. God has taken the fence from around you, and has let the devil get at you to see what you're made of.

Why did Job go through that awful trial? God had been bragging on him**: "Hast thou considered my servant Job that he is a perfect man and that there is none like him in all the land?"**

But the devil answered Him, "Yes, but you put a fence around him and I can't get to him. That's why he's so blessed. If you will take the wall away and let me at him, I'll make that old boy curse you."

Don't cry because you lost your blessings. Don't grieve and complain. God has given us Job and his testimony to help us through such a trial. Job lost all his children. He lost his home; he lost his wife and all his possessions. Yet, it was in the perfect will of God. Don't cry and lose the victory, because you're at last getting into the perfect will of God!

You will have to stand the test if God is going to use you in the future to bless the multitudes. If you will use your testimony right, just think of how may people can be blessed. Think of how many are being blessed today in my ministry in each Miracle Revival, and multiply that many times over, because I'm printing my sermons in Miracle Magazine and in tracts, and putting them on radio. Just think of the millions who wouldn't be blessed if God hadn't let the devil put Job through the paces!

I've seen preachers just moan and groan…and saints do more than that! Some of you wives don't do anything but sit at home and grumble and growl. That's why some of your husbands just don't come home to you after work.

Then you come into the meeting and say, "Brother Allen, pray for me. My husband has left me for another woman." I say, God will hold some wives accountable.

With some of you men, it's as good for the gander as it is for the goose. Some of you have run your wives home to their mamma. She may not come back either, the way some of you men have been grunting, grumbling and growling. It's the truth!

Every one of you has been put through the hurdles at one time or another. There's a force behind you that's still making you jump. You're getting mad at the thing that's urging you on. But just keep hurdling…just keep jumping over every obstacle. God's got a blessing for you that you've never had!

So you're still alive, aren't you? Aren't you still breathing? Some of you are still shouting. Some of you are still alive, but you're grumbling about it. You'd rather be

dead. Isn't that awful! God is letting you live. He hasn't killed you, or let the devil kill you. He's trying to teach you something so that you'll be a blessing to millions.

Why don't you raise your hands and say, "Lord, let me know the will of God. I'm not going to get mad at You because my baby is sick. I'm not going to murmur against You because my husband has cancer. I'm not going to lose the victory in my soul because I've got a knot in my side. I'm going to keep shouting and praising the Lord for the victory He has promised me! Bless God forever, I'm going through!"

God is trying to show the devil what you're made of. Well, what are you made of?

After Job lost everything financially, he began to lose his health. See, he didn't curse God and die because he had financial reverses and home troubles. The devil came back before the Lord and said, "Well, I haven't got the job done yet. You let me get at his body." He was counting on the theory that anything a man can do, he'll do it to save his skin. When you are sick you'll almost do anything.

God agreed to take the fence down, but He said, "There is one thing you can't do, you can't take his life." He could just go so far, and no farther!

As if everything had not been enough, Job got sick from his head to his toes. His friends came in and said, "You old sinner. If you hadn't drifted from God and done such mean, sinful things, you wouldn't be sick now." That was when Job decided, **"Though God slay me, yet I'll trust Him!"**

He was down on his knees in the ashes, scarping his old boils. He shaved his head, looked up to heaven and said, "God, I'm going to trust you. My friends have pointed the accusing finger, and have failed me, but You can't fail me! I've gone too far now to turn back! I'm too near the end to turn around! I'm going to put my trust in You!" Job had hit bottom, but God was getting him ready for the top!

Raise your hands and shout! Say, "Lord, I may be on the bottom now, but I'm getting read to have You pull me out! You're going to raise me up!"

The Bible says, He pusheth down, but He raiseth up. The Lord maketh poor, but He also maketh rich. (See I Samuel 2:6-7). The Lord bringeth down to the grave…and He bringeth up!

Praise the Lord! Don't cry because you're in a wheelchair. Don't cry because you're down to the grave! They haven't put you into the hole yet. They haven't shoveled dirt into your face. Rejoice in God! This is the reason God said, **"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord!"** If you're too weak to make much sound, that praise can still shout forth from your heart!

You can be down to the grave, but still have breath. My God! Don't waste your breath to murmur and complain. Praise the Lord! Shout! Offer a sacrifice of praise unto the Lord, and God will bring you up from the grave! He'll raise your loved ones up from their deathbeds! God may have brought you down there, to see what you're going to do. What are you going to do? As long as you have breath, are you going to keep praising the Lord? God will show you what great things He will do for you!

I wonder what the devil did when God delivered Job from all his afflictions, his pain and agony, and returned again to Job twice as much as he had before! This is another reason why I know God gives wealth to His children. It's a gift!

Count all of Job's camels, the she asses, all his sheep figure their worth on today's market. You'll find he was worth about four million dollars. God gave it all back to him.

Who ever heard of a man having a thousand Cadillacs! Some people will howl their heads off today if a preacher or even a Christian drives a Buick. How many

"Cadillacs" did Job have? Of course, the Bible doesn't say "Cadillacs," but it says camels. That was the fastest, most expensive way of travel in his day.

Friends, it's in the Book! Don't holler if you see God bless someone else with two or three cars, and you don't have any. Remember, there was a time when Job had nothing! But he didn't stay on the bottom. God gave again to Job. Don't let your faith waver; keep the right attitude.

If you've lost everything, and have gone through trials and tests, God will give back to you twice as much as you had in the beginning, just to show you that He is bigger than the devil!

Whoever heard of a preacher telling people to shout when they are about to die?

When they have lost their loved ones? When everything has gone wrong? I say, that's the time to praise Him! There's every possibility that God has only taken His fence of protection from around you! He wants you to prove your experience with Him is real!

One day Paul was being storm tossed and the ship was going down. Acts 27 tells how they threw out all the cargo to lighten the ship. Day and night, that ship tossed in the storm. Monstrous waves finally began to dash things to pieces. It was a dark hour, but in the midst of it all, God sent an angel to the man of God and said, "Paul, fear not. The ship is going to go down, but not one man is going to be lost." Paul looked up! In the midst of the worst storm he had ever been in, he said three words: **"I believe God!"**

God let that storm come. God let the ship go completely down. But God kept His word to Paul! Not one man was lost. Can I encourage you? Shout those three words with Paul: "I BELIEVE GOD!"

My ship has hit the rocks many times. But if it hits the rocks tomorrow again, I'll still say," I believe God!"

Why did God put Paul through those paces? Because you're going to be put through a storm one of these days. There's a lesson God wanted us to learn from Paul. Imagine this man, whose ship is breaking apart on the rocks, going down in the midst of a violent storm, looking up. Listen to him say with confidence, "I believe God!"

You can't do it unless you have faith; unless you have proper teaching and training in the Word of God for yourself. That's why God sends His ministers to teach you and preach and inspire your faith. Faith that will see you through the storms of life!

Remember the scripture says, referring to His people who have seen miracle after miracle, these are the ones who are more apt to become discouraged and sin, than people who have never seen any miracles. It is said that the man who is capable of the greatest virtues is also capable of the greatest sins. And you might as well turn it around: the man who is capable of the greatest sins is also capable of the greatest virtues. When those great sins are covered with the blood of Christ, God can use that one to do great things for Him!

David was a man after God's own heart, capable of the greatest virtues. He was also a man who hit the bottom…more than once…because he was capable of the greatest sins. A lot of these good, self-righteous folks never do anything for God. They just brag and spend their time trying to impress people with how righteous they are. They're going to hell with the drunkards and the harlots, because the Bible tells us that "self-righteousness" is one of the biggest sins there is.

The group of God's people whom He delivered by miracle after miracle, perished in the wilderness after they refused to go forward with God. These people had lived by a miracle. They wore miracle shoes that grew with their feet. After forty years they were still wearing the same shoes and clothing that never waxed old. They drank miracle water

that poured out of a rock. Every morning they ate "light bread" from the bakeries of heaven. Every night they stuffed themselves on quails that fell from the heavens by a miracle. A miracle cloud over-shadowed them all day long, and became a pillar of fire in the heavens at night. A twenty-four hour a day miracle! Yet, in the midst of such great and mighty things, they questioned, "Can God?" and limited the Holy One of Israel. They forgot to praise God for all His goodness, and began to murmur against Him. They missed God's will, they refused to be led any farther, and God let them die on the wrong side of the river! If you don't keep going forward with God, He will let you fail on the wrong side.

I'm trying to impress you that it is a sin to limit God, even when it comes to giving. Don't limit what God can do for you, to your present paycheck only, to your social security, unemployment compensation, or old age pension, or to your present allowance, or to the budget your husband puts you on. I've heard people say so many times, "I can't give anything. I can't pledge because…"

One woman said, "Why, I can't pledge, Brother Allen. I haven't got a job." With such a lack of faith as that, God may never give her a job. She was limiting God! She put Him down on the scale of plain "nothing!" By the words of her mouth, she was saying God couldn't give her a job or any money. When she said, "I can't," she was saying her God couldn't bless her.

I thought if only she would make a pledge by faith, God would probably give her the best job she ever had. He has done just that for so many others who pledged when they had nothing. Faith is to take the first step, and let God see that we believe Him!

Some people who get an old age pension of $60.00 each month say, "I can't." They limit God to that little check. They've only got $60.00. Oh, God. They confess that it is impossible for their God to give them any more money.

Some say, "I can't even pledge to the Lord's work, because my husband gives me only so many dollars a week." They limit the blessing of God to a backslidden husband. Well, the God I serve can do more than that.

Some people say, "I've only got a little in the bank. I'd better not give any in the offering because I may get sick." You just might! If that's why you're keeping it! "According to your faith, so be it unto you." Those are words you can count on! When you get sick, you may never get well!

"You know, I'd better keep everything I've got, instead of paying a pledge. I've got to save it for a rainy day." With that kind of faith, when it starts to rain on you, it's going to pour. You can count on a bully washer! It may rain so long and hard it will wash you down!

There are some who say, "In my circumstances, God wouldn't expect me to make a pledge or give anything." Well…not unless you'd want Him to bless you! Not unless you'd want to follow the Bible example. Not unless you'd want to come through for God with flying colors!

Generally, God asks us to do that which doesn't correspond to human reasoning. That which isn't natural. However, it may well be that which you're going to have to do, if you ever get God's blessing upon you and your life.

"Can God?" God can give it to you by a miracle! God can let you find it blowing down the sidewalk, or lying in the street! God can let some friend or relative leave it to you in their will, when you didn't even know they had any money! God can cause a total stranger to walk up and give it to you! God knows your name, and He can still talk to

some people today! God can give it to you by a miracle! Anyone in the world can pledge to give to God!

Don't moan and groan because you can't see your way through! Don't limit God to "nothing." If you limit God to your present condition and circumstances, you may never have anything. If you limit God to your little monthly check, that's all you'll ever know. You will never get an increase or a better job. Take the limit off of God. Quit asking, "Can God?" Shout, "God can!" And God will!

Years ago God taught me this. I had just printed my first book, "God's Guarantee To Heal You." I thought I had the printer's bill paid. When I arrived for a revival in Evansville, Indiana, I got a bill from the printer. He explained that due to an oversight, he had failed to add the paper cost to the bill. He said, "Please send me $440.00."

He acted like I had it! I had just arrived in town with a few dollars. Generally, I preached the whole first week before I would get an offering from the pastor. I decided I would just borrow that $440.00. After I sold a few of my new books, and with preaching in that good church, I believed I'd be able to repay the amount in two weeks.

I was preaching both morning and night services. I didn't have any other team of workers then. I went on into the morning service, and began to preach from Deuteronomy 28. God said, "I have placed before thee blessings and cursings, life and death, but CHOOSE! Choose what you want!"

First, that chapter deals with all the curses. When I got over into the blessings, I came to the verse that said, "Thou shalt lend, and not borrow…!"

When I saw what I was about to read to the people, I did not want to read it. You see, when a preacher gets under conviction, he won't preach all of it. I had already made up my mind that I would borrow that $440.00.

This is why some preachers don't preach the full gospel. They're living under conviction, and they can't preach holiness. A preacher just can't preach the gospel with power and anointing when he isn't living the life.

God said, "Why don't you claim that verse?" I said, "Lord, that's not for me. That was just for the Jews who lived back there." God said, "Do you suppose that is why they always have money? They are always loaning money instead of borrowing." If you declare God's promises are not for you, then you had better not claim it!

God assured me, "If you will claim this verse, I will give it to you. You can have it!" If you believe God's Word and practice it, you can preach it!

I'm preaching that you can take the limit off of God. Why limit God to a few one-dollar bills? I said, "God, I'm not going to borrow the money. You're going to give it to me by a miracle." Somehow, God just dropped the faith into my soul. I not only said it, but in my heart I believed it! That was the first time I ever put God to a test like that.

That night in the service, I asked the pastor if I could put my new book in the aisles. Only a few copies sold, but they got a dollar each for them. After service, I counted the money, put it in my billfold, went home and went to bed. The next morning, as I started into the church, I heard a voice: "Why don't you open your billfold? You'll be amazed at what you'll find."

It was so real, I pulled out my billfold started to open it, but put it right back. I knew that all I had was just a few dollar bills, not enough money to pay that paper bill.

Some people think God is crazy and doesn't know what He is talking about. It's according to how much faith you have, and how much you believe God.

Before I could step into the church, I heard that same voice: "Open your billfold and look. You'll be surprised. You've got enough money to cover the paper bill." Before

I knew it, I had my billfold out again, and started to look. I thought, "This is downright silly. It can't be God." I put it back in my pocket, and went right into the church. I had a miracle in my pocketbook! I wouldn't open it to see.

Some of you have a miracle in your hand. Some of you have a miracle at your fingertips, and you won't reach out and take it. Yes, you have! But you won't believe God! You won't take the limit off of God. Even after God has performed it for you, some of you will never find out. You are too full of unbelief and doubt.

I got into the pulpit and started to preach, but all I could hear was, "Open your billfold." I thought, "Lord, I can't do it right here. People will wonder why I'm looking at my billfold in the middle of a service."

I cut that sermon short, because this time I knew it was God. I had the people to gather around the altar, then I slipped back into the pastor's study. I opened my billfold and began to scream! When the pastor saw me screaming with my billfold out, he came running. "What in the world has happened? Has somebody stolen your money?"

"Oh no! That's not it!" I could hardly explain. "My money is not gone, but I've got a billfold full of twenty dollar bills! Where could that have come from?"

Nobody had a chance to get my billfold. I had slept alone upstairs in the prophets' chamber. I had locked the door, and put my billfold with the unpaid paper bill down in the far corner of my pillowcase. But that night somebody had got to my billfold without waking me! He had come through the locked door. He had either changed the ones into brand new twenties, or took the ones out, and put in new twenties. Because all that I could find in my billfold were brand new, crisp twenties!

God spoke to me: "Son, if I can multiply loaves and fishes, I can multiply money. If I put meal in a barrel when there was no corn in the land, I can give you twenty-dollar bills by a miracle, against all the laws of nature.

I went to the post office, bought a money order, and sent off my $440.00. And I had money left!

Do you see what I mean? I could have limited God to the few dollars I had, and would never have received that miracle.

A number of years ago, I faced one of the greatest crises of my entire ministry. A man sued me for half a million dollars. He said I called him a communist in the Miracle Magazine. The fact was that I had not written nor even proofread the article. I learned a good lesson.

I didn't have the money to pay a lawsuit; we don't have it now. We just live by faith day by day. Sometimes when our payroll checks are made out, we don't have enough money in the bank. We just trust the Lord for it to come in before all our employees cash their checks. God has never failed us. Our payroll last year was almost a million dollars, but we have never missed a paycheck.

Our radio bill is $25,000.00 every month. The TV bill is more than that. Television stations don't donate free time to put Jesus and miracles on TV. Last month, just the printing of Miracle Magazine cost $27,000.00. Then there was postage and handling charges to get them to our friends. We don't charge anybody for it. The need is miraculously met each month.

This man who was suing s happened to be an atheist, one of the most active in the nation. If he could win the case, he knew it would put us out of business for God. What would you have done? Would you have given up?

Most of you can remember that at the same time, the Internal Revenue Service declared that we were no longer a tax-exempt corporation. This meant we would have to

pay tax on all the offerings we had received back through 1960. We were the "guinea pig" case. If they could make it stick on our corporation, then they could take away tax-exemption for many other independent religious corporations not affiliated with denominations they recognize. It was not only me and our corporation, but it was all other independent preachers in the country. I thought, "A half million dollars in back taxes! What are we going to do? Uncle Sam is the biggest man in the country; the biggest government in the world!"

Besides all this, I had two more problems that were greater to me than any million dollars.

One day as I was taking pledges in Philadelphia, God said, "You've been preaching 'Vow and pay, and I will deliver thee.' You make Me a hundred dollar pledge along with the rest of the folks today. Write the four miracles you need on the back side, and I will give them to you."

I took the pledge envelope for myself that day. I wrote first of all the man's name who was suing me. I wrote down the two million dollars for the taxes (I'd have to win the tax case), then I jotted down the two other things. I said, "Lord, I don't have a hundred dollars, but neither do some of these other people."

Our God is alive! It wasn't a month until the man called and said, "I'll throw the case out of court if you promise to never mention my name in public." That's why I never mention his name in public. God let him knew he was defeated before he got started. The number one request was won! It was a miracle indeed!

We put Uncle Sam's case in a tax court in Ft. Worth and hired an attorney. A short time later, newspaper headlines across the country carried the news of our victory. One headline read: A. A. ALLEN FROM MIRACLE VALLEY WHIPS UNCLE SAM. Answer number two!

It was just God, folks. It was a miracle. Listen, don't limit God! I believe He let this happen to me. When we are honest and right in all our transactions in this gospel work, God has a way to let the world know it! Right?

God answered number three so fast, it made my head swim. Number four is being answered right now!

Do you believe God could take the limit off of things for you? Do you believe He will provide a miracle for you if you take the limit off Him? "All things are possible to them that believe." Take the limit off of God!

A preacher met me at the door at the beginning of the Houston Campaign, and pulled out a large wad of bills. I said, "Man, don't pull that out here, where so many people are coming in and going out. Put it back into your pocket."

He said, "I brought it for you to lay hands on and pray with me that God will multiply it so I can buy a tent. I have $1500.00. I need $4500.00 for a new tent, a truck, and equipment."

I said, "In the service I'll pray that God will multiply it, but I'll do it in such a way that nobody will know you were foolish enough to bring that much cash with you. Somebody outside could knock you in the head before you get home and take it."

In the service, when the offering was received, Brother Don Stewart exhorted on God's promise "to bless everything thou settest thine hand unto." God spoke to me, "Now is the time to pray for Oscar Lane."

I called him up. "Brother Lane, let me pray and decree a miracle for you right now. Put your hands in your pocket. God says everything you set your hands to do, He will bless it." I looked up and prayed, "Now Lord, You know what this preacher has his

hands on. I'm asking You, and I decree that you're going to perform a miracle, and multiply this until he can have the desire of his heart." That new tent and equipment was the desire of his heart.

On the closing weekend, when sponsoring ministers are given opportunity to announce their services, he asked, "May I make the announcements for my coming tent meeting? I put up my new tent yesterday! He made his announcements, and then he warned the people with a big smile on his face, "Friends, if you don't want God to bless everything you touch, you'd better be careful what you put your hands on after Brother Allen prays and agrees in prayer with you."

Preacher, put your hands on something you need and claim it! Take the limit off of God! Tell Him you believe HE CAN! Just because you hit the bottom of the barrel doesn't mean that God can't put some more meal in it.

In your need…through your trial…as the storm hits your ship, just look up and say, 'I BELIEVE GOD!"

Don't feel discouraged that you've been prayed for and you still have the symptoms. Raise your hands and say, "I believe God!"

Right in the midst of the storm, I'm going to shout! The ship may go down, but God has a piece of debris He wants me to get my hold on, and He's going to take me to shore. I'm going to make it!

Some of you are down…down to the grave. But shout! He's going to lift you up! Watch out! God may put you through a test you've never gone through before. Weather the storm, stand the test! Go through with God! I believe that right at your fingertips, like Job, God can be on the verge of giving you back twice as much as you lost. He may expect you to do that which doesn't correspond to reason, but it's the thing you will have to do. Then you will have that testimony that brings blessing and inspires faith in others.

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24).

WE ARE NOT OF THEM WHO DRAW BACK!

(A. A. Allen – 1968)

"Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God." - Hebrews 3:12

This warning is given to all children of God. It is especially to you who have grown cold and dry in your souls, to you who have once had the touch and anointing of God on your life, to all who have ever seen a miracle, who have ever been healed, your life miraculously spared, to you who have ever experienced or exercised any of the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit, but NOW YOU HAVE TURNED BACK! God says, **"Take heed"…all who have failed to go on into greater, deeper, higher and more powerful things for God!**

When I speak of greater things, I'm not speaking of numerical strength or numbers. That doesn't mean a thing to me. I am talking about a greater spiritual experience with God! It was a sin in Bible days to even count the people, lest they would trust in their numbers. God wants us to claim and have the power of God today for our lives and our ministry to other people. To heal the sick! To perform the miraculous! To cast out devils!

Paul again states, **"But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition, but of them that believe to the saving of the soul." (Hebrews 10:39)** I am saved now, but the only way to stay saved is to continue walking with God. We must go on from glory to glory to know the high calling that is in Christ Jesus!

Who was the Apostle Paul referring to in these scriptures? He was speaking about a multitude of people who had been brought out by a miracle from bondage and captivity. A people who had been led and protected by a miracle! They had seen God destroy their enemies. God gave them miracle water right out of the rock. They ate miracle light bread every morning; they were filled and satisfied each night by miracle meat, quails, which rained down upon them! Step by step God directed their path and met their every need by the miraculous!

Friend, when God delivers you from bondage, heals you, leads and guides, and meets your every need by miracle after miracle you had better not turn back. How can you allow unbelief to cause you to draw back and depart from God? The only way for you and me to take is to GO ON to greater miracles God has in store ahead! To fail to go on means death, perhaps not physically, but most certainly spiritually!

The psalmist declared, **"We will not hide them from their children…" (See Psalm 78). 'How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, and grieve him in the desert! Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel. They remembered not his hand, nor the day when he delivered them from the enemy. How he had wrought his signs in Egypt, end his wonders in the fields of Zoan: And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods that they could not drink."** In verse after verse the psalmist sings of all the marvelous things God had done for them, but said that they had forgotten. **"And forgot his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them…And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness…they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness? And they tempted God in their heart…Yea, they spake against God…Therefore the Lord heard this, and was wroth…Because they believed not in God and trusted not**

in his salvation…The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen men of Israel. For all this they sinned still, and believed not for his wondrous works. Therefore their days did he consume in vanity, and their years in trouble…He gave his people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with his inheritance. The fire consumed their young men; and their maidens were not given to marriage. Their priests fell by the sword, and their widows made no lamentation."

From the very start, the Lord said to Moses, **"Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward! (See Exodus 14:15)** God brought them forth from bondage with a great deliverance. All that He required of them was to keep their faith in Him and to GO FORWARD! But they began to murmur and complain and to look back instead of looking forward. They said, **"We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks and the onions, and the garlic;…and the anger of the Lord was kindled greatly! (Numbers 11:5-10)**

Here is the thought: they said we're not going on, we're going back, because they counted His great works and His promises as noting. God said, "I didn't bring you all this distance, and I did not reveal unto you all these mighty works and miracles for you to turn around and go back to serve under the whiplash of Pharaoh, or under the whiplash of the devil or modernism, unbelief, skepticism and the cold, dead modern group. I brought you this far for you to go on. You are not going back; I will kill you in the wilderness before I will let you turn back!"

So many in modern churches today are spiritually bound by coldness, unbelief, doubt, and skepticism. They have joined through a handshake, and been baptized into a cold, dead church that does not preach holiness nor condemn sin. These people do not know what righteousness or holiness is. They know nothing of the healing virtues of Calvary, or the deliverance that God has promised in Jesus' name! They have more time for the funny papers and television than for prayer. We meet them by the hundreds; they come to tent revivals like ours for healing and deliverance, because there is a spiritual famine in the land for the Word of God and the moving of the Holy Spirit. They are like prisoners in a prison of stained glass windows, starving sheep with over-fed shepherds, starving to death for hearing the Word of God, because their ministers have turned back in unbelief, and have failed to go on with God!

Newspapers these days carry articles concerning well-known religious leaders who have once had the blessings and the touch of God on their lives, but are not going on. They are turning back! Like Israel, they **"forgot his works, and his wonders that he had showed them…and believed not for his wondrous works."**

Any man who at one time has been an anointed servant of the Lord, and who returns to the leaks and garlic, and whiplash of bondage will become as dead spiritually as Michal's womb; she never bare a child from that time forward. God may not kill you physically, as He did Israel, but He can render you just as dead spiritually. By this I mean that servant will never be able again to give birth to any more spiritual children. No longer a soul winner! It is when "Zion travaileth that she bringeth forth children!" (See Isaiah 66:8) I'm talking about real, old-fashioned, heaven-sent, Holy Ghost, sin-killing, soul converting Miracle Revival!

God saved me thirty-three years ago in a Methodist Church, but I didn't stay there! Do you know why? Because I wanted to go on with God!

I started reading the Bible. I read about an experience, the receiving of the baptism of the Holy Ghost, that my pastor hadn't told me about. When I asked him about it, he

started criticizing and condemning the very thought of it. He said that God no longer fills people with the Holy Ghost; people don't speak in tongues; the gifts and manifestations of the Holy Ghost are not for today! \

I told my Methodist pastor, "I've been going to a little church up the street where people are receiving the Holy Ghost." He said, "Ah, it's of the devil!"

I answered him, "You can call it of the devil if you want to, but I will never be satisfied until I receive the Holy Ghost, the gifts of the Spirit, and until I can do as the Bible said the believer ought to do." Jesus said, "And these signs shall follow them that believe…!" How can I prove that I am a believer if I don't speak with new tongues? How can I prove I am a believer if the sick are not healed when I lay my hands upon them? These are the signs that follow Christ's believers!

Do you mean to tell me after God has brought me this far for thirty-three years, with healing, deliverance, signs, wonders, and miracles, that I can turn around and go back to that Methodist Church and still continue to prove that I am a believer? How could I agree with their man-made doctrines, manuals and beliefs which declare that this is not for us today, when I have had this glorious experience for all these years? Could I go back without going to hell? Could I go back and still go to heaven? Certainly not!

It is true that God did save me there, but He has led me farther on according to the Word of God, step by step, precept by precept. God has brought me this far in thirty-three years, now how can I go back to that? I believe God would kill me first!

Preachers, laymen, I want to go on! I want to have everything God has for His people! Do you? It would be better to preach to a congregation of only a few people, and know of a certainty that you are walking in the midst of the anointing and blessing of God! It would be better to be led b the Lord and experience the miraculous, than to ever turn and go back to those who have an "evil heart of unbelief." These cold, dead, formal churches may have the multitudes, but the majority of their people have never been born again. They do not want God, and only condemn what God is doing today.

You will only stay saved if you walk in the light, as you continue to do what God has called you to do. As the Bible said, He killed the fattest of them there in the wilderness, because they would not go on! Many today are dying spiritually, because they are going back to the snooty, pride-filled Jezebels and Ahabs who have a place in society. They will turn back for those who might have a little more money in their bank accounts, a little more worldly prestige!

God let their carcasses fall in the wilderness. God struck Michal and she became barren. God struck Miriam with an incurable disease because she criticized the way God was moving. God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, because the people disregarded the commandments of God. God killed millions in the antediluvian age, because they were corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. God killed Jezebel, He killed Ahab, because they turned back from serving the Lord and caused the people to serve idols. When you grieve God, He will only let you grieve Him just so far, and so long. The Bible is full of examples where God has killed those who once had the light of the Word shed upon their pathway, and who turned back!

Some of the greatest men of God who were preaching to thousands of people during the beginning of this great healing revival can't be found today. They had great tents and preached to thousands of people, but today they are running hotels, selling automobiles and insurance. They're in business. Why? Because they came to the place that they turned back. God killed them spiritually; they are dead! If a man is spiritually alive, he doesn't go back into something God brought him out of. He goes forward into

something greater, more anointed, more powerful, that is closer to God and closer to heaven.

There are some today who stand at the danger point of their lives. They criticize, laugh, mock and deny everything that is of God today. They will have nothing to do with speaking in tongues or manifestations of the Holy Spirit in their services. The pastor will say, "Ushers, will you kindly set that lady down back there who is speaking in tongues? Will you ushers kindly lead that man out of this tent who is doing all that shouting?" When you give no place in church for God to speak or to work, **you are doing away with God!** When you deny in your services the Spirit of God, the power of God, and the joy of the Lord, of old-time, heaven-sent, Holy Ghost revival, you might as well deny Jesus! You have denied Him and put Him to an open shame! You have already determined you will go no farther with God; you have already turned and started back! Too many have failed to go on with God's power, so they had to go back to something cold, dead, and formal!

I can't preach what I've bee preaching for thirty-three years, and watched God confirm His Word with signs following, and then go back to a cold, dead, modern denomination!

Turn with me to the fourteenth and fifteenth chapters of Exodus and read of the first great worship service Israel had after God brought them out from under the whiplash of Pharaoh. There you will find recorded a beautiful picture, three million people dancing and beating their timbrels, singing the song of joy and victory on the shores of the Red Sea. Was that a show of emotionalism of God or of the devil? I believe as long as you stay out from under the devil's whiplash, you will keep the joy of the Lord, and you will have a church today that will worship and rejoice just like they did that day in Exodus 15!

My Bible tells me that when David danced before the Lord with all his might that God stamped His approval upon it. It didn't make any difference to David if his wife did mock. It doesn't matter if some question if it is of the devil or of the Lord. What if some doubt if it is of the Spirit and believe it is of the flesh! I believe when you keep the joy of the Lord, once in a while you are going to get your joy into your feet and enjoy it before the Lord!

About seventy-five years ago, the Methodists had the joy and praise in their services. They would dance up and down the aisles of old-fashioned brush-arbor meetings. Grandma would lose her hairpins dancing before the Lord. She had the blessing and power of God upon her life. But you cannot find it in that church today. They did not go on with God; instead, they stayed in the same place and died.

In Luke 19:39, the people tore limbs from palm trees, threw cloaks in the path as Jesus came riding into Jerusalem on an ass. They were praising the Lord, with a LOUD voice for all the mighty miracles they had seen. But the dead religious group of that day, who did not believe in a show of emotions in worship, wanted Jesus to rebuke the people. Jesus answered them, **"I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out!" (Luke 19:40)** They had something to shout about! I also would say to the dead religious leaders of today, leave us alone; we also have something marvelous to shout about. Our God is alive! We worship the Savior, our Healer, our Deliverer!

If shouting and praising the Lord is not of God, then why did the Lord tell the children of Israel to shout down the walls of Jericho? Why did God tell the followers of Jehoshaphat in II Chronicles 20, to separate and send ahead those who could sing and praise the Lord in the beauty of holiness? Was that of the devil, or was it of God? The

whole army marched out to meet the enemy shouting and singing, and the Lord gave them one of the greatest victories in their history!

In the fifteenth chapter of Luke, we find a perfect picture of the modernist church today. The elder brother came in from the field and heard music and dancing in his father's house. What was taking place? He didn't know what was going on. He called one of his servants and asked, "What meaneth these things?" The servant answered him excitedly, "Thy brother is come, and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound." He didn't know what was going on in the real church. And when the lost soul came to himself and returned for forgiveness, it made the elder brother angry. He would have nothing to do with that sinner who had wasted his life and his money in sin. He would have no part in the feast. It made him angry to even hear the music and the dancing. He turned his nose up at the whole thing.

This is what these modern denominations are doing today to our kind of meetings. When sinners come and are forgiven of their sins and restored into the kingdom of God, and they hear the music and see the dancing before the Lord, they want nothing to do with it. They want no part of the spiritual feast the Father has prepared!

The father pleaded with the elder son, "We have killed the fatted calf. Your brother who was lost is found. He is alive. Come on in." But he would not. God says, "Let them stay out." That doesn't mean we cannot carve the fatted calf and go on with the dancing and music and have revival!

Denominations and their preachers are bound today by man-made traditions, regulations, and customs. Jesus Himself stated, "They make of none effect the Word of God." Church tradition states that the preacher must wear long black robes, with the collar turned around backwards. His face must be serious and sober. Church tradition states that you must join a church to be a part of the church. Tradition teaches sprinkling instead of immersion in water baptism. This is why some churches are cold, dead, and dry today, and are making of none effect the Word of God.

The Prophet Joel states in 1:4, **"That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten"** God is describing the church today. There are no gifts of the Spirit in most churches today, no joy, no shouting, no old-time religion, no healings, no miracles, no prophecy, no discernment, no tongues, no interpretation, and no faith. Joel states in 1:7, **"He hath laid my vine waste and barked my fig tree, he hath made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white."**

When the palmerworm, the locust, the cankerworm and the caterpillar have done their work there is no tree left! Not a leaf! No fruit! No bark! It is dead! God said, "He hath laid my vine waste, and hath barked my fig tree; he hath made it clean bare, and casts it away; the branches thereof are made white."

God as describing that church I left thirty-three years ago! There is not a leaf of healing on that tree. There's not a gift of the Spirit to edify the people.

Speaking of His chosen ones, God says He will restore unto us everything that was destroyed, and we shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord!

That's the kind of revival we are in today. No wonder people shout and rejoice and praise the Lord!

There was a time during the dark ages when there wasn't a leaf on the tree, there wasn't a bit of fruit. The church had been dead through four hundred years. It looked as though the church would never survive the dark ages. Then Martin Luther began to

preach, "The just shall live by faith." Luther led the chosen ones of the Lord out of the Catholic Church in the 1500s, and gave roots to the tree. Then came the Puritan Movement of the 1700s and 1800s, with the Congregationalists, Knox, Calvin, Fletcher, Whitfield, and the Wesleys of the Methodist Church. With this movement God began to put a few leaves on the tree. A little bark was put on also, as old-fashioned Methodists began to shout and rejoice a little. The Wesleys preached that you can know you are saved, and they had the experience.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s revival broke out in Britain. The Salvation Army was formed. Also in the 1900s the Pentecostal Revival was begun. At first this revival was independent and spread rapidly. However, when it became organized and denominationalized, it died. In the 1920s and 1930s another revival broke out. It was the Revival of Feeling! Sister Aimee McPherson and the Richey Brothers had some of the biggest crowds in the country, and the sick were being healed by the power of God. When these revivals became denominationalized they, too, died.

In the 40s and 50s still another revival broke out, called the Latter Rain Revival, but people became too anxious to give gifts, instead of receiving gifts from God, and it died. In 1950 another revival broke out, called the Healing Revival. It died ten years ago. One by one, most of the men of God have left the scene. The names of their magazines no longer bear the word "healing" in them; they now carry more staid, denominational approving names.

We cannot stay back with Luther in the 1500s; that was only God's first step in restoring His Church. Nor can we stay with the Congregationalists, the Baptists, the Calvinists, the Methodists. God meant for them to go forward, to take another step, but they stayed back and died. Just because your church had a good beginning does not mean that it has the anointing of God today. Each successive revival has taken another step forward. Those who did not move forward have died. Why? Because God is restoring to the church everything that has been taken away from it. God wants not only the tree restored, which is His Church, but that tree must have leaves of healing and fruit.

Do you mean to tell me I can have all the gifts of the Spirit in operation and GO BACK to the cold, dead denomination I left thirty-three years ago, where there is no shout, no joy? Definitely NO! If you do not know how to go on, it is a lot easier to go back. Any dead fish can float down stream with the current, but it takes a live fish with determination to fight its way up the rapids and swift waters to the place where it can spawn and produce a multitude of offspring! A soul winner for Christ!

For years, many thousands of Methodists, as I once did, have left the denomination to seek more spirituality in Full Gospel churches. That is why it would be a step in the wrong direction if I should ever go back to the Methodist Church. Why should I go back and die? I am going on with the Lord, into greater, mightier, and more powerful things for God. Come brethren, let us GO FORWARD FOR THE LORD, not back, **"For we are not of them who draw back unto perdition, but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."**

DOES GOD "PLAY SECOND FIDDLE"?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1968)

I don't want this to sound like I condemn physicians, medicine or drugs, or what the medical profession has done or may do in the future. That is not my business. Neither am I going to agree with anybody that God has turned His job, His duty, or what Jesus came to do, over to man.

What did Jesus come to do? In Luke 4:16-21 we read: "And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto Him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it is written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because h hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set a liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord" And He closed the book and He gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on Him. And He began to say unto them, This day is the scripture fulfilled in your ears." (Jesus was reading from Isaiah 61:1.)

Jesus came to heal the sick, to open the eyes of the blind, but how did He do it?' Entirely by the anointing and supernatural power of the Holy Ghost!

Can you find one place in the Bible where Jesus ever said He had turned His job over to medicine, drugs, surgery, or doctors?

Can you show me one place in the Bible where Jesus ever gave anybody a shot with a hypodermic needle? Can you show me one place where Jesus ever sent one person to a doctor, where He ever prescribed one pill? If you can, I will believe that God is healing through physicians and medical science.

Jesus didn't even send the little woman in Luke 13:11-13 to a chiropractor. He laid His hands upon her, cast the devil out, and she was healed immediately:

"And behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And He laid His hands on her; and immediately she was made straight and glorified God."

If God had intended to heal today through medicine and drugs, surely somewhere in the Bible Jesus would have resorted to them, at least in a few instances. But He did not! He depended entirely on God's supernatural power absolutely separate from the help of man.

God is GOD…and He will not "play second fiddle" to anybody. "I the Lord thy God am a jealous God" (Exodus 20:5). His method is the same today as in days gone by. What was it? We read in Acts 10:38, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him."

His healings were performed not because He knew drugs and had attended medical school, but because God was with Him. He was anointed of God for the work. Isaiah said, chapter 10, verse 27: "…the yoke shall be destroyed because of the

anointing." Jesus came to destroy the yoke of the devil, which is found in the 28th chapter of Deuteronomy.

Jesus did not complete the work He started. Before He went away, He called His disciples and told them He was going to have a church and a people who would continue the work He had begun.

God said concerning us, "…they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." (Mark 16:18).

Paul became converted on the road to Damascus, when God threw him in the dust and spoke to him. Paul answered, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6). From that time, Paul did the works Jesus called him to do. He healed the sick by the laying on of hands and by means of handkerchiefs and aprons which were sent from Paul's body to the sick. Paul did not resort to the help or knowledge of man, but depended solely upon God's supernatural power.

"And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them." (Acts 19:11-12).

After Peter was filled with the Holy Ghost on the Day of Pentecost, even his shadow healed the sick, and he depended entirely on supernatural power. "…they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them" (Acts 5:15).

These occurrences took place right at the beginning of the dispensation of the church. Such operations of the Holy Ghost are recorded all through the book of Acts.

You will not find one instance in the Bible where Jesus ever healed by any means except the supernatural. And He still heals today ONLY by the power and anointing of the Holy Ghost.

We are to complete the work that Jesus began. One of these days He is coming back to see what kind of job we have done, whether we have continued the ministry "…of all that Jesus began to do and teach." (Acts 1:1).

Do you believe God turned His work over to the church – His anointed, Holy Ghost filled believers, as was evidenced on the Day of Pentecost, or did He turn His work over to manufacturing plants, drug companies, and medical centers?

God works not by physical might or by natural power, but by His Spirit. He does not use any vessel that is not filled with the Holy Ghost. "…be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord" (Isaiah 52:11). When God uses a man, it is not the man who does the work, but it is the power of the Holy Ghost operating through that man. I have often said that it is not my hand that heals or that performs a miracle; it is the Spirit of God and the gift and power of God working through a man who is yielded to Him.

The Word of God declares: "I am the LORD that healeth thee" (Exodus 15:26). He didn't say, "Dr. Miles and his wonder drugs, in cooperation with the Lord, healeth thee." Or, "This little red pill with God's blessing on it will heal thee." God just said, "I am the Lord that healeth thee." God works by His Spirit, and not because of something we do ourselves. Especially is this true when it comes to the gift of healing, and the gift of miracles, as well as the gift of wisdom, the gift of knowledge, and the gift of discernment.

The gift of wisdom, made mention of in I Corinthians, has nothing to do with the wisdom that is acquired from books. Solomon had wisdom that came from God. It was heaven-sent, God given, supernatural, and anointed. If you don't think so, read the book of Proverbs.

The gift of wisdom comes from God. After He gives you wisdom you may put it in a book and people may read it, but you are not going to exercise God-given wisdom as the *gift of wisdom* unless you get it straight from God yourself.

The gift of miracles is not working in cooperation with man-made ideas or with what man can do. It needs no help from man. Nowadays men have made miracle suds, miracle oil, miracle roofing, miracle floors, miracle wallpaper. They can put a miracle in the washing machine, a miracle in the crankcase, and just about everywhere but in the church.

But I want a miracle in my life. I want a miracle in my ministry. I want a miracle in the church.

The gift of wisdom has nothing to do with books. The gift of knowledge has nothing to do with school. The gift of tongues has nothing to do with man's languages. The gift of discernment has nothing to do with psychology. The gift of healing has no connection whatsoever with medicine, drugs, surgery, or physicians.

If the gift of healing had to work in cooperation with the medical profession, God would be performing healing through natural channels. But that gift has nothing to do with medicine, drugs, hypodermic needles, and pills.

You can use all the Sloan's Liniment and all the pills you want to, but God is not healing through Sloan's Liniment. He is not healing through pills. He is not healing through drugs. If that were true, the gift of healing would be working through a means. Then God would have to have something out of a bottle with which to heal. If God could not heal without something out of a bottle, then what kind of God would He be? That would be against all the teaching of the Bible because God said that He works not by natural means, natural power, physical might, or the knowledge of men. GOD WORKS BY HIS SPIRIT!

The gift of healing needs no help from doctors, for it is all-powerful to remove a cancer or a tumor. This is why God said, "NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT SAITH THE LORD OF HOSTS."

The devil would like for God's children to believe that they cannot fully depend upon God, that God is not altogether able to take care of their needs. He would like to establish the belief that God's children must work in cooperation with natural means.

I'm not saying that sunshine cannot be instrumental in killing certain types of germs, but sunshine will not heal tuberculosis. If it would, every such sufferer could just lie in the sun and be healed.

There are many areas where the climate is beneficial to certain ailments. A high, dry climate, for instance, helps those who suffer from asthma and arthritis. It isn't the climate that heals them. It is just easier to breathe in a high, dry climate. Arthritis is not so painful in such a climate as it is in a cold, damp one.

However, I have not yet found, even though God can use sunshine and use nature, that God heals through such means. If you cut your arm, the flesh will close up. That is natural healing. But that is not what I call HEALING. I am talking about the *gift of healing* – God's healing power.

If the gift of healing works in cooperation with the help of man, with the help of doctors, what is there for you to do when your doctor gives you up to die, except to turn to him, look him in the eye and say, "You mean to tell me that I have to die…that God has no more power, and that He knows nothing about this illness?"

If God's healing power depends upon the help of medicine and drugs, or if the gift of healing and the gift of miracles depend on the cooperation of doctors, then there are times when God cannot do any more…when God is helpless.

Hundreds of people come into our meetings so sick that they can't even fill out their own prayer cards. They are the incurables, given up by the doctors. Almost every night there are quite a number of these people. If God heals through medicine and drugs, then God has had to give up on these cases. If God is healing through medicine, then there are some that God can't do a thing with. Then God is helpless. Then God has had to admit defeat.

But God does NOT heal through physicians, medicine and drugs. God heals through His own children, using them as instruments for the Holy Spirit to operate through. Who are the children of God? Only those who are born-again Christians. Until one experiences the new birth, he is a sinner and a child of the devil. Jesus declared this when He told the Jews, "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do" (John 8:44).

Therefore, if God were to heal through the medical profession, He could not use any doctor who was not a born-again Christian, full of the Holy Ghost. But if God healed through physicians as a whole, He would be using a group of people, many of whom are sinners, God-haters, God-rejecters, and who are violently opposed to the teachings of the Word of God and particularly to those regarding healing of the body.

We experienced this kind of opposition in connection with a daily radio broadcast in an eastern city in which were located a great medical school and the officers of a certain national medical society. These physicians exerted all the power and influence of their great organization in an effort to force our broadcast off the air because we were preaching that God can take over where man leaves off, that God can take over when man has to give up, that God can heal those who have been given up to die.

If that group of physicians is being used of God to heal the sick, if God is healing through them, why is it that they fight me and what I preach from the Word of God? If God *does* heal through the medical profession, with their medicine and drugs, why don't the doctors work in cooperation with the Bible and with preachers who are proclaiming the truth as set forth in God's Word?

Furthermore, if God heals through medicine, why doesn't every bottle bear a label: "This bottle of medicine is manufactured in the name of Jesus and for the Glory of God?" Why is it when a physician gives you a prescription that he does not say, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, I write this prescription for the glory of God." Why don't all the doctors, when they are about to perform an operation, bow their heads and pray, "Oh Almighty God, we give you all the glory, and in the name of Jesus and for the glory of God, I am going to make this incision."

You will never see that because it would be contrary to the teachings of the Bible. God declares that He works not by natural means nor by the knowledge of men, but by the operation of the Holy Spirit.

In Joel 2:28-32, we read:

"I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit. And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come. And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall

be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call."

On the authority of God's Word, I declare that God uses only His own Holy Ghost-filled people to finish His work – to save the lost, heal the sick, cast out devils, and prepare people for the Kingdom.

Since that is your work…since that is my work…I say that God is NOT doing our work through somebody else. I say that He does NOT heal through physicians, medicine, and drugs. The Word of God declares, **"Not by might, nor by power, but my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts"** (Zechariah 4:6).

HELP WANTED! GOD SAID TELL THE PEOPLE

"I'M LOOKING FOR A MAN!"

(A. A. ALLEN – 1968)

"For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him…"
– (II Chronicles 16:9)

"And I sought for a man among them…but I found none. Therefore I have poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord God."
– (Ezekiel 22:30-31)

While preparing for service under the tent one night, God spoke to my heart and said, "Tell the people I am looking for a man. Tell them YOU are looking for a man." I wondered, after I gave the people all the qualifications required for an evangelist or co-worker to join our party, how many applications would I get. How many would qualify? There are so many demands upon those whom God is using to win the world to Christ in our generation.

People who work with us in Miracle Revival must believe in evangelism. They must believe that the evangelist is one of the five ministries that God Himself placed in the Church that all the devils in hell can't remove or destroy.

BORN AGAIN! He must positively be born again. He must not only know it, but show evident sign that he is born again indeed. According to the Bible, he must have a new heart – old things having passed away, and all things become new.

SPIRIT FILLED! The person who joins our party and works with us definitely must be filled with the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:4. No man need to apply who declares that he received the Holy Ghost when he was saved. The Bible plainly asks the question, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" (Acts 19:2). This organization has no place for a professing Christian who says he can preach without being baptized or filled with the Holy Ghost and fire. Jesus Himself instructed those who would be carrying on His work: "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" (See Luke 24:49).

CALLED! One who works for Miracle Revival must have a definite call of God. No evangelist need apply unless he knows that God has called him, like God called Elijah or Elisha, Samuel or Amos.

COLOR BLIND! The man who intends to work for God must be color blind…spiritually speaking. He must be so color blind that he cannot tell the difference between red, yellow, brown, black or white. He must love all races.

LOVE! Of course, if he is color blind, it will mean that he will love everybody. He will have that same kind of love that God had when He gave the world His only begotten Son.

AGE! God uses men and women, both young and old. The age of miracle workers doesn't matter. A worker can be as young as David when he played the devil out of Saul (See I Samuel 19:8-10). He can be as young as Samuel when he first heard the voice of God calling, "Samuel!" (I Samuel 3). He can be as old as Moses when the Red Seas opened. That greatest mass miracle of deliverance of all time took place under the ministry of eighty-year old Moses. God can use one as old as Miriam. When she was past ninety she beat a tambourine and led a million women up and down the sands of the Red Seas, dancing and praising the Lord! (Exodus 14:15).

HOLINESS! Speaking of qualifications for a preacher who would work with us, he must be holy. Jesus said, "Be ye holy for I am holy" (I Peter 1:16). "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:16). That means holy in all manner of conversation. People who work with us must have a positive message; they must be at war with no one but the devil. Too busy with a positive message of Jesus Christ, the power and anointing of God and gifts of the Spirit, to spend time criticizing other men.

Very definitely, he should be free from the use of tobacco in all forms. There is no room in the move of God for a man who smokes!

VISIONARY! Miracle workers must be visionary and see things! "Without a vision the people perish!" Jesus saw and heard marvelous things. One prophet of God, Ezekiel, saw a valley full of dry bones, and he heard a voice saying, "Ezekiel, prophecy to these dry bones." Unless a man can see a vision that he believes will someday become reality, in God and according to the scriptures, we have no place for him in this ministry.

UNDENOMINATIONAL! He could not bow down to bishops, presbyters, general superintendents, and so forth. He would have to get his message straight from heaven. There would be no time to call or wire Springfield, Los Angeles, Joplin, or Cleveland, in order to find out if he could prophesy to a valley of old dry bones. We have found through the years of experience that the man who is bound by denominationalism isn't too interested in building up the kingdom of God in general, but just in building up his own denomination's kingdom. Generally a man who is bound by such a group draws a line and says, "This is the boundary." But the Word tells us the world is the field! God's field knows no denominational boundaries. God loves everybody and declares they are all one.

TRAINING! As far as religious training is concerned, we prefer that our workers had never spent four to six years in a cold, dead, dry, formal, atheistic seminary that has preached all the belief and faith out, and instilled doubt, skepticism, and atheism in the heart. We had rather he come from the school of hard knocks, to have learned on his knees and in the ministry.

ABILITY TO FAST AND PRAY! The victorious minister who expects to do things in the kingdom of God must be able to fast and pray and seek the face of God until God comes down and meets him and imbues him with every heavenly endowment such as the gifts of the Spirit. The Bible says a man's gift will make room for his ministry. Where there is no gift, man has to depend on a denomination to provide a church and a ministry. But God provides the ministry to those who have supernatural gifts.

PREACH AND MINISTER! It is my opinion, based on the scripture, that every man God ever called to preach was doing something when God called him. I have never been interested in a preacher without a job. A preacher who has the power of God in his life will be fulfilling Christ's Great Commission. Jesus not only said, "Preach the gospel! Preach the Word!" He also commissioned us to heal the sick and cast out devils!

If you can't cast out devils...if you are afraid of devils...don't expect to fulfill Jesus' command. If you're of the opinion that demons no longer exist since the time of Jesus, there is no place for you in our organization. If you declare that God heals through medicine, doctors and nurses, drugs and surgery, and don't believe God can heal all by Himself, independent of medicine, don't ever send me an application to work. We want members of our staff to be men and women of faith who believe that God heals the sick without man's help whatsoever.

OFFERING! How do you feel about receiving an offering to be used to win the lost around the world in this generation? We believe the scripture that declares the Lord Jesus came to preach the gospel to the poor (See Luke 4:18). We are convinced that God is pleased when we preach the message of giving and prosperity. We believe that all people need God's blessings that come from giving tithes and offerings (Malachi 3:8-12). If you can't preach the Bible on giving, and take up the offerings of people, you would be a hindrance in this ministry that is moving forward with God.

HOURS! Of course, when you are interested in a position, you are usually interested in the number of hours you will possibly have to work each day. Occasionally, our workers might have a day off when we're going to the next tent meeting. Sometimes we're in such a hurry we don't even drive our own automobile; we have to fly. Many times there will be two days between campaigns, enough time to get to the next location. If you're interested in golf, fishing, big game hunting, just loafing around doing nothing, you would not be happy in our busy schedule for God.

On busy weekends, when the "Big Top" is packed and jammed, our staff may work eighteen hours a day, through all three services a day, morning, afternoon, and night.

SALARY! Guaranteed salary? Our evangelists get none. I don't care how many records I make, I don't get a penny. I don't care how many books are written, I don't get any commission on my books.

How do I live? Just on what the people give me personally, because they love me and my ministry. It's the same way with Brother Rogers and Brother Stewart. We receive only the offerings people specifically designate for our own personal use, in the meetings as well as by mail.

FREE TO TRAVEL! "Have sword, will travel." You need a sword that is sharpened on both sides. It cuts coming and going. The Word is "sharper than any two-edged sword." It is quite capable of dehorning the devil and bringing every one of his maneuvers to defeat.

WILLING TO SUFFER PERSECUTION! If you desire to do the works Jesus did, you must be willing to be lied about, be gossiped about. Every worker who joins our organization must realize this and be willing to suffer persecution. Around the world, ten thousand preachers will call you a devil like they did Jesus; they will say you cast out devils by the power of Beelzebub. They will call you illegitimate. They will tell that you've been married twice. They will declare you are a dope addict or an alcoholic. They will call you everything but a minister of God. They will ridicule and persecute you like they did Jesus. Remember, all the apostles died a violent death for Christ's cause. You've got to be willing to lay your life down for the cause of Christ in order to share in His miracle-working ministry to the people.

SPECIAL NOTE! No effeminate, panty-waist, spineless sissy of a preacher has any part in the work of God. Any preacher who wears pink tea aprons, and spends most of his time serving pink lemonade, who is suckled by an old ladies aid society, need

never apply to work with our staff. We must have men with backbone, who can preach the full gospel from Genesis to Revelation. We must have men who have no fear; only compassion for the sick, the suffering, the dying, the demon possessed!

God said to tell the people, "I'm looking for a man!" I wonder just how many applications I would get for an evangelist or co-worker to join the Allen Evangelistic Party, who would be willing and able to qualify.

POVERTY AND SHAME

(A. A. Allen – 1968)

"Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honored." - Proverbs 13:18

How many of you believe the Bible? You really believe what the Word of God says? God has given us so many wonderful promises in the Word, but it isn't everyone who believes the Bible.

The Word says, **"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth"** (II Timothy 2:15). If people would rightly divide the Word, there would be few false cults in the world today. Some people would locate a few scattered verses of scripture, take them completely out of their original setting, and quote them out of their context to back up false doctrines and men's ideas. You can make the Bible say almost anything when you do that.

I am reminded of a preacher who often uses a shocking example of wrongly dividing the scripture. He declares that leading people into false doctrine where they lose out with God is as bad as misusing the scripture to cause men to commit suicide. By placing certain scriptures together, he reads, "Therefore Saul took a sword and fell upon it…Then said Jesus…Go and do thou likewise." (See I Samuel 31:4 and Luke 10:37). Of course God doesn't intend for anyone to take His Word and divide it in such a ridiculous manner.

If you quote another scripture by itself, out of its context, it is often misinterpreted: "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." At first, even the disciples themselves did not understand Jesus' saying, and they asked, "Who then can be saved?" (Mark 10:17-27).

When you read the entire story, what was Jesus talking about? He said this because the man trusted in his wealth, not because he had wealth. Jesus asked him to take up his cross and follow Him, to sell his possessions and give them to the poor. But, he refused. He went away grieved.

The rich man didn't go to hell because he had money. He went to hell because his trust was not in God, but in his wealth. He wouldn't obey God and turn it loose.

Money! It isn't a sin to have money. You no doubt have some money in your pocket right now. If it were a sin to have money, we would all be sinners. I want to tell you I am no sinner!

I believe a lot of preachers could do much better preaching if they had money in their pockets; if their pockets weren't so empty. If there is anything that will give a man a cowardly, beaten-down, defeated attitude, it is for a preacher to get up to preach, realizing he hasn't paid his bills, that they are mounting higher and higher. He doesn't know where tomorrow's rent is coming from, and he doesn't know how he is going to make payments on the piano and organ. I can tell you this: that man can't do his best preaching under those circumstances. He is so defeated and so tied down with problems that about all he can say is, "Folks, I don't know what we are going to do." He is being honest. He doesn't know what he is going to do. He feels like he is standing alone. "Well, if you don't do something, we are going to have to close the doors; we are going to have to quit."

What more is he to do? It is his place to minister to the spiritual needs of the people, to preach them the Word. It is their place to give of their substance and their increase, so that the needs will be met. God declares in His Word, **"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent?"** (Romans 10:13-15). The church has an obligation to the preacher!

You've heard desperate radio preachers, "How am I going to stay on the air if you people don't help me? You are going to listen one of these mornings and you won't hear me anymore. Poor me! Poor me! I'm going to quit preaching if you don't help me."

Bless God! I am going to preach the gospel whether you do something or not. Amen! I am going to preach the gospel! These preachers who aren't preaching the gospel, I don't believe they should be supported. I said, I don't believe they should be supported. I said I don't believe you should support a preacher who won't preach the full gospel!

I am in revival seven days a week, three services a day to preach the gospel. When God saved me, He gave me a backbone like a saw log. I intend to preach the gospel as long as I live.

Sure, there are a few old sore heads sitting around. They call them "tightwads" over in Arkansas. Stingy! Some call them down in Texas, "old stingy gut." But do you know what God calls them? **"Thieves and robbers!"**

One such man wrote me a letter. I thought I would just keep it in my Bible and refer to it sometime. It was handed to me on Tuesday night in the London Campaign. I didn't get to open it until after the meeting was over, because so many people had handed me so many letters that I couldn't read them all. I guess he thought I would tear it open and read it immediately, because he challenged me to read it in the Wednesday evening service. Here is what the man said: "Dear Brother Allen, What are you going to do with all the money that you are getting in this London campaign? Take it back to Miracle Valley Arizona?"

You could see he was a sorehead from the first sentence. I guess he could just see thousands of pounds coming in the offerings in that London meeting. We had terrific crowds, but we weren't getting very much to meet the campaign expenses. What made him think that any of it was coming to me?

The letter continued, "Why don't you tell the people here in London how much you own at Miracle Valley? All the big office buildings, and school buildings, the school busses! You even have your own post office. You have that big auditorium that seats thousands, the cafeteria, all the machinery for printing magazines and letters, the mailing and stuffing machine, the radio and television equipment, that big tent and all the trucks and equipment. I bet you don't tell the people in London what you own in America. The trailer houses you live in when you travel, ad the house you live in at Miracle Valley. I will be back Wednesday night for you to read this on the microphone. I say you won't do it because you don't want people to know how much you own."

If that man had any sense, he could realize that anyone can pick up a copy of Miracle Magazine at our bookstand, or get one when we put them in the aisles every night in our revivals. In our magazines, month after month, we print reports and pictures of what God has given us to do His work. We tell all about the radio, television, school buildings, the post office. We give God the glory for all of His many blessings unto us.

Doesn't this man know that many of our friends from England have come to Miracle Valley to school and for Camp Meeting, and have witnessed the entire operation there? Does he believe that we try to keep anything hidden from our partners in this great work? Indeed not! We take them on tours throughout the entire valley, and we rejoice together! We give God the glory for all His many blessings!

Why should I attempt to keep the blessings of God a secret from the people in London? They are the very ones that ought to know that God is a blesser and not a curser of His children. Amen! Why in the world would I keep a secret from anybody that we have office buildings and good equipment to print and distribute the gospel message, and that we spend a million dollars a year on radio and television, including equipment and preparation of tapes and film?

I have nothing to hide! I am anxious to tell how God is blessing us and you; how God is blessing us together; and what God is doing, and how He has provided the means so we can preach the gospel to every creature on the four corners of the earth. I want the world to know Jesus is a blesser! He is a giver! Amen?

I want to remind you that as we give to God, God gives right back to us. He gives good life to us **"pressed down, shaken together, and running over!"** (Luke 6:38). I imagine when this man came back on Wednesday night, and when I didn't get up on the microphone and tell him all about these blessings of God, that he said to himself, "Uh huh! Uh huh! Allen just didn't want to accept my challenge."

I'll go back there next year. When he sticks his snoot back in the campaign, I am going to chop it off with the Word of God. God's Word is "quicker, sharper, and more powerful than any two edged sword." Friend, why should I be ashamed of the times God has blessed me? Why should you be ashamed of how God gives you a cultivator to cultivate and keep the weeds out? If God gives you a feeder in which to feed your pigs, why try to hide it? Let everyone know what God has done. I want everybody to know what God is doing for me. These are blessings!

Whatever we may have at Miracle Valley or under the tent – the cameras, the radio equipment, the organ and piano – they don't belong to me. If I should die tomorrow, and they preach my funeral next week, do you think they would bury the tent and equipment with me? Do you think my loved ones would inherit all these things? Do you think they would bury them at Miracle Valley with me? No! Not so! This Miracle Revival ministry is going to go on! All these things are not mine!

God has blessed us for His glory, so we can do a better job preaching the gospel to every creature. These things were purchased or given for the Lord's work, by our friends, and those who believe in this ministry across the nation and around the world. They were acquired by and are owned by this nonprofit corporation. The funds that come into this corporation can't go to the personal enurement of any one individual. I could not sell this organ or any piece of equipment and keep the money. If it were any other way, we would lose our tax exemption status overnight. The IRS (Internal Revenue Service) carefully checks our books every year. You know they do. Uncle Sam doesn't find anything wrong with all the equipment we use to preach the gospel. Uncle Sam says it is O.K., and the accountant who examines our books is just a sinner.

Some saints who come in and say, "Ummmmmm, look at that tent…look at all those chairs. Think of all the books Allen writes. He must be rich selling all those books; he gets a dollar a piece for them."

Of all the books that I have written, and of the millions that have been sold in these campaigns over the years, and of the half-million copies that are coming off the

press right now, I won't get one thin dime. I don't even get a penny for the books I have written. They won't even give me a penny, and they are not mean folks either. I happen to be the president of the corporation, Brother Rogers is the vice-president, and Don Stewart is the secretary-treasurer; we voted and made the decision.

Rightly, I could get royalty for all the books and recordings; but I don't get a penny. I don't want a penny! I would rather just trust God for my income. Brother Don and Brother Rogers would rather do the same. All three of us sometime ago relinquished and gave up our salaries and said from that day forward, we would not receive a salary. The three of us don't even get a paycheck any more.

I kind of miss mine when I see the rest of the crew going in the office and coming out with their paychecks. I used to get a paycheck, but I don't get one anymore. How do you live? We have elected to live by faith. We receive the money people put in the mail designated for Brother Rogers, Brother Stewart, or Brother Allen, or given to us personally in the tent and auditorium meetings. That is our source of income and living. We just chose to live by faith, and God is blessing us. Praise the Lord!

In this sermon I am preaching about money and offerings. I am talking about the money it takes to preach the gospel, and I'm going to preach it by His grace. Those of you whom God has called to preach, He hasn't just called you to preach to a dozen people on a soap box in the hills. If a cracker box or a little church is all you have, God bless you and help you to be faithful. May you, **"Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes."** May you, **"...break forth on the right hand and on the left: and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make desolate cities to be inhabited. Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed; for thou shalt not be put to shame..."** (Isaiah 54:2-4).

If all the burden you have is to reach one or two, and you are satisfied and content just to minister to a dozen, I am wondering if God ever called you to preach. I mean this with all my heart. When God gives me a burning message from His Word, I want to deliver my soul to thousands, not just share it with a handful. I want it to mean something precious to a multitude.

God has never called anyone just to preach to a certain type of people. God has never called a man to preach to a certain race, or a certain color. God has never called a man just to preach to black folks, or just to yellow ones. God said to **"preach the gospel to every creature."** EVERY CREATURE! The world is the harvest field. I don't care what color their skin may be, they are "creatures," and I am going to obey God and preach to all creatures. This is my burden; this is my heart. God has called me to preach the gospel! No one has ever seen me take an offering for any purpose but to meet needs, so that we may continue to preach the gospel. Those who criticize and murmur against it and find fault and say mean, nasty things, why the big hypocrites! I can't think of any reason based on scripture, why anyone would criticize me for taking an offering to preach the gospel to every creature.

Where the works of the flesh abound, men allow themselves to become "instruments of unrighteousness," to be filled with bitterness, and to depart from the truth. They criticize those who are doing something for God, perhaps because they are afraid that they might preach to more people than they preach to. If some of them would get up and preach like I preach, God would give them a little more money so they could reach more people. Amen!

I believe one reason some ministers have such a confined ministry is because they have such a confined message. God give preachers a sermon! God give the preachers a message, and let them preach it!

The more gospel they preach, the more people they are going to preach to. The less gospel they preach, the less people they are going to preach to.

I often wonder where would I be if I had remained the pastor of that last church I ever pastored, before I stepped out into full-time evangelistic work for God. I would still be down in Corpus Christi, under the subjection of the deacon board, the presbyter, the district superintendent, and bound by all the big boys at "Winterfield!" You know where I would be? Where the pastor is now!

Sometime ago, when I was there in a campaign in the auditorium, I drove by one of my old friends who was pastoring the church at that time. The church isn't as big now as it was when I was there. Te congregation has split six or seven times; there is fussing, fighting, quarreling, and contending. If I were still pastoring there today, I would only be preaching to two hundred people. I would be confined to such a small area. I definitely couldn't preach to anyone but white folks. My deacon board would not let me have colored folks come. I never would have had the ministry I have now, unless I had utterly left that church, left that denomination, declaring I was going to preach the gospel to every creature.

In that church when I was pastor, I couldn't even get up and raise enough money to help build a new church building. They insisted, "Don't say so much about money, or people will think you are just out after money." I said, "Well, we are out after enough to build this new church and Sunday School department." The fact that I wanted to preach giving to the people, backed up with promises of blessing right in the Word of God, did not sway the church board.

They said, "We'll tell you what to do. We will just go the bank and borrow it. You won't have to get up every Sunday and pull, and pull, and pull for money."

I tried to convince them that it was God's will for a church to be built by the freewill offerings of the people. If you have ever done a study on the subject you know that it was offerings from willing hearts that made and supplied the tabernacle Moses constructed in the wilderness. David presented the people with the challenge of preparing the temple from labor and materials offered willingly. Even the repairs made to the temple many years later were made possible by those who gave freewill offerings. (See Exodus 25:1-8; 35:4-29; 36:3; I Chronicles 29:1-17; Ezra 7:11-18). God is pleased when His work is carried on by those who give of their substance, their labor and time of their own free will. It has always been His plan.

I tried to convince my deacon board that the people had plenty of money to build the church. The head deacon was the biggest contractor in the state; his son was one of the deacons, and also his son-in-law. He is one of the richest men in that city. The people worked and had been blessed of the Lord.

The board said, "We will just go to the bank and borrow it." I said, "We are not going to the bank and borrow money to build a church when the church people have enough money to build it themselves." I intended to preach it out of them.

I don't mind telling you, I didn't. My deacon board wouldn't let me. There were eleven deacons on the board. If I wanted to stay and be pastor of that church, they made it plain that I would do what they said. They were quick to say, "Listen here, we were running this church before you came, and we will be running it when you are long gone."

Needless to say, they are still running it. And if I had stayed there, they would still be running me.

I am preaching to millions of people today. That pastor down there has just a handful of people in that big church building. And yet, their feelings are, "Poor Brother Allen, he doesn't have credentials with us anymore."

Bless God, since I have my credentials in Heaven, I am preaching to more people than their whole denomination put together. Day after day, night after night, under this tent, in great auditoriums, and over the air, I am preaching to more people around the world than the whole entire Assembly denomination. Hallelujah! And I say it humbly. Thank God for giving me the faith to step out to a bigger and better ministry than I could have ever had confined to one little church, in one little town, with one little denomination!

It's thrilling to just look at the people who have part in this ministry; people who are brown, black, white, red, yellow. Hallelujah! And from every walk of life. From almost every denomination. Our books, tracts, and monthly magazine go out each month to almost every country in the world.

In the Oklahoma City campaign, an old preacher came up to me and expressed his need for my prayers. Now I'm not making fun of this preacher, so don't get me wrong. If there is anybody I feel sorry for, it is a preacher who can't shine his shoes. If I can't do anything else, I can stoop down and shine my own shoes. I think it is a shame when a preacher don't or can't shine his shoes. He can shine them for only half a penny.

This man's shoes needed shining. He had a tie on that he had dropped gravy all over. If there is anything I hate to see, it is gravy on a tie. It looks like "slurrrp and burrrp" to me. He had on an old pair of dingy, stained, spotted pants. His old white shirt needed laundering. It looked like perhaps the night before he took it off and wadded it up, and stuck it under the mattress. I believe I would have washed the pants and the shirt out in a river, if there was no other place. A ten-cent bar of soap would have scrubbed the grease out of them.

He came up to me and said, "Brother Allen, I have been listening to some of your broadcasts, and I've been reading some of your books where God is prospering other people financially. You can look at me and see that I need to be blessed and prospered. I surely need a prosperity blessing. I've come to have you lay hands on me and bless me with the blessing of prosperity."

I was thankful he kept his voice down, and didn't say it so loud. I didn't want anyone to know he was a preacher. Why? Because according to the scripture he was shameful to God. His appearance was shameful to be called a minister or a priest. I can prove it by the Bible. I am not mad at preachers like that. I do think it is time that some of us out of love try to help people like that. Amen?

That man was bound by poverty. According to the scriptures, a person who is bound by poverty is bound by "shame." It is a shame to be bound and contented to stay bound by poverty.

The Bible says in Proverbs 13:18, **"Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honored."** The Bible tells us in Proverbs 4:13, **"Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life."** Don't turn loose; hold tight to instruction and God's Word. Keep it; don't refuse it; it is thy life. Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth.

I say this humbly, when God has so much and He has given so many promises to His children, and He loves you so sincerely and so deeply, and He promises you so much

and wants you to also have much, it is a shame for anyone to continue to be poor or bound by poverty. It is a shame for you to have so little when your Father is so rich. **"Riches and wealth are the gift of God."** God says when we are bound by poverty, when He has so much and He is trying to give it us, it is a shame not to have it.

Our Father owns all the cattle on a thousand hills, all the fish in the ocean, all the wheat in Canada, all the corn in Illinois, all the hogs in Iowa, all the cheese and milk in Wisconsin! Then I hear some of you people say you don't have anything. It is a shame!

The reason some of you people abide in poverty and shame is because somewhere along the line you have rejected the Word of God. In II Timothy 3:16, God says His Word is given for **"doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."** The instructions and the promises of God lift you up above poverty. In I Samuel 2:7-8, God tells us, **"The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's and he hath set the world upon them."** It is a shame to live on the dunghill when God wants to set us among princes. Yes, this is what makes poverty such a shame. Every man that is bound by poverty is like a man living on a dunghill. A shame and a reproach unto the Lord.

Some people may feel that this is an exaggeration, that people don't live on a dunghill. I say they just don't read the letters I read, or they would shout "Amen" to this verse of scripture.

I receive the most heart-rending letters from people who live in such terrible circumstances. And I challenge them to have faith, to call on God for help, and not be content until He delivers them from their "dunghill."

Some who are bound by poverty and shame live in the midst of filth, rats, unsanitary surroundings. Some seem to be surrounded by acts of sin and violence, sinful neighbors on all sides.

Multiplied thousands seem to stand alone for God, battling the evil forces of witchcraft even among members of their own household.

How many are hindered by poverty and shame! Not enough clothing! Not enough food! Not enough money to pay the bills! Lack of fuel when it is cold! No means to circulate a little air when it is humid and hot! A laughing stock on the streets!

People write me from their hearts. They are always troubled, worried, discouraged. Tormented with fears…cursed! No light ahead… no hope in sight for anything any better…circumstances growing steadily worse!

Friend, that's what I believe God calls a dunghill. He wasn't just speaking about a spiritual condition. God says that's where the beggar lives. Those who do not work and make the effort to earn their own way. Those who must hold out their hand and live on the meager amount that is handed to them. Always wanting and needing and never having those needs completely met. God says poverty is a shame. Is this your condition? Do you know someone who is in this circumstance? They do not have to stay the way they are!

Thank God, if you will heed the Word, and are willing to obey God, He says He will lift you out of the dunghill. God would like to make you "rich" and to "set you among princes."

God allows most of us in the course of our lives and ministries to be tried in our finances. He tests our faith to see if we can be trusted with His work. The trial of our faith

is one thing; it is a precious experience. But it is a shame to live there, and be content to abide in that condition, when God wants you to exert your faith in Him for something better. God wants to lift you up and set you among princes.

If you are bound in a condition of poverty and need today, be determined that you are going to meet God's conditions in your heart and in your life, and God is going to lift you out of your dunghill existence, and set you up in a place of joy and praise for His glory. Raise your hand right now…right where you are and say, "God, I am going to do it."

I believe every one of you realizes by this time that the only thing we preach in Miracle Revival is the Bible…the Word of God. It is our only firm foundation.

Some people express their feeling that we say an awful lot about money. We simply preach like Jesus did. Jesus preached more about money than He did about heaven. Thirteen out of the nineteen parables Jesus gave us were about money and good stewardship. He preached where most people's heart is…in their pocketbook!

If He had had the same critics around that we have come into some of our meetings; they would have accused Him of being "out for money."

He had one in His group who did carry the bag. However, He sent His disciples out once and told them to not even take a purse. When they returned, He asked, "When you went without a purse, did you lack anything?" They answered, "No, Master." Then He said, "Next time you go, take your purse; somebody is going to put something in it."

Anybody knows if Jesus didn't want them to have anything, why did He tell them to carry a purse? There is no purpose in carrying around a purse that is empty. In fact, in those days, the disciples didn't even have to have identification cards, social security cards, or bank and credit cards.

The Lord spoke an awful lot about money. In fact, money was involved in one of the greatest recorded catastrophies that ever took place in the New Testament. In the fifth chapter of Acts, God killed two people right in church! You'd think that He would kill harlots and drunkards and dope addicts. But you would hardly think He would kill people when they came to the altar with an armful of money. God killed Annanias and Saphira over money…because they lied to the Holy Ghost about their money. (See Acts 5).

Don't sit there and say that I can't preach about money…that it isn't proper for preachers to mention money and giving. If a preacher can't say anything about money, then he can't even preach all of the gospel. The subject is all the way through the Bible.

Friend, my Bible not only says that the Lord maketh rich, but the Lord maketh poor, also. The Lord lifteth up and giveth life, but the Lord also holdeth down into the grave. He not only blesses some people, but He curses some also. (See I Samuel 2:6-8).

God said, **"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live"** (Deuteronomy 30:19). Choose life! Choose blessing! Your choice today may well determine the course of your children. God wants you to make the right choice, so that your children may be blessed and live. Why will you die?

God doesn't have pleasure in people's untimely death, and He doesn't want to see people live under a curse. Not only has God been known to take a life because of money, as Annanias and Saphira, but God has been known to take money away from people who refuse to obey when He tells them to give it. That is what makes some people poor. They won't be obedient when God blesses them with money.

The Bible says in Proverbs 13:18, **"Poverty and shame shall come to him that refuseth instruction."** Notice that the two are connected together. This verse makes it

plain and clear that God has put some instructions in the Bible. All you have to do, if you want to die in the poorhouse, is to ignore or refuse to follow God's instructions. This is a sure way to die in poverty and shame.

As far as I'm concerned, those who die in poverty, die in shame. God, your Father, has so much, and has promised you so much. He has repeatedly said throughout His Word, **"I would that ye would prosper and be in health." "I'll fill your barns with plenty." "I shall bless everything you put your hands to do." "Thou shalt be increased with goods." "Thou shalt eat the riches of the gentiles." "It is He that giveth thee power to get wealth."**

God has so much and has promised so much! The thing that makes it such a shame to die in poverty and have nothing, is to say you're a child of God, and you won't claim what He is trying to give you. **"To every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in His labour; this is the gift of God"** (Ecclesiastes 5:19). When God stands with a gift to give you, not only to meet YOUR NEEDS, but so that you can also meet the need of the ministry to preach the gospel worldwide, and then you die in poverty, it's a shame.

It's a shame for a child of a rich man to starve to death. For a child of a rich man to go in rags and live in a hovel. Isn't your Father rich? Aren't we heirs and joint heirs with Jesus Christ?

Poverty and shame SHALL BE to him that refuseth instruction. If you want to die in shame, just die in the poorhouse!

A little lady came to Camp Meeting in Arizona a few years back. God spoke to her and her husband to put a hundred dollars in the offering. The husband said, "If it's God talking, God can tell us this tomorrow."

Tomorrow came, and God still spoke, but the lady's husband still contended, "There's no hurry." Day after day of the Camp Meeting went by, until it came to a close; he refused to let his wife give or even pledge the hundred dollars.

Monday morning, they got in their car and started for Los Angeles. The wife's purse was locked securely in the camper trailer they had been living in. At the first turn on the highway the camper flipped upside down and caught on fire. The couple didn't get hurt in the mishap, but they couldn't get into the trailer. They stood helplessly outside and watched it burn to ashes. She wept, "Eight hundred dollars…every dollar we've got in the world is in that trailer." While they stood and watched it burn, God spoke to them: **"There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt"** (Ecclesiastes 5:13). There in a moment's time, they lost their trailer and their savings. **"Poverty and shame shall come to him that refuseth instruction."**

Now, I am a preacher, called and ordained of God by the Holy Ghost. God has set me aside to give His children instruction. Every one of you will have to confess that the instruction that I give is Biblical and scriptural. You see, Friends, I'm free. I'm not bound. I'm free to preach the whole Word of God! I haven't got any deacon board to tell me that I can't preach it, and to tell me that I'm preaching too much about money.

Someone said, "Well, why don't you just pass the offering baskets and be still." I say that people who love God love to give. The people who love the Lord and are born again want the truth. They want instruction, because instruction is life! People who don't want instruction absolutely don't want any life. It's in the Book! **"Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go; keep her; for she is thy life."**

I can't say, "The ushers are now coming to pass the offering baskets for your evening tithes and offerings. God bless you as you give for the glory of God." That may work in an established church where a minister has been preaching and teaching and instructing the people for the last twenty years. But I've got a traveling congregation. I haven't got an established church. Every few days, I have an entirely new congregation.

Some of you come into our meetings from churches where you have never been taught about giving and prosperity. Some people who come have never been to church at all. Some have been taught that God wants everybody to be poor. If I don't preach the truth to these people, they will miss God's blessing a million miles, and the work of the Lord won't prosper either.

I remember very well the old days when I declared that any preacher who had two suits was a sinner. I believed a preacher who had a new automobile was a sinner and a hypocrite, because God just didn't want any preacher to have anything.

I didn't always preach that, but I believed it. I got mad at a man who had a brand new Chevrolet. It only cost him eight hundred, twenty-five dollars. I only had that old "Model A" that couldn't even get up the hills. I couldn't afford to put license plates on it for four dollars, and couldn't afford a spare tire.

On the way to a fellowship meeting I had a flat tire every ten miles. I wanted to get there for the morning service, and finally got there at 10:00 that night. As I pulled up, I saw setting out in front a brand new Chevrolet. I said, "Who does that belong to?" Someone said, "It's the Presbyter's!"

"Why that old backslider!" I was mad at him. Not because he had a new car, but because I didn't have one. That's the truth!

These preachers who fight me aren't mad at me because people are giving money for all the radio broadcasts and telecasts, tents and chairs, and auditorium rental. They're just mad because God isn't giving it to them! If they'd preach what I preach, God would give it to them, too. God is no respecter of persons. What He will do for one, He'll do for another.

I actually believe the reason some preachers are so poor is because God is making them poor. They're refusing instruction, and are failing to preach all the Word of God. God can take away from you every dollar that you've got. The Bible says the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away (Job 1:21). **"...As the Lord rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the Lord will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to naught..."** (Deuteronomy 28:63). That's the reason why a lot of people have nothing.

I came into the New York meeting for the morning service sometime ago. Down on the front row sat an old, white-headed lady weeping and crying; her nose was red, her eyes swollen shut. Her husband came running up and said, "Brother Allen, pray for my wife." I thought, "What in the world has happened?" She was almost in hysterics.

They had been in the service the night before, when we had received hundred dollar pledges for this ministry. God had spoken to them to make one and pay it. They wouldn't do it. In the lady's purse, she carried their life savings, because they didn't trust the bank. They had thousands of dollars. Can you imagine anybody carrying a fortune in their purse in New York City on a subway? They had so much money they would never have missed a scant hundred dollars, but they refused the Lord's instructions.

The couple got to Forty-second Street, a main downtown thoroughfare of New York City, where they made a change to take another underground railroad to where they were going. As they got off the subway there at Times Square, a young Spanish man ran

up behind, jerked the purse off her arm, and wildly ran up the stairway, leaving her there screaming.

They had been robbed of all of their life savings. The wife said, "I screamed until I was so hoarse I couldn't make a sound anymore. Nobody stopped. Nobody tried to help me. Brother Allen, all of our life savings, and all of our important papers were in that purse. I know that I'll never get my money back, but please pray that I'll get my papers back.

"Last night I had plenty of money to pay a pledge, but I haven't got a dime now. Please pray that God will bless me and give me something back. Everything we saved for years is gone now!"

"Poverty and shame shall come to him that refuseth instruction." God maketh rich, and He maketh poor. When God tells you to give something and you don't do it, you're in danger!

Look up and tell the Lord, "Lord, don't let me do this to my hurt. When You speak to me, help me to gladly give it. Help me to always pay up." Always say YES to God!

Many of those who were rich in the Old Testament, were so rich with silver and gold, cattle and servants, that they couldn't count their wealth. Many of them were men of faith. Some of those names are listed in Hebrews 11, that great faith chapter of the Bible.

I know that at times our faith will be tried and tested. The little widow's faith was tried and tested. When she got down to the bottom of the meal barrel, when her faith was being tested, God didn't let her starve. God didn't let that meal barrel remain empty. She did the right thing. She obeyed the instructions given her by a man of God, and God put her in the meal business overnight. (I Kings 17:8-16).

God has ordained that there be times when our faith will be tried and tested. It is not His perfect will that we are to be tested and tried ALL THE TIME. Is THAT the Bible? If our faith is tested and tried, it's all because God wants to know we will trust Him, that we will do the right thing, and do what He tells us to do. Obedience to God is the key that opens the windows of heaven. This is the portion promised His obedient children.

Take note of the portion God has promised the wicked man: **"Though he heap up silver as the dust, and prepare raiment as the clay (Beautiful clothes are like dirt they are so common); He may prepare it, but the just shall put it on and the innocent shall divide the silver"** (Job 27:16-17). God says, "Let them make raiment to wear; it's a shame not to." I believe it's a shame for a child of God to drive a run-down automobile. God says, "Let them make it! Let Chevrolet make it. Let Cadillac make it. Let the manufacturer make it! YOU DRIVE IT!" If the devil's crowd can drive new automobiles, what makes the children of God think they have to drive somebody's old secondhand deal? Does the devil treat his children better than God? Not so!

If God has called you to preach the gospel and work for Him, He has called you to get there and do the job well. You need to get behind the wheel of something that will take you there, and get you there on time. You need dependable transportation!

"A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children; and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just" (Proverbs 13:22). There are billions of dollars laid up by sinners in the banks. God says it is laid up for the just. Will you live for God and let Him bestow some of this upon you and upon your children by a miracle?

I believe God is doing it! People come to me everyday with testimonies where God is doing it. If I can't believe what the Bible says about this, I can't believe what the

Bible says about heaven, hell, salvation, or the Holy Ghost, or prophecy, or healing, or miracles, or anything else. If I preach any of it, I'm going to preach it all. The wealth of the sinner is laid up for you! God makes ways where there are no ways! Perhaps you haven't seen it yet, because you haven't asked for it or believed for it.

You say you don't believe it? Well, perhaps God is letting you practice what you preach!

When I started preaching, I said, "I've made up my mind not to receive any offerings. God will take care of me. I've heard enough preachers talking about money. Here is one preacher that is not going to mention any offerings."

I didn't take up an offering during my first revival…and I almost starved to death! It was during depression days, back in the hills of Missouri. One lady looked at me and thought I was hungry. She brought me a big half-gallon jar of wild, sour, sand hill plums. They were all I had to eat. I puckered up until I could hardly preach that night, but I ate them, and preached just the same.

One night a boy brought a big brown sack all gathered at the top. He said, "This is your Thanksgiving dinner!"

I was so anxious to see what he had brought, I looked in. I didn't know what it was. I shut the thing and thought, "What in the world is this thing in this sack? It must be a rat! It's a skinned rat, but it's the biggest rat I ever saw in my life."

It had a long tail, and little ears that stuck up, but it didn't have any skin on it. Two little black eyes just looked up at me. A little long, sharp nose was sticking out, and the longest sharp teeth I had ever seen in my life. Why, if it had been alive, it would have torn me up!

I asked, "What in the world is this?" The boy answered, "It's a possum!"

It's all we had. We boiled it, and made us a kettle full of soup, with dumplings in it. Somebody brought us three sweet potatoes, so we baked the possum and put the potatoes around it. We had possum, sweet potatoes, and dumplings.

We didn't stop to think about what that possum had been eating. I am told that possums will eat anything. They are scavengers. They will feed on anything dead. No doubt it was one of those creeping things Peter called unclean!

At the end of the meeting, one woman came to me and said, "Brother Allen, you haven't taken up an offering since you have been here. I'm going to take an offering up for you tonight." I was really hoping she would. That night she got somebody's old black hat, and passed it to everybody there. It came back with twenty cents – four nickels!

I thought, "I could have beat that myself!" And God said, "Well, why didn't you? If you can't preach the Bible and give the people what I said ought to be preached, you can just eat possum!" I said, "God, I'm not going to live on possum. I am going to start preaching ALL the Word!"

I've been preaching ever since! God has been blessing me, and believe me, I haven't eaten another possum from that day until this. I'm preaching the gospel. I'm preaching the truth. I think it's a shame and a disgrace for a man to have to eat skunk or possum!

I'm not trying to be funny, but when God has so much, and when He promises so much, and if we will follow His instructions and do what He says, He's going to see that we get our portion. You say, "How can you prove it's a shame for a preacher not to have nice things?" If you think they can't, Isaiah 61:6 declares, **"But ye shall be named the priests of the Lord: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boost yourselves."**

God said the very fact that you are eating the riches of the Gentiles, and doing this thing which He has called you to do, people are going to recognize you as ministers of our God. How can I say I'm a child of God if I'm starving to death? God owns all the wheat and bread in the world! It is the most inconsistent thing in the world to tell how big God is, how rich He is, and all He owns, and then say, "I haven't got anything." It's a shame! Poverty comes to those who won't listen and accept instruction.

Shame is going to leave your door along with poverty, and God is going to bless you as He has never blessed you before. Here is the secret: **"Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again"** (Luke 6:38).

God is going to give you back a good measure. Contend for that hundredfold blessing. And at the end of your ministry and work, He has for you life eternal! If I can't believe that, I can't believe anything! Folks, if I can't preach this, I can't preach anything.

Say "YES" to God! Let the Holy Ghost drive this home to your heart. I want you to believe God and His Word! God says, "Bring me all the tithe and offering." In return He promises He will **"open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that you will not have room enough to receive"** (Malachi 3:10).

Some of you are so bound in poverty that you haven't got anything to give. You need to make a pledge by faith; make a promise to give it when God blesses you with it. Then God can begin to prosper and bless you, because you believe His Word and are going to heed His instructions. God is going to give it to you!

God is alive! He still hears and answers prayer today! **"Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass"** (Psalm 37:4-5).

It's scriptural! Claim God's blessing today!

The Yoke Shall Be Destroyed

BECAUSE OF THE ANOINTING

(A. A. ALLEN – 1968)

"But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: and I shall be ANOINTED WITH FRESH OIL." - Psalm 92:10

Recently, God spoke to me and said, "I want you to preach to the people about the anointing!" God began to pour something into my soul. I pulled out a pencil, found a piece of paper in the glove compartment of the car and here's what I wrote: **"...the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing"** (Isaiah 10:27). **"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye BREAK EVERY YOKE?"** (Isaiah 58:6). Not just a few yokes, but every yoke!

That day, as I left Toledo, I had been monitoring certain radio stations that give an entire morning to religious broadcasts. As I drove along, I just listened. We don't have any radio time on that station; possibly they wouldn't like our kind of broadcasts. Rather, it seems they prefer the type where the preacher spends all of his time explaining why he doesn't believe something. Some radio stations don't want a message that is positive.

I don't spend my time on radio and TV telling why I don't believe in shouting, why I don't believe in dancing in the Spirit, why I don't believe in clapping my hands in church. I don't waste God's money to pay for radio time just to tell why I don't believe in emotion in religious worship. We don't waste our time telling why we don't believe in healing, why we don't believe in casting out devils, and why God hasn't called us to lay hands on sick people. People who need something from God don't need to be told why the gifts of the Spirit are no longer in the Church, or that God no longer has apostles. They want to know what God will do for them! They want to know He still meets the needs of people today! They want something positive they can depend on and believe!

Jesus said, **"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath ANOINTED ME..."** (Luke 4:18). To do what? "To preach" – but it doesn't stop there. Jesus was also anointed to open the eyes of the blind, to cause crippled to leap for joy, to heal the sick, and to cast out devils. If Jesus had that kind of anointing, we had better be getting it, or finding out why we don't have it. We have the same job to do for God!

Isaiah declared that the yoke was going to be broken or destroyed because of the anointing. He said we were to break **every** yoke. That anointing was upon Jesus, and this was the reason why He opened blind eyes, and caused cripples to run for joy. This is why men rolled up their deathbeds, stuck them under their arms, and walked home completely healed by God's power. They had met the Christ who was anointed of God! The Word declares that the yoke is going to be broken because men are anointed!

The Lord spoke these verses to me, and I wrote them down. God said, "I want you to tell the people yokes will be broken, the sick healed, devils will be cast out, and the miraculous seen in the exact proportion to God's anointing." The yoke will be broken from people's necks in the exact proportion to God's anointing upon us. This also means no breaking and no destroying of the yokes of sin and bondage from people when the

preacher has no anointing. If he had God's anointing, he couldn't help but to heal the sick once in a while, just accidentally. I say if he has the power of God in his life, and is anointed by God, some miracles will result from his ministry, even if he doesn't try. They would be the result of the anointing of God! If you have the anointing on your life, you just automatically destroy and break some yokes. This is the purpose of the anointing – that you can minister to the needs of the people.

Some preachers make me sick. They spend thirty minutes of precious radio time fighting or telling what they don't believe, then they offer every kind of gimmick in the world to get a dollar, and spend the balance of the time telling the people how they've got to pay the radio bills.

My reaction to them is "Buddy, I wouldn't send you a penny. I hope you don't stay on the air. You have let me know you do NOT HAVE ANY ANOINTING OF GOD! If you had some of God's anointing, you wouldn't spend so much of your time criticizing the 'tongue-talking people,' and calling them rank fanatics who are bound up in false doctrine." A man cannot be anointed of God for a YOKE BREAKING MINISTRY unless he has been filled with the Holy Ghost and talked in tongues as the Sprit gives the utterance.

I call every dollar we receive in our offerings a "Pentecostal dollar!" If it's not a Pentecostal dollar when it leaves your hands, the very fact that it hits our offering bucket makes it Pentecostal money! I wouldn't send any preacher a Pentecostal dollar to help him preach that talking in tongues is of the devil, and not of God. I wouldn't back up any preacher who belittles, ridicules, laughs and makes fun of people who are emotional in their worship of God. If they had anointing, they wouldn't try to use the Bible to condemn every manifestation of the spirit, the clapping of hands unto the Lord, the shouting and dancing for joy, and even the kind of music we have in Miracle Revivals.

One preacher I heard missed the point of his sermon altogether. He preached quite a while against emotionalism, and it turned out that he was preaching about Paul. It had to be a preconceived idea he hoped to tie in with scripture. If he had preached the Word straight, he would have told how Paul preached all night, and raised a corpse from the dead in that service (Acts 20:9-12). The reason that Paul was so anointed of God was because he turned out to be a "holy roller" on the Damascus Road. God knocked him off that jenny he was riding, and rolled him in the dust of humility. That preacher could have declared of a truth that Paul was a tongue-talker, because he said, **"I thank my God I speak in tongues more than you all"** (I Corinthians 14:18).

You may say, "I don't believe in emotionalism." I thought, while he spent so much time condemning, "Why don't you go ahead and point out to the people how God rolled Paul in the dirt." Talk about emotionalism! He heard a voice talking out of heaven, he saw a light, and he received the Holy Ghost soon after. If anybody in the Bible was emotional, it was the apostle Paul. I challenge you to get what Paul got from God, then try to stand up like a stiff six-foot icicle behind the pulpit, and try to explain away all the emotionalism in the Bible. The very one thing that will come with the anointing is emotion…demonstration, manifestation, power and glory! Jesus said, **"Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you"** (Acts 1:8).

Any preacher who spends most of his time telling why he does not believe in anything that is real has nothing to offer the people. He is not fulfilling the Great Commission of Christ to the world. He is telling you that he never did receive anything or feel anything himself. If a man ever feels what we feel, and gets this power of God, this

anointing and this blessing, he won't spend his time telling people why he doesn't have it. He demonstrates that he has it by DOING SOMETHING!

Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for the Lord hath ANOINTED ME!"

If a man tells me he hasn't been anointed to do anything besides preach, I don't even believe he's anointed to preach. How in the world could he get anointed to speak only, without the same anointing to bring deliverance to the sick and diseased and afflicted, and the miracle-working power of God into his life? God doesn't just anoint somebody to preach only. Jesus was anointed to preach and to do. That's what the anointing is for. **"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised…"** Luke 4:18 and Isaiah 61:1-3 tell all the things God anointed Him to do. Not to preach only, but to speak and do!

"The spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified."

Have you got it? Where the condition exists that there is no breaking of the yoke, Jesus declares it is because there is no anointing. I've been praying for a greater and more powerful ministry in my own life. Recently, I've been praying and seeking God more for the people who attend our meeting, who fail to be saved, healed, delivered, or helped, realizing **"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance"** (II Peter 3:9).

Actually, there are times when I'm amazed when some people do get healed, under some adverse circumstances. There is every evident sign in such cases that their healing is not a result of their own faith, but somebody else's faith that brings deliverance for their body, soul, mind and spirit. I don't like to see a single person come to my meetings without being blessed, delivered or healed.

The skeptic likes to blame the preacher for those who aren't healed. But I don't believe in every case that the preacher can be blamed. Many times, the person apparently has no faith. The Bible places great emphasis on faith.

I am reminded of one little woman in the Philadelphia campaign. I didn't have a bit of faith for her. She brought a boy up for prayer before service started. "When are you going to heal my son? That's what I came for. They tell me you've got it."

I answered, "Lady 'they' misinformed you. I have never healed anybody. But we do pray for God to heal the sick in our services."

"Well, when are you going to pray for my boy?"

It sounded to me like she knew very little about church. I said, "Why, the service hasn't even started yet."

"You don't mean I'm going to have to stay for church?"

I said, "No, lady, I don't mean you HAVE to stay for church."

"But, " she emphasized, "certainly I don't want to have to stay any longer than necessary."

Do you see what I mean?

A man in our last meeting said, "You know what? I've seen two 'shows' today under this tent I saw the morning show and the afternoon show. You mean to tell me I've got to stay for the night show?"

I said, "No, you don't have to. Is it that bad?" He didn't want to stay for the night service to receive prayer…not at all interested in worship.

The woman thought that we should have prayed for her boy the very moment she brought him under the tent, as if he were the only person with a need. I discerned that she needed to stay for church; she needed to listen to some of the preaching of God's Word, to hear some of the joyful testimonies. I finally said to her, "You certainly don't have to stay, but I'm not praying for your boy until after the preaching is over."

She almost cursed me, she was so angry. I said very frankly to her, "You don't have a bit of faith for your boy, and with your attitude, I don't believe that God would do a thing for him. When you hate church, and you hate preaching, you hate God and His Word, then why would God heal you?"

In one place, Jesus declared that healing was the children's bread. God doesn't heal people who hate church, who hate the preaching of His Word.

God recently impressed me that the yoke will be broken in exact proportion to our anointing. No breaking of the yoke, no anointing! A few yokes broken, a little power! Many yokes broken, much of God's anointing! God wants every yoke broken, every yoke destroyed. Because of the anointing!

There is one desire in my heart, and that is to see every yoke broken, and not just a few. I'm going to see it in my ministry yet. Are you? I mean the yoke of sin, sickness, disease, the yoke the devil has put around your neck.

Jesus bid us to, **"Take my yoke upon you and learn of me…For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"** (Matthew 11:29-30).

My Bible says, **"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord"** (Hebrews 2:14). **"…be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord"** (Isaiah 52:11). **"Lifting up holy hands unto the Lord"** (I Timothy 2:8). **"…be ye holy: for I am holy"** (I Peter 1:18).

I'm amazed at how many preachers declare that they are saved and Christian, and feel they can participate in some of the things they participate in. Some people can shout "Hallelujah!" (Not very loud though, because if they opened their mouth very wide, that snuff would run out.) You know I'm telling the truth.

One preacher who attended one of our campaigns was living with two women…married to one, wanting a divorce so he could marry the other. He said, "Brother Allen, I want you to pray for me. My wife won't give me a divorce."

I was amazed. "Why do you want a divorce?"

He answered matter of fact, "So I can marry another woman."

He lived with one at a time. He had two churches, one in one city, one in another. He'd take turns preaching in each place. While in his hometown, he'd live with his wife. When he was in the other town for a week's preaching, he'd stay with the "church mother." She was his other wife…common law.

"Does your wife know that you live with this other woman as a wife when you're in this other town?"

He said, "Yes, she knows it."

"Well," I asked, "what does she do about it?"

"Oh, she's glad enough to see me come home. She doesn't do anything about it. As long as I come home every other week, it's okay."

I said, "I'm going to pray for you, preacher, but what in the world could you preach? You couldn't be preaching the gospel of Christ! God can't anoint you; He can't bless you. You couldn't have any power over the devil, while you're serving the devil!"

I'll tell you why a lot of people are robbed of the anointing. They are sapped of their power! They know nothing of the power of God, because they flirt with the devil half the time, then expect God to bless them to do His work. Some preachers do about everything but pray and seek God for a service, then at the last minute come to church and say, "Now, Jesus, bless me a little bit. Anoint me to preach, Lord. Anoint me to do this and that."

When I preach, I want you to know I preach the Word to you, and to me, and I'm going to live up to what I preach!

Where there is no breaking of the yoke…when the sick are not getting healed…and when miracles are not being performed…when God is not breaking that yoke of bondage and sin…there is NO ANOINTING! The yoke will only be broken in exact proportion of the anointing of God that the preacher has. The same anointing that comes upon a minister to preach, is also the anointing that breaks every kind of a yoke.

Called to cast out demons and heal the sick! How are you going to get the anointing? We're going to talk to God – that's prayer. We're going to walk with God – that's holiness. We're going to live with God – that's this Old Bible!

If some of you will get those sex magazines out of your closet and magazine racks, and start living in this old Black Book, instead of somebody else's sex orgies, God will anoint you!

You can't feed your soul on those sinful experiences all day, then expect God to anoint you and use you to heal the sick, and open blind eyes. It just doesn't work! You have to do a lot more Bible reading and talking with God. We ought to talk with Him every moment we're awake. We ought to seek God and pray. Walk with God, and let God walk with us. Live with Him! Then God can use you to do the work He has called us to do.

"These signs shall follow them that believe…" How in the world can you prove you're a believer if you can't heal the sick? If you can't heal the sick, then come give me the scripture that proves that you believe. My Bible says, **"In my name shall they cast out devils…They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover"** (Mark 16:16-17).

The man who says that God hasn't called him to heal the sick, nor called him to cast out devils, hasn't been called to believe! These signs SHALL FOLLOW THEM THAT BELIEVE!

I say thank God for people who come into these meetings to get healed. Too many, thousands, merely come to see someone healed instead of getting something that they can take with them that will bring deliverance to the ones who God has called you to heal and deliver.

Every believer ought to be anointed to be a deliverer and a healer. If God has called us to cast out devils and heal the sick then He has called you to break a YOKE!

Every time a demon is cast out, and every time the sick are healed, the yoke is broken. If God has called you to believe, He has called you to receive His anointing.

Somebody said, "Will you pray that I get the Holy Ghost? I can't get Him."

If you can't receive the Holy Ghost, why can't you?

God's not going to put this new wine experience in that old vessel of yours. Why, you'd blow up! No man puts new wine in old vessels. Some of you need to get born again! Then ask God to fill you with the Holy Ghost and fire.

I don't know how any man could be a preacher and be bound by all of those things. If he does preach, how could he be preaching what I'm preaching? How could he preach holiness? How can a man who has a devil of addiction cast devils out of somebody else? How can a man in bondage bring deliverance to someone else? You can't do it.

The secret to finding deliverance is in talking to God. You can't talk to God very long without being obedient to His voice. You can't live in this Old Word and live with God, and it not sanctify you and cleanse you, because we're sanctified by the Word!

If you read enough of this Word, you're going to quit smoking; you're going to quit doing evil things.

When I buy cooking oil, I keep the jars in the refrigerator, because one bottle lasts me a long time. It will get rancid if I don't put it under refrigeration. When oil gets old and rancid, it stinks. Even lard stinks when it gets old. No one wants to eat food that is prepared in rancid oil.

God says concerning His anointing, "But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: and I shall be **ANOINTED WITH FRESH OIL**" (Psalm 92:10).

There comes a time when you're going to have to empty out all the old oil and let God fill you with a new, fresh experience.

Recently, I had the man at the service station check my oil. He said, "You'll soon need a quart, but I suggest you get an oil change. It's getting mighty dirty."

When you get an oil change for your car, it gets rid of all that engine sludge. If you have been using that oil for quite a while, you need a clean-up job; you need some new, fresh oil. And that's not all. It not only needs an oil change – it needs a new filter as well.

I want to put a new filter in for you. I've got the Word that will fit everyone of your cases. I want to empty you out, throw that old dirty filter away, put in a clean one, and then give you a refill of fresh oil. Do you want it?

I'll be fifty-seven on my next birthday. I've been preaching for thirty-one years. I have observed that the miles on a motor aren't so wearing and tearing if you get an oil change occasionally.

Some of you remind me of my first "Model A." I was so poor that I didn't take it to the filling station for an oil change. I bought the oil at ten cents a quart, then crawled under, and pulled the plug. I flushed it out with gasoline to get all those crank case fillings and grindings out. You should have heard that old car, just knock, knock, and knock!

The bearings were all loose and worn.

After I had changed the oil, I was always amazed. The thicker the oil I put in, the more cushioned those bearings were. I put good, heavy oil in there. It took out the clatter and knock. But, just as soon as it wore out and got thin, my "Model A" would start knocking again.

I used forty, fifty, or sixty weight oil. Some of you need it heavier than that to take all the knocking, your spiritual bearings are so loose. God wants to give you a heavy load of His new oil right now.

God has been doing some things for people this year in Miracle Revivals that we've never seen in the more than thirty years of my ministry. One night in Oklahoma

City, there was a man who never had walked. His mother hauled him in the wheelchair all of his life. The boy was still wearing diapers; couldn't even feed himself. That night we were praying for these people who were total cripples, and God was healing them. I'm not talking about headaches, and with just a few ordinary pains. Finally, we got to the last one, and I looked there on the platform and saw my shadow. When I did, God said, "Now is the time. You've been preaching about Peter's shadow healing the sick, how he was so full of God, so anointed of God, that even his shadow brought deliverance. Now, quit preaching about Peter's shadow, and tell the people that from this day forward, as long as you are talking with Me, and walking and living with Me, your shadow will heal the sick!"

I said, "I decree that my shadow is going to heal the sick." I do not tell you this boastingly, and you know it. But if I don't tell you what God is doing, the devil is surely not going to. Skeptics and infidels are not going to waste their time telling you. They'll tell you what God is NOT doing! But in many of our campaigns this year, God has healed hundreds and hundreds of people by a shadow.

An amazing thing about it, in the Camp Meeting at Miracle Valley, I had asked the people who needed prayer to line up, and I decreed that my shadow would bring deliverance. It was an act of faith. If Peter's shadow and Paul's handkerchiefs could heal the sick and cast out devils, my shadow could do it that night. Then an amazing thing happened. A sister stood up to prophecy, "Marvel not that a shadow could heal the sick. Has not God said, I will walk in them, and I will live in them? It's not the shadow of men you see. As long as I walk in a man and live in a man, it is not his shadow, it is Mine."

It blessed me to know that if God will live in us, walk in us, why should we think it strange that a man's shadow would bring healing to the sick?

I believe that every one of you who will walk and talk with God sufficiently, live with God continually, He'll abide in you, and whatever you encounter, He will be there with you!

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God..." (I Peter 4:11). When we open our mouths, it ought to be God talking. When we move, it ought to be God moving. When we lay our hands on someone for healing, it ought to be Jesus laying hands on them. When He dwells in us and rules in us, there is going to be an anointing that will break every yoke.

I am going to pray that the yoke will be broken from off your neck that the devil has bound on you. In the name of Jesus, the yoke is going to be broken. The devil has been on your back long enough.

If you are a preacher, don't be ashamed of it. God is going to drain out the sludge, empty you out, and refill you and anoint you with fresh oil for a better and greater service to the people.

Do you feel your need of this anointing? Do you feel you are all God wants you to be? God has called believers to heal the sick. God has called you to cast out devils and to perform the miraculous. Preachers, laymen, we that believe we are called to break every yoke. When you read Isaiah 58:6, remember that breaking every yoke calls for fasting and prayer. You can get close to God when you fast and pray, and receive the power to break yokes. If you find that you're not breaking enough of them, you're not living with God, talking with Him, nor walking with God like you ought to be.

I challenge you with this message! Choose obedience to God and His will for your life!

WHOSE GOD IS DEAD?

(A.A. ALLEN – EASTER, 1968)

It is with great joy that I can earnestly say, OUR GOD IS ALIVE! He lives! Jesus arose triumphant over hell, death, and the grave. He is yet alive! This sermon is dedicated to the millions of souls God is going to use to prove to the world that "GOD IS NOT DEAD – HE IS STILL ALIVE!"

Never before in history has there been such widespread publicity to the theological theory that "God is Dead." Leaders of modern, dead churches are those who have proclaimed it. One really cannot blame the multitudes for believing that God is dead, because as they look at what they think is the real CHURCH, they see no life, no action, no spirituality, no healing, no miracles…nothing but cold, dead formality. Even the preacher is spiritually dead! And he is the only shepherd many of them have to lead them.

Nothing takes place as they go through their forms, rituals, and ceremonies to convince or prove to anyone that God is alive, because God is not moving in those churches. They declare that the "Miracle Working God in the Bible" is indeed dead!

Millions of bewildered people today are seeking the true answer. Too many are seeking the answer from the wrong people. No modernistic, atheistic, dead preacher or hypocritical church member can give them the right answer. The Word of God has the answer.

At this Glad Easter season, God wants to prove to the world that HE IS STILL ALIVE! He still moves and works!

After weeks of fasting and prayer about this situation, God has told me what to do. While praying, God spoke to me in His own way and said, "ENLIST ME ONE MILLION PEOPLE who really KNOW that GOD IS ALIVE and who have (or desire to have) the power of God in their lives to prove it to the world, and I will do a marvelous work and a wonder in the lives of this million people that many will not believe it though it be told them. I will work in this CRUSADE as I worked with the apostles in BIBLE DAYS, confirming the WORD WITH SIGNS, WONDERS AND MIRACLES as they even hand it out in printed form. In this day I will do a NEW THING! I will use this people as the GREATEST OF ALL ARMIES OF ITS KIND TO PROVE THE TRUTH THAT GOD IS ALIVE AND THE DEVIL IS DEFEATED!"

Remember, the revival of "GOD IS DEAD" and the recently formed "SATANIC CHURCH" and the "CHURCH WITOUT GOD" is spreading like wild fire. The modern, dead church has been ready for it. They are accepting it, because no one has said to them, "WE WILL PROVE TO THE WORLD THAT GOD IS ALIVE!" Who has given them any hope in their dead churches to convince them or encourage them that He is alive? This can only be done when the sick are healed, devils are cast out, when they see many genuinely converted and their lives changed.

These things we do and see done everyday. That is why God has chosen US…YOU AND ME…to do this even on a larger scale than ever before. At the recent Camp Meeting, God spoke to me and said, "MY SON, YOU ARE THE ONLY APOSTLE I HAVE WITH AN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY OF THE MIRACULOUS WHO IS NOT IN BONDAGE TO MAN OR DENOMINATION, SO

THAT YOU ARE FREE TO LEAD THIS GREAT 'OUR GOD IS ALIVE' CRUSADE."

God wants the world to know HE IS STILL ALIVE, MOVING AND WORKING! It has been said that millions will go to church on Good Friday and on Easter Sunday morning to commemorate Christ's resurrection 1900 years ago, merely as a religious ritual, but in their hearts most of them are unbelieving that God is alive and working miracles for His people today.

REMEMBER, IT IS GOD WHO HAS CHOSEN US to lead this great "OUR GOD IS ALIVE" CRUSADE. This is God's program for this hour. He has promised to do a mighty, unbelievable thing for all who enlist NOW!

WHOSE GOD IS DEAD? Daily we are faced with overwhelming evidence that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) Again and again, we are convinced that our God is still the great 'I AM". (Exodus 3:14) Not "I Was" or "Used To Be." When we pray for the sick and oppressed, we actually see the mighty power of God being manifested in Miracle Revivals. When we give people opportunity to testify what God is doing, hundreds run forward and report marvelous works and wonders that have taken place in answer to their believing prayers.

"WHEREFORE, seeing we are also compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

There is nothing new about the attempt to eliminate God from the hearts and minds of men. This has been tried for years, not by professed sinners or atheists so much, but by CLERGY (so-called). In their attempt to escape moral responsibility themselves, they have caused millions of people today to consider pure nonsense the whole idea of a personal God who demands righteous conduct of His human creatures.

The church in general is not taking a positive stand for Christ on moral questions today. Perhaps Paul's warning two thousand years ago is most fitting: "If the trumpet gives forth an uncertain sound, no one will prepare for battle." Religion today is certainly making a highly uncertain sound. So many different and sharply conflicting views are being expounded by so-called reputable theologians that the state of religious thinking is confusing to the people who are seeking the truth.

In February 26, 1968, U.S. News and World Report printed an enlightening article entitled, "Where the Churches Are in Trouble." The article states there is a rising doubt among some clergymen about the value of missionary work. They say the old idea of converting others to Christianity is "out of date." Instead, they feel that missionaries abroad should lend support to "social change" and spend less time evangelizing.

Should we do as men say? Or will we fulfill the Great Commission in our generation? Let it also be said of us, **"And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen." (Mark 16:20)**

An influential minister-professor with a faithless viewpoint made a startling statement in a recent interfaith conference on the subject of missions, which the article quoted, "The era of the foreign missionary movement is definitely over because the goals and objectives of that movement are no longer valid...There has been a widespread assumption that the Church was destined to convert the entire human race to Christianity. This must be rejected as a valid goal because it has no Biblical foundation...I suggest that the Church voluntarily dismantle our present missionary organization and structure." This

university professor is teaching young men who are training for the ministry to give up and surrender!

To show the conflict that exists in churches today, this negative viewpoint was strongly opposed by another clergyman of the same denomination. He declared, "While the Church must indeed serve the world, it can best do so by performing its own distinctive kind of service, namely to bring men and the fruits of Christ's redemptive action through word and sacrament, teaching and example."

The article gave this encouraging conclusion, in spite of negative viewpoints of some, "most authorities say that Christian populations have grown greatly in Africa and Asia since the end of World War II. Estimates put the current number of professing Christians as high as 60 million in Asia and perhaps 50 million in Africa.

"Biggest gains are being reported by the 'evangelical' Protestant sects which tend to cling to the traditional view that the missionary's first job is to convert the unbelievers." Thank God for that report!

The same news report also disclosed that doors are closing in many places to missionaries and evangelism. In numerous "friendly" countries, Protestant missionaries suffer "indirect harassment." Nations in Africa are "going national," turning much of their evangelizing to native-born clergymen.

A heartbreaking situation is the growing wave of hundreds of new sects that are combining Christian and pagan practices, throughout Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Along with some Christian doctrines, they are also practicing polygamy, animal sacrifice, and a recourse to witch doctors.

We know our God is alive! God's promise to us last year that this ministry would be doing double time has indeed come to pass. With the help of a "whirly bird" we have seen unevangelized, neglected tribes people saved and baptized. Every phase of our great work for God has stepped up and is accomplishing more for God than ever before. However, what we do, we must do quickly and with all of our might. Night cometh when no man can work.

Never before has there been a time when the full gospel deliverance message of the Word of God has been so badly needed in the world as it is today. On one side are multitudes of people, whose lives and bodies are bound by sin, suffering, and torment. They have no hope for anything better in this life or the world to come. On the other side is the church. There is a great gap between, because the professed church is not meeting the needs of the people as Jesus did.

Today, God is looking for someone who will stand in the gap and make up the hedge. He is looking for miracle-workers, men and women of faith and dedication to the will of God and His work. As Jesus called out the twelve, and they forsook all and followed Him, God is calling you out to consider His work above everything this world has to offer. Will you answer His call? Now?

Only a few still cling to the view that Jesus still wants us to "Go…into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature…!" (Mark 16:15-20)

It is to this end that A.A. Allen Revivals, Inc. was formed many years ago. And it was to this end that Miracle Valley was founded, a place where young people could be trained for a Christ-like ministry. A home base for one of the most successful evangelistic ministries for God in the world today!

Te modernist declares that since evangelism is "out of date" the churches should voluntarily close down their evangelism efforts. That's what the devil would like, too.

We are serving the Living God who is still a Miracle Worker today! Our evangelism efforts and plans are EXPANDING! And God is giving miraculous results.

Recently, the Tucson Star Daily Newspaper gave this ministry and our headquarters a write-up. It was during the Winter Camp Meeting when we were commemorating Miracle Valley's Tenth Anniversary. They emphasized the fact that the more than two hundred workers at Miracle Valley are doing a big business for God.

Let the modernists fold up their evangelism efforts. WE ARE EXPANDING to evangelize the unreached! In the past ten years our headquarters has grown from a small ranch house to a lovely campus, a large gospel plant, and a community of more than 500 residents. God has marvelously meet financial needs for expansion of both Bible School and headquarters. He has miraculously equipped each department to efficiently do His work. He has called anointed workers to labor in Miracle Valley to back up this Miracle Revival ministry with its worldwide outreach. God has blessed us with faithful partners who know how God mightily blesses those who will give to a ministry of deliverance.

As I have preached around the world the message of prosperity for God's children, and deliverance from the bondage of poverty, multiplied thousands have been set free, and learned the joy of giving. Poverty-stricken people have pledged in faith to this ministry that is fulfilling God's Great Commission today. God has honored their faith and desire to be able to give something, and He has broken their curse of poverty. When they began to prosper, they have remembered and paid their vows and learned what the Word means where it declares, "riches and wealth are the gift of God." (Ecclesiastes 5:19) "The Lord makes poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill…" (I Samuel 2:7-8)

With so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding and supporting this ministry, is it any wonder that we can declare OUR GOD IS ALIVE! Let me challenge you to join the great "Our God is Alive" Crusade. Stand with me in this effort to assure the spiritually starving multitudes that Our God is Alive.

Go on with God! Expect and prepare by faith for greater things from Him each day! We know "our God has no pleasure in them who draw back." God has always had a plan. He has always had a people. There has always been a man He has used to bring help and blessing to His people. Be one of His faithful today!

WHOSE GOD IS DEAD?
(PART 2)

(A. A. ALLEN – 1968)

The "God is Dead" storm, which is sweeping the church world, cannot touch those of us who know the LIVING CHRIST as our own and who love GOD with all our heart and soul and mind. However, it behooves us to expose and denounce this false premise with every ounce of our strength in order to protect the weak who may become our converts of tomorrow.

We also must stand as a watchman against any tenet, doctrine or philosophy that might invade our churches, our schools, or our governmental agencies that not only form our policies, but also regulate our legislation and our taxation.

Let us examine this faithless theological theology. And let us also examine some of those who are spreading the doctrine. What kind of men are they and what has actually motivated them? Is it not their church instead of God that died long ago?

Is God really dead? Who killed Him? If He died, then He must have existed and been alive at one time. Certainly nothing can die that has never lived. If there was a God, when did He die? The amazing fact about this 'News' or "GOD IS DEAD" movement is that it was hatched in Satan's own incubator, a (so-called) church by "theological professors."

There is nothing new about the attempt to eliminate God from the hearts and minds of men. This has been tried for years, not by professed sinners but by the CLERGY (so-called). Such efforts are an attempt to escape moral responsibility. Therefore, such an attempted escape demands that God, the source of morality, be denied.

A description of these "RELIGIOUS LEADERS" is given in II Peter 2:1-2: "There were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in DAMNABLE HERESIES, EVEN DENYING THE LORD that bought them…" Three thousand years ago someone said there was no God. The Bible calls that man a FOOL AND WORSE! Psalm 14:1-4: "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. THEY ARE CORRPUT, THEY HAVE DONE ABOMINABLE WORKS, THERE IS NONE THAT DOETH GOOD." Note the third verse: "THEY ARE ALL TOGETHER BECOME FILTHY…" The fourth verse asked: "Have all the WORKERS OF INIQUITY NO KNOWLEDGE? WHO EAT UP MY PEOPLE AS THEY EAT BREAD AND CALL NOT UPON THE LORD."

Instead of God being dead, the 'DEATH OF GOD" movement has revealed the lifeless state of the attackers. They are "blind leaders of the blind." God is not dead! His attackers are dead…spiritually dead. They have hearts and minds that are spiritually insensitive.

It is not my intent to logically and intellectually prove the existence of God. There is really not one attempt in the Bible to prove the existence of God. God's Word never attempts to verify that which is obvious. The scripture just says, "IN THE BEGINNING GOD…" That should be enough.

A famous man once said, "Bad publicity is better than no publicity." Certainly, this new "God Is Dead" theology has put God in the headlines and in the news locally, nationally and worldwide. It has made many people God and church conscious. Millions

are asking questions that they never thought of before. Many people now know THEY MUST COME TO A CONCLUSION AS TO WHETHER GOD EXISTS OR NOT, AND IF SO, WHAT IS HE DOING, HOW CAN HE BE FOUND AND WHERE?

National magazines, (Readers Digest, McCalls, Look, Time, U.S. News And World Report) as well as most every other type of publication with a large circulation, are giving considerable space (book length) to such articles as, "IS GOD DEAD?", "IN DEFENSE OF GOD", "WHOSE GOD IS DEAD?", "ARE THE CHURCHES IN TROUBLE?", "WHO KILLED GOD?", "PROTESTANT CLERGYMEN, WHAT 3,000 CLERGYMEN WOULD LIKE TO TELL US", "GOD IS NOT DEAD", "WHAT'S HAPPENING TO RELIGION?", "WHERE IS THE CHURCH?".

"Today's religious unrest is in both the Catholic and Protestant churches. Catholic nuns abandon convents to wear civilian clothes and live in downtown apartments. Priests are leaving the Catholic church in unprecedented numbers to get married."

"In Protestant seminaries another kind of problem has been manifesting itself. Young clergymen are being attracted to other fields of labor rather than the ministry. The result? An estimated 70,000 congregations are without full-time pastors. This is only among the 'old line' denominational churches. Among the so-called 'full gospel' denominational churches there are an estimated 140,000 congregations without a pastor."

"Thousands of pastors and evangelists, ministers who have been in the active ministry for years are no longer in the ministry but have left the ministry and are now working in secular occupations."

"Another startling fact is that thousands of churches are closing their doors as there are not enough people interested in their churches to attend. Full gospel church denominations that years ago boasted they were building one new church a day are now reporting the closing of one church per day."

In a book titled, A MODERN PRIEST LOOKS AT HIS OUTDATED CHURCH, Father James Kavanaugh, a 38-year-old parish priest, said, "I want the freedom to be myself, the freedom to find God without arrogant priests telling me I can't." Of course, like any other man, he can find God for himself provided he is sufficiently importunate and in the right attitude, for the Bible says, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

The March 12, 1966, issue of Saturday Evening Post carried an article by this same man, which he had written under the pseudonym, Father Stephen Nash. The article was entitled, "I am a Priest: I want to Marry." So moving, deeply felt, and timely was the plea that it produced the largest "SPEAKING OUT" readership response ever. There were as many letters from non-Catholics as Catholics; and a ten to one majority approved. Could it be that the world has come up with another Martin Luther should this trend continue? Rev. James Kavanaugh's book is being widely acclaimed everywhere by editors, rabbis, college professors, as well as priests and preachers, one of whom said about this book: "Echoing Jesus' polemics against the religious institution of His day, Father James Kavanaugh presents a devastating yet deeply moving account of what Pharisees and high priests have done in the Church in our generation." No doubt, like Luther, Father Kavanaugh scarcely dared hope that he would attract so much favorable attention from his very first effort to change the Church he has loved so well and served so faithfully.

In extreme contrast to the doctrinal orthodoxy of Father Kavanaugh, there appears on the world scene another book entitled, A CHURCH WITHOUT GOD, by Rev. Ernest Harrison. Mr. Harrison, a minister of the HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH,

makes such statements as these: "I claim to be a Christian and an Anglican; yet I can say, in all seriousness, that there is NO GOD." This statement is ridiculous in the extreme. In fact, by the evidence of your dictionary alone, you may well conclude that the man doesn't understand English. Most religionists, even those who do not belong to the Christian faith, agree that Jesus was, at the very least, a prophet or a very good man, even if they cannot quite ascribe divinity to Him.

Take a look at the name, HOLY TRINITY CHURCH. A church, according to the dictionary, is a group of "called out" ones, the ecclesia. If there is no GOD, who called them? If there is no GOD, what made it HOLY, since only God is holy? If there is no GOD, and Jesus (according to Harrison) suffered moral lapses, how could it be a TRINITY, which is composed of three?

A Christian is a partaker of the divine life of JESUS CHRIST. It is ridiculous to say that Harrison is a Christian. He doesn't even subscribe to the theory, or give mental assent to the code, much less partake of the Lord's divine life. You do not need to be told to what he belongs; it is the counterfeit – THE UNHOLY TRINITY – THE DEVIL – THE ANTICHRIST – AND THE FALSE PROPHET. Such a conclusion leaves Harrison, as well as his church, ANGLICAN (not Christian and holy – just Anglican) which is no credit to either Harrison or the Anglicans. Only three percent of the people in the British Isles attend church and a small wonder since the ANGLICAN Church has been dead for many decades.

Even the Archbishop of Canterbury, according to the newspapers, supported legislation to make legal, marriage between two members of the same sex. What kind of Bible do you suppose he reads, if any? Not the King James version, not the Douay version or the Douay-Rheims version, not the New English translation, or the American Revised! If he read the BIBLE at all, he apparently did not believe Sodom and Gomorrah were burned with fire that rained down from heaven, or that Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt. (See Romans 11:21-22, 26-28).

St. Mary's, the parish church of Woolwich in Southeast London, has applied for a bar license to sell alcoholic drinks at a bar in the crypt. They expect to teach young people to drink properly, and to provide them with more "sophisticated" entertainment.

The Rev. Paul Johnson, church curate and organizer of a club of older teenagers (18 through 21 years) explains that, "Drinking has become part of the social life of this country. It is no longer considered a curse; however, our young people are not being taught to drink sensibly. They are not told about mixing their drinks or drinking too much."

Johnson added, "I suppose some people might complain about drinks being served within the church, but, so far, no one has objected to our application for a license."

The Rev. W. P. Wylie, a Church of England minister, wrote a report on the work of the church moral welfare board and warned that sex will take over as the main driving force of modern life if religion decays. "If and when faith decays," it said, "its place as the main driving force of conventional society must inevitably be taken by sex, for sex is the great natural means of fulfillment, of completion and of union for men and women."

Rev. Wylie made it clear he believes that for a great many people sex already is the dominant factor in their lives. "Hence it is the church's care that sex should be rightly used and guided," he said. "If the church fails to give Christian guidance on problems involving sex, it is by-passing one of the most imperative tasks," the report added.

So the questions are being hurled at the minister (so-called):

"Where is the Church?"

"What's happening to religion?"

"Is the Church out of date?"

"Do we need a NEW CHURCH?"

"Is God dead? Who killed Him?"

So the general talk is a dead church, dead preachers, dead religions, a dead God and a dead Christ! Multitudes get their eyes on a body where there is no movement, action, and no sign of life, and they have a right to declare IT IS DEAD. The word "church" means, "A BODY OF CALLED OUT ONES." The Apostle Paul, writing to the "Church" at Corinth rebuked the church in that day because they seemed to have a little difficulty in identifying the true "CHURCH." He said, "For this cause many are weak and sickly among you – NOT DISCERNING THE LORD'S BODY" (I Corinthians 11:29-30). Then in the next chapter, verses 27 and 28: "NOW YE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST, and members in particular. And God hath set some in THE CHURCH…"

A church then, THE REAL CHURCH, is NOT and cannot be determined by a building with a name over the door, nor because a group of people go into the building. One can have church in the desert as did Jacob where he was ALONE WITH GOD without even a building over his head. However, he said, "This is the house of God and the gate of heaven" (Genesis 28:17). He called the name of that place "Bethel" which means "church."

So then, the CHURCH is ONLY AS DEAD as their modernism, unbelief, atheism, and lack of revival. Then the CHURCH is only as ALIVE as her faith and the revival in her soul. If a group of people who call themselves THE CHURCH are dead, it is no sign that God is dead, but because they have no spiritual life to prove to the outside world that Christ IS ALIVE. If Christ is alive, and He is, then His church should show some kind of life. "Christ in us"…"I will walk in them and move in them."

Preachers and church members today seem to be making a special effort to impress the world that their GOD IS DEAD because they are making little effort to portray that Christ is alive by showing signs of spiritual life.

According to "THIS WEEK" magazine, when Pope John XXIII was asked why he called the second Vatican council, he answered by going to the window and opening it. "To let in some fresh air," he said. In other words, THE CHURCH STINKS. Since then there have been many changes including the permission to eat meat on Fridays. If the Catholics had gone to their own Bible for an answer they could have found that "Every creature of God is good (to eat) if received with thanksgiving and with prayer." If instead of asking the Pope if he won't change the laws of the church to permit priests to marry, they might go to their own Bibles and get permission, for the scripture says in the Catholic Douah-Rheims version, "Now the spirit expressly says that in the last times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to spirit of error, and doctrines of devils… Forbidding to marry, to abstain from meats which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving by the faithful and by them that have known the truth. FOR EVERY CREATURE OF GOD IS GOOD AND NOTHING TO BE REJECTED THAT IS RECEIVED WITH THANKSGIVING: for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer" (I Timothy 4:1-5).

As far as recent surveys go to obtain an answer from the Protestant ministers, it would seem that none of these believe the answer is in the Holy writ, but in man-made manuals and denominational doctrine and handed down traditional teaching. Many of the clergy surveyed answered with "Hell Yes." Another concluded with, "Jesus was a bastard." One said Mary, the mother of Jesus, was a harlot and not a virgin. While

another said, "God is not only dead but He has been dead a long time. I do not believe the Bible. I do not believe God is alive. I AM AN ATHEIST BUT I AM A CHRISTIAN."

In these recent surveys, in order to get an answer to the questions that are perplexing so many people, why did those making the surveys go only to the skeptic, atheist, and modernist preacher who hasn't got enough heart to believe the Bible nor enough boldness to preach it! Why go to a group of weak-kneed sissies who were suckled by an 'old ladies society' and ruled by elders, bishops, deacon boards, or a criticizing, hypocritical congregation and kept in bondage to man-made church laws and church governments that keep them in bondage instead of giving freedom to preach the Word?

Yes, indeed, why contact men to whom Jesus said, "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandments of God, that ye may keep your own traditions" (Mark 7:7-9).

Can one get the right answer by going to the ones the Bible warns to stay away from? "...having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof, from such turn away." Jesus, as well as each of His disciples, died a violent death because they dared to take a stand against such "religious activity", because they would not join it and be a party to it. Remember, it was the religious leaders of Christ's day who killed Him. Christ declared He would have a Church and that the gates of hell should not prevail against it. (See Matthew 16:18). That Church is still in the world today and will be here a victorious, powerful, living, godly, holy Church until the return of the Lord when it shall be caught away.

"Now ye are the body of Christ" (I Corinthians 12:27). Christ is manifested today in the Church. If you want to know what the Church should be doing in the world today, all you have to do is take a look in the Bible and see what Christ did while He was here on the earth physically. He said before He went away, "The works that I do shall you do also" (John 14:12). "These signs shall follow them that believe, they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover" (Mark 16:17). The Church here in the world today is continuing the work that Christ started and shall continue to do so until the Lord returns. Even after Christ ascended and sat down on the right side of the Father, the scripture says, "And they went forth and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word with signs following" (Mark 16:20). We still live in the dispensation of the Church. The real Church today is STILL ALIVE AND ACTIVE. Too many today merely look at the PROFESSED CHURCH...no wonder people say GOD IS DEAD.

When Christ appeared on the scene, God was totally and fully and completely revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. The scripture says, "For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell" (Colossians 4:19). Definitely Christ was not "still born" like a lot of so-called Christians today. Wherever He went there was action. He spoke the word and a miracle happened. He stretched forth His hand and the crippled walked. Demons trembled and came out at His command. Even the sea and the winds obeyed His voice. He walked up to the tomb and shouted, "Lazarus, come forth," and the tomb was emptied. Blind eyes received their sight as this man Christ Jesus touched them.

The early Church was alive: "...And the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47). Peter stood at the gate of the temple and said to the man who had been crippled since his mother's womb, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6). A miracle happened. Why? Because the Church

BELIEVED and Christ was still working with them even though literally He was in heaven. He was confirming the Word as they preached it with signs following.

Philip went to Samaria and preached Christ to them. "The multitudes gave heed to the things Philip preached, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did…And there was great joy in that city" (Acts 8:5,6,8). This was revival in the Church. A CHURCH ALIVE! No one in Samaria dared say that "God is dead." They saw God moving everywhere and performing the miraculous THROUGH HIS APOSTLES according to His promise.

Christ is just as powerful today as He was in the early Church. If preachers today would get saved and filled with the Holy Ghost as in Acts 2:4, then they could preach the full gospel with power, causing a revival to break out in all their churches and the multitudes again would SEE and KNOW that GOD IS ALIVE!

Some may ask, "Why don't preachers today do this then?" Some of them are, thank God. If you don't believe so, attend an A. A. Allen Miracle Restoration Revival! Why don't all preachers have this type of revival service? Ask them and you'll soon find they do not want revival. If revival broke out in their church they would not know what to do with it. Most preachers and churches are so in bondage to their own denominational, man-made manuals, laws, doctrines and orders, that God doesn't have a chance.

Is God dead? No! It is just the Church that is dead. It wants to remain that way. God will again prove Himself alive, real and working in behalf of the people when the pastors and the people of the churches want a revival badly enough to RETURN TO GOD AND RETURN TO THE BIBLE.

WILL THIS EVER HAPPEN? It has never happened before. Remember, according to church history, REAL REVIVAL has never broken out within the confines of the organized, denominational church. It has always broken out OUTSIDE THE CHURCH where people are free to preach, believe, and to receive.

From current events and news reports, that I listed at the beginning of this message, it looks like revival is more likely now and that the people are more ready for revival than at any time since 1900. Priests are leaving the Catholic Church, along with the nuns. Protestant ministers are sick and tired of wearing pink aprons and dishing up pink lemonade and are leaving the Pentecostal churches. At last people by the millions are asking, "WHERE IS THE CHURCH?" People are searching for a GOD THAT IS ALIVE. A CHRIST THAT SAVES FROM SIN, BAPTIZES WITH THE HOLY GHOST AND HEALS DISEASES!

It is time to stand up and be counted. As in Bible days, may I ask the question, 'WHO IS ON THE LORD'S SIDE?"

Now is the time for the independent people and all others who want to introduce a living, working Christ to a dead church and a fast dying world, to join hands together in unity and prove to the world that God is still alive and Christ is still working by producing the evidence: SIGNS, WONDERS, MIRACLES, HEALINGS, SALVATION, REVIVALS, JOY!!

In conclusion, if you want the world to continue to ask, "Is God dead?", then stay dead yourself and continue to be identified with a "dead" group.

However, if you want to impress the world that Christ is alive, identify yourself with a "LIVE" group by adding your faith to theirs and help us in this great A. A. ALLEN "OUR GOD IS ALIVE" CRUSADE!

"LET MY PEOPLE GO!"

(A. A. ALLEN – 1969)

"And the Lord spake unto Moses, Go unto Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Let my people go, that they may serve me." (Exodus 8:1)

God declares that this is the day and hour when He is working mighty miracles for countless numbers of people who are hungering and thirsting and crying out to be set free to serve God in Spirit and in truth! How is God bringing about this great deliverance? Through His anointed ministers in this dark hour! As we dedicate ourselves to the task, give of our time and efforts, and our money to send and to go forth ourselves victoriously to proclaim God's message, we will see mighty deliverance!

Jericho's walls miraculously crumbled as God's people shouted the victory! Denominational walls are crumbling for many sincere people, as they behold signs, wonders, and miracles, and as they hear shouts of joy and victory.

God does something special for people who put everything they have into the work of preaching the full gospel. God works miracles for those whose lives and ministries make healing and miracles possible for others. God promises special blessings upon those who tear down images and idols. Today He is blessing those who are tearing down prison walls and taking shackles of denomination off His people!

Jesus' ministry is clearly described in Luke 4:18-19: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

God have mercy and help those who put their efforts and their tithe and offerings into religious organizations and so-called church activities that merely use them to put another lock on the gate, or another row of bricks on the denominational wall of separation to make it thicker and higher and stronger, so God's children inside will never get out from their denomination.

God is against some people's pastor. He declares in Ezekiel 34: "…with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them (God's sheep)." Very often, when your contribution makes the wall higher, you make it more difficult for yourself to ever get free from whatever your group may call itself. Each group has a different name; I'll put several together and call it the General Council of the Church of Christ in God Assembly.

At the beginning of the Mid-winter Camp Meeting this year at Miracle Valley, God spoke to my heart and gave me a revelation. God told me that within the cold, high walls of denominations He has many sincere preachers and church members who are caught up and bound, but they long to be set free. Their hearts are broken. Like the flocks under the evil shepherds in Ezekiel 34, they have not been ministered to, and their needs have not been met. They have only been used and mistreated. Many are crying out to God to help them and to set them free.

One night, as I stepped to the pulpit and turned to Exodus to read my text, God confirmed His message to me with a message of prophecy. It had to be God; the prophet

the Holy Spirit used for the message had no way to know the scripture God had laid upon my heart for the evening message. God said:

"This is the day and the hour that I have determined to visit My people. For when My people were in bondage in Egypt, they did moan, and they groaned, and they cried unto Me for deliverance. Yea, I did look for a man to deliver them, and when I found no deliverer in Egypt, I did find a deliverer on the backside of the desert, even Moses.

"With signs and wonders, and with supernatural miracles did I deliver My children out of Egypt. Yea, and I say unto thee this day, I have heard the cries of My people, and I have seen their agony. Their evil taskmasters who care not for their souls have borne rule over them. Therefore, I have come down, and I have found a man, even him whom I have set in thy midst, and My servant shall declare this message that I have given unto him, and with signs and wonders and miracles he will lead My people forth. Therefore, rejoice for this is the day of deliverance, saith the Lord."

God says His people who are crying for deliverance will have to be set free. The walls are too high, the gates too strong, and the locks are too heavy. God has given me faith to believe that the walls are coming down. The gates are going to open, and millions of God's people are going to be set free, and led out from under Pharaoh's whiplash to victory through the Red Sea of deliverance!

As in the days when Moses stood before Pharaoh, God is saying, "Let My people go!" (Exodus 8:1). God led them forth with silver and gold (Exodus 12:35-36), and there was not one feeble one among their tribes (Psalm 105:37). This is the day and hour when God is going to bring His people out with silver and gold and healing for their infirmities!

This is one of the greatest causes of all times. This is the thing that is nearest and dearest to God's heart. People are pledging support and paying into a special fund to "Let God's People Go!" As we who are already free to serve God help His anointed ministers proclaim the gospel of deliverance, we will be providing the key that will open the gates of religious bondage, that will take the chains of bondage off God's people!

For a number of years, I have wondered if we who know God's power of deliverance would ever lead these people out, or if we were just going to let them stay in Egypt, so to speak, and let Pharaoh continue to keep them in bondage. It has always seemed that denominational walls were so high, and the gates so closely guarded that few have dared to come through the gates or over the walls. I've wondered how God could ever use them in this Miracle Revival; they are so indoctrinated in coldness and indifference, so bound by tradition that destroys faith and makes of none effect the commandments of God. And we have known some who have actually become so thoroughly indoctrinated in form, ritual, ceremony, and traditions of men that they don't want to be free to serve the Lord.

Often the leaders of certain church denominations slip into our campaigns under the tent and in auditoriums. They are easy to spot. They're the most skeptical people in the world! Actually, they stick out like a sore thumb in our congregation. They do not come with open minds to receive anything from God. These men come to measure the meeting, and take back a report to those within their walls to show that they have no business attending our meetings.

Throughout the service, there they sit. They have no song. They do not join the congregation in praise and worship of the Lord. They're too dignified, except when they get their heads together in a little group, on occasion, and mock and make fun at the power of God and the shouts of victory or the operation of the gifts of the Holy Ghost!

There sit dignitaries, leaders in a denomination that is cold, dead, dry, formal, indifferent to the Spirit of God, modernistic, and completely bound by tradition. These men do not receive anything. They only come to gather information. They measure the ministry in our services by their own carnal way of thinking.

So when they return to their stronghold, they build their walls higher and their gates stronger! They securely keep in those hearts who are really open for more of God, lest they slip out and find a place where they can worship God, and know His will for their lives. Unless they are set free by God's power, they will live and die under their Pharaoh's whiplash. They will never know what it is to cross the Red Sea of deliverance and be free.

For years I have always said, "Oh God, give me people who have never been indoctrinated in any church tradition. Give me as converts the down-and-out sinner, the gambler, the drunkard, the harlot. God can do more with repentant sinners in far less time than He can with some members of the General Council of the Church of Christ in God Assembly! These self-righteous people would have to be un-indoctrinated or un-taught, because for so long they have been instructed in THE doctrine of THE church. They believe that they alone are THE Body of Christ. They claim to have THE version of the Bible, and only they bear THE Bible name for their denomination. So, they conclude, everyone else must be wrong.

I say give me someone to work with who has never been indoctrinated in man-made traditions, who has never been bound behind denominational walls. God can better use such an one. He will believe, expect, and receive miracles!

There is no church denomination that will save you. No church will heal you. The eunuch got saved out in the middle of the desert without any church. He got baptized without any church. His name was written in heaven without having his name on any church roll. And Philip did not instruct him to join any church organization (Acts 8:26-40).

There have never been prison walls so high, so wide, and so strong as some denominational walls. Preachers remain with denominations through fear of persecution. Most denominations emphasize membership in place of salvation. People join denominations through fear of being lost. And once they are members, they must follow their leadership to keep the favor and blessing of their church.

According to God's Word, ALL true believers are ONE in our Lord Jesus Christ. We should be free to fellowship and work in harmony and brotherly love with any and all of God's children everywhere!

Can members of denominations do this? No! Their leaders do not tolerate it. They give their members warning, and make life unbearable. The one who dares to persist in having fellowship with other groups is eventually excommunicated and made an example before the others.

Jesus was hated by religious leaders in His day, because He is no respecter of persons; He ministered to and had fellowship with all people – the rich and poor, leaders and servants, the religious and sinners. Jesus took an open stand against denominational bondage. His last prayer with His disciples before He was betrayed was: "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us…" (John 17:21).

These are momentous days. Under the guise of fulfilling Jesus' last prayer that we all be one, this generation is witnessing the great religious ecumenical movement as it unlocks some of their denominations' inner gates to allow their select groups to have

some degree of fellowship among fellow members of that great international council of churches. But do not be deceived. The outer wall of this gigantic religious system is still there. It is the highest and most guarded stronghold ever to be raised upon the world horizon. It is the greatest barrier yet erected by religious men to separate their participating denominations from any contact with the great multitude of fundamental, Holy Ghost-anointed, full-gospel Christians in the Church world outside that wall.

INSIDE THE WALLS, their people are being pressured to endorse all manner of things that have little if anything to do with spiritual matters. Among their leaders is a new breed of social activists, who have virtually taken control of the modern ecumenical movement of the world.

The so-called church is making itself heard on every conceivable question regarding politics, governmental policies, international affairs, internal issues such as farm policy, housing, racial issues, and even the nation's draft policy and social welfare. One church member recently complained that every time he needed his minister, he had to look for him at the local protest march or sit-in.

INSIDE THE WALLS it is reported that less than half of the people still believe "Christ crucified, risen, and coming again." Less than half of one recognized denomination believes Jesus is the Son of God. Only one-third of that same group believes it is necessary to believe in Jesus to be saved. Many ministers declare hell to be only a state of mind. They classify the happenings of the Bible as myth, dispute the virgin birth, and deny Bible miracles.

INSIDE THE WALLS the blood of Jesus is pushed aside. Church-operated hospitals take the place of healing and miracles for the afflicted who come to them for healing. They speak of their "miracles of stained glass" rather than miracles of healing and deliverance. Sign language for the deaf is taught instead of casting out of deaf spirits.

INSIDE THE WALLS youth are encouraged to participate in pre-marital sexual activities. In fact, some widely publicized groups have turned their church facilities into a brothel. They give pastoral approval on fornication and adultery so long as it takes place within the church.

Why are today's youth, who are growing up behind the high denominational walls, not taught by their religious leaders in scriptural moral principles? Why is emphasis placed on physical and psychic satisfactions? Why is there such complete disregard for even the basic commandments of God?

Among some groups the doctrine of humanism is rampant! "Do the things you desire to do; you will be 'enlightened' and become as God." Therefore, great multitudes of young people who have not heard the full gospel are rejecting the very notion of morality today.

Youth seems to be offered hope for success and abundance on this earth, but they are not offered any hope of salvation. Their churches don't believe anyone is lost.

INSIDE THE WALLS the demand for entertainment and life in church services has brought about many changes. Jazz bands and singing groups of worldly entertainers are performing in church services. Bible stories and sermons are being performed by theatrical groups and in modern dance. Nudity in many cases has been interjected into the sanctuary as a part of the art.

ARE YOU A BROKEN-HEARTED CHILD OF GOD BOUND INSIDE A DENOMINATION'S WALLS? GOD WANTS TO FREE YOU!

CHRISTIAN, if you believe the Word of God, if you stand upon the promises of God, if you are blood-washed and Spirit-filled, you will discover that you are on the

outside of that great religious council of churches wall. You will find that your profession of faith has placed you on the outside. Those on the inside compromised before they were ever admitted inside.

IF YOU BELIEVE LIKE JESUS, and do your best to be like Him and minister like He did to the lost, the sick and the suffering, you will soon experience opposition such as you have never known. You may be the object of aggression from members of organized religion the same as Jesus. However, this is no cause for alarm. Jesus declared, "In this world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

Jesus did not bow to Satan – He did not bow to denomination – the Son of God refused to come down from the cross to save Himself before His work for God was finished. I challenge you, Christian, don't compromise! Be a victorious overcomer with Christ!

The Lord compared the bondage of denomination so many of His children find themselves in today with the bondage of the children of Israel when they were enslaved by Pharaoh in Egypt. God spoke to me and dealt with me in much the same way as He did with Moses. He kept saying to me, "I'm sending you to the Pharaoh's who have bound My people. I want you to declare to them, 'Let My People Go!'"

This message is not pleasing. It isn't popular. I wanted to be sure it was God. Then He confirmed it to me by a mighty message in prophecy, saying, "My son, fear thou not to obey the word of the Lord. I have chosen that which is nothing and which is small in the eyes of man to confound the wise. Even as I was with Moses at the burning bush, and My presence came down, even so will my presence come down as a sign unto thee, My son. As I was with Moses, so am I with thee. Therefore, rejoice that I have chosen to do this great thing among My people. I have chosen to visit My people afresh, for this is the day and the hour. Believe and speak the word of the Lord, and it shall be confirmed as I have declared, saith the Lord."

You find the story of Moses' delivering God's children out of Egypt in Exodus, chapters 1-14. When Moses felt that he couldn't do it alone, God said, "I'll send Aaron with you. He'll be your mouthpiece; he'll stand with you."

God is calling me to tell Pharaoh to let His people go. I said, "God, the task is so great!" God said, "I'm giving you anointed preachers and workers who will give and go and speak out and take a stand for Me with you. Pharaoh will have to let My people go!"

Can God count on you to be an Aaron? Can God say that you will surely stand behind a man of God? Will you be a mouthpiece for God? Will you stand up for God before the world? Will you stand firm to see the job well done?

Moses had only one Pharaoh to confront. In the world situation today, there is a Pharaoh for each denomination, and for each church in most cases. God wants us to proclaim His words; He will confirm it. If it takes miracle after miracle, and sign after sign to convince the Pharaoh's and the bound people that God wants His people out that they may serve Him, what have you got in your hand? Moses and Aaron didn't go forth empty handed. They took miracle rods in their hands and God used those rods to bring deliverance.

During the Camp Meeting, hundreds of friends pledged their support and help to tear down denominational walls to let millions of God's people out of bondage. People lined across the Miracle Valley Tabernacle, pledging and giving to the "Let My People Go Fund."

We added works to our faith. We will be using both "rods" of radio and television with the message on the Allen Revival Hour. Hundreds of thousands of church members dare not attend any other church or evangelist's meeting. Their taskmaster would make them wish they had not dared! But these "prisoners of denomination" are watching our Miracles Today telecasts, and are hearing the message of hope and deliverance on our radio broadcasts. God is going to set them free to serve Him!

Multiplied thousands of copies of a newly revised edition of "Let My People Go" is offered by mail to the supporters of Miracle Revival. Be sure to request your copy the next time you send an offering.

The daily newspapers and news reports we read and hear everyday in this era tell us that the great one World Church looms on the horizon. The world's major religious Pharaoh's expect to bring all men under its bondage. But God says this is the day and hour that He wants to set a great multitude free! God is helping the Bride of Christ adorn herself for the soon coming of the Lord.

What will be the reaction of these religious Pharaohs? They may well react like old Pharaoh. Leaders at headquarters will recognize that they have lost a battle, and a great number of their most ardent people have slipped away to better serve God. They may say, "We've lost too many church members. Some of our Sunday School teachers are gone; we've lost part of our deacon board; the ladies' aid leader is gone. There aren't enough "fish and chip" girls for the basement; not enough people play bingo at the tables anymore. Let's go after them. We've got an army and enough force to bring them back into our great wall!"

You remember what happened to old Pharaoh. He led his soldiers with their chariots and horses over the same dry ground through the middle of the Red Sea, pursuing three million captives God had set free by a miracle. When they reached the middle, God caused the walls of waters on both sides to tumble over them and they were destroyed.

God's children saw the great miracle of deliverance as their enemies sank to the bottom of the sea like a stone. Then one of the greatest worship services ever recorded took place. In Exodus 14, Moses and the children of Israel sang a new song unto the Lord. The power of God fell, and old Miriam led all the women of Israel with timbrels and dances up and down the sands of the Red Sea praising God.

I believe Jesus is going to return for a church that is singing a song of deliverance. He's coming for a joyous victorious people. The Bride of Christ will not be bound!

I'm out to proclaim for God, "Let My People Go!" Are you with me? Will you take part in this great deliverance?

Do all you can to remain free and to set others free! Let me know that you are taking a stand with me for freedom and liberty in Jesus Christ for every child of God!

THEY FOUND A NEW PATH

(A. A. ALLEN – 1969)

"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein. Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken." – Jeremiah 6:16-17

I don't believe in avoiding certain subjects recorded in the Word of God just because a few self-righteous people might get offended. Preachers today are avoiding essential issues that may tend to be controversial. If the preacher is a compromiser, a man pleaser, he will not dare preach against divorce and remarriage; several in the congregation wouldn't like it. Some old saint sitting out there in the crowd doesn't believe in tithing, and he doesn't want to offend, so he carefully avoids that subject. He knows there are cigarette smokers and snuff dippers in his church; he says nothing about the "filthiness of the flesh" or "defiling the temple of God…which temples ye are" (II Corinthians 7:1 & I Corinthians 3:16-17). He doesn't want to offend anyone. His choir is made up of mini-skirted, ungodly looking people, because he avoids the subject of modest apparel (I Timothy 2:9) in his church.

In so-called Pentecostal churches today you see more members with blue and green eyelids than those with their lips painted. Those people have never heard a sermon in their church on the subject of painted faces and painted eyes. Their pastor never preaches from Ezekiel 23:40-49 about how lewd women painted their faces for purposes of committing sin. He never mentions Jeremiah 4:30 or II Kings 9:30 where the wicked Jezebel painted herself to be alluring, in an effort to snare the man of God. He will never give his church people scripture that will clean them up – some might get offended instead of convicted to repent.

If we're going to avoid every subject mentioned in the Bible that might offend some folk, we might just as well lay the Bible on the shelf. You will never be useful in helping lost souls find God's will for their lives. God says, "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I have commanded you" (Deuteronomy 4:2). You don't have to cut out portions of the Word of God with a penknife to "diminish ought from it…" Just don't ever preach or teach it!

Everything I preach, I back up with the Word of God. I do not avoid certain issues, or touchy subjects that are important to all Christians in this day and this hour. One world-famous evangelist recently confessed that he never touches on anything that is controversial. But he also confessed he is only having "campaigns." People are making decisions, but he admits, "I am not having revival."

Why? He has many outstanding sponsors. He has the crowds. His work is well-supported. Yet, he is not having revival. God will not bless any preacher with old-fashioned, heaven-sent, Holy Ghost revival when he avoids subjects in the Word of God which are controversial because they may draw fire or persecution. God calls his ministers to "Preach the Word," and not to compromise His Word.

This sermon is one of the most controversial subjects in the world today. God is saying to the church today, "Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, were is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls…" Multiplied thousands in every denomination are answering Him, "We will not walk therein." They declare by their actions, if not by words, "Don't talk to us about old paths; we have found a new path."

Well, YOU tell the Lord that you refuse to walk in the old paths. You fuss this out with Him. My calling is to "Preach the Word." When I have given you the Word of God, the next step is yours!

God reveals His concern over this wayward generation: "Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken." This is a perfect picture of rebellious, modern-day church people – not only modern-day Pentecost, but church people everywhere, who have departed from the old paths, and have refused to walk therein. When God has given them warning, they have refused to listen to the trumpet! (Jeremiah 6:17).

Nobody is forced to heed God's warning. He gives us the power of choice. But if you choose the ways of sin and death, you will surely have to take the consequences.

In verse 18, God says, "Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them." In this sermon I will tell you what is among the congregation in churches today. There is a great number of modern, church-going people who won't walk in the old paths of the Lord, and who refuse to accept the warning of the watchmen the Lord has set over them. God says, "Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it" (vs. 19).

A year ago I warned people nationwide that if the Church fails to meet the needs of the world, sex will take over. There is every evident sign that in the so-called church, people are not living clean, godly, and holy. They are finding new paths. Their denomination is endorsing new paths. Emphasis is being placed on the creature and his base desires, instead of emphasizing salvation through the cleansing blood of the slain Lamb of God, our Savior!

My Bible tells me that God's children are still walking in the old paths, and they're listening to the sound of the trumpet. True saints of God are not in the majority; the devil has the fastest growing religion in the nation. Little wonder! There is every evident sign that the so-called church has lost its influence in the world.

In the New Testament, we are admonished to "Walk as children of light…And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them…" (Ephesians 5:8-12).

I don't want to be identified with the so-called church like so many I see today. I want to stay with the old-fashioned group that is staying in the old paths. I want to keep the blessing, the touch and the anointing of God. I never want to obey that call of the devil to come down from the work that I am doing for God to find new paths. The peace of God that comes from being in God's perfect will is worth more than the wealth of this world. Everyone who has deserted the old paths has found that their lives are no longer joyous. No longer are they fruitful in their ministry; no longer anointed with God's power; no longer have they God's signs, wonders, and miracles following their ministry.

Only as we stick to God's old paths will He walk with us. God refuses to walk in a strange new path. Miracles fail to come forth from new, modern ideas and methods. We

must conform to God's ways; He will not conform to the ways of this evil world. God still performs miracles when we meet His conditions in our ministry.

In a recent Gallop Poll, 58% of all church people surveyed confessed that the so-called church in the world no longer has the power to influence people to Christ. It is evident that the church has lost its power, because it has gone into a new path, using new methods to attract people into their church. They say, "We must do something new. Old-fashioned preaching of the old Bible standards, and teaching the methods of God's ways are not sufficient."

Some news stories that have been circulated recently have reflected the present condition of the church:

"Church Is Dead, Priests Declare"

"1,000 Women Fail To Find God In Church"

"Religion Was 'In' During The 40s and 50s – Has Lost Steam In The 60s"

"Why Churches Are Losing Their Ministers"

In a news article in Newsweek, February 24, 1969, it is reported that the supernatural has been disparaged as a primitive dream; social action has been given precedence over personal piety in this decade. One sociologist believes that the sociology of knowledge can rescue theologians from a good deal of unnecessary apprehension. One group proposes to impute to modern man superior consciousness that automatically dismisses as myth the traditional religious assertions about God. This is the only logical conclusion learned man can reach when they look at the cold, dead, lifeless so-called church. But these are not The Church, The Body of the Lord Jesus Christ in the world today!

Church leaders are frustrated today; they don't know what to do. The old-time power and blessing of God, the joy of the Lord is no longer present. Their churches are colder and deader than ever. I'll tell you what I believe: When they let down the bars, most of the sheep ran out, and a herd of "goats" ran into the church. Now the preacher is trying to feed goats rather than sheep. Most of the members sitting in the congregation are goats who want something besides sheep food! Sheep are a little particular of what they chew, but a goat will eat anything. God said, "Feed My lambs – feed My sheep." When you've got a herd of goats sitting out there, you had better watch what you throw to them. Some church members refuse to have any part of revival or the power of God. They want no part of the joy of the Lord or the Word of God.

When a preacher gets up and preaches the truth, and the congregation won't take it, they shouldn't blame him for changing his profession to selling insurance or automobiles. Instead of preaching the Word of God and old-fashioned revival, many preachers are trying to satisfy the goats and bring back life into the church by ungodly, satanic, worldly ways instead of God's way.

Why don't they go back to the old paths? They've found a new path! I thank God that we're sticking to the old paths. Denominations need to go back to the old paths of revival in the early days of their own organization. There's every evident sign that sex and the "new morality" is taking over the world, because the so-called church has refused to stay in the old paths of God. In fact, liberal-minded ministers are introducing their churches to the new, modern way!

When the Spirit of God departs from a church, they've got to do something to hold the people. If they can't depend on the Spirit of God, old-fashioned revival, the joy of the Lord, and the reality of sins forgiven, they have to do something else. A preacher can't preach to empty pews.

If only every preacher who names the name of Christ were as determined as Miracle Revival ministers to have old-fashioned, heaven-sent, Holy Ghost revival! However, these modernists laugh and mock us. They say God is not in a Pentecostal service, with the shouts of joy and praise. They say He does not speak through tongues and prophecy today. They declare God never spoke in times past through the whirlwind – He speaks only in the still, small voice. So most of them, including some Pentecostal preachers, have condemned Miracle Revivals down through the years until God will not move in their services.

I hear some of you say, "Well, I'll never get on the new path. I'll stay on the old path with the Lord." Praise God, that's where I will stay! Some of you are already on a new path, and you have gone so far that you will never get back to the old path of the Lord. I am blowing the trumpet today. Don't be among those who declare they will not hear!

There are many "new paths" that beckon today. One such new path is the new doctrine, "SALVATION THROUGH SEX AND SIN, " advocated by Sister Marlane, who declares, "I'm going to shake up the world, baby!" She calls herself "Sister." It sounds religious. Her doctrine is SIN.

If the so-called church won't send forth evangelists, don't think the devil won't have any. The world certainly has some evangelists. If evangelists seek new paths, and refuse to preach the gospel with the power of God, the devil will raise up evangelists – crusaders for sin and immorality.

A multitude of followers of this Sister Marlane declare they are going to get to heaven through the back door. God have mercy on you evangelists who haven't got enough of what it takes to stand up and preach the truth to the people.

Clever sounding quips take the place of scripture in this new move. Sister Marlane preaches that: "We shouldn't be afraid of breaking what the preachers call 'God's law.' He's a fun loving God…let's not suppress sin…let's get it out in the open…It's time a female saved the world…I may not be able to wash away all your sins, but I'll polish them up a bit."

Another path that beckons many today is presented in a news clipping: "Pastor Installs Bar in Church To Teach Youths To Drink." The pastor declares the youth of his parish really dig him!

There's a new Bible for those who have found a new path. In the new British Bible that is just off the press, instead of pictures of the old Bible characters, dressed in the kind of clothes they wore in Bible days, Bible characters are stripped naked. Can you imagine seeing men and women pictured in the nude in the Bible?

In a news clipping entitled, "Minister's Mini-skirted Wife Hits Back At The Gossip," Mrs. Marjorie Janney, a Methodist preacher's wife, declares she's packing them into the church, so why should people gossip? She is pictured at 5:00 in the morning dancing with a 17- year old boy.

I'm not so sure she is filling the "church"! It is more like a brothel! She's packing them into a burlesque show. They are not going to that Methodist gathering to hear about Christ. They're not going there to be washed in the blood of Jesus, or be filled with the Holy Ghost. She tells us exactly what they are there for. They discuss three things in particular in this Methodist place – they discuss sex, the pill, and pre-marital relations. They are going there because sex is free, and they can stay right there in the church.

In the news article she said, "I see nothing wrong with premarital relations. I advocate and encourage people to have sexual relations with each other if it's with the

right people at the right time." So at all hours of the night, this Methodist manse is packed with teenagers. Her husband, the pastor, has no objection, no criticism for her. These things are considered by them to be decent if it's done in church. This preacher will not be preaching "Thou shalt not commit adultery…the wages of sin is death." He will never preach from the text, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers or themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." (I Corinthians 6:9,10).

Let the world know what side we're on! It's about time we declare these paths are of the devil. If we don't people will be saying, "If they do it in that church meeting, why can't we do it in our church?"

Do you mean to tell me that God didn't see our need in this day and hour? Are you going to tell me that He didn't provide instructions in the Bible whereby we could convert the world in this age? These people are implying that God's methods are no longer effective; we must have new methods.

You may ask, "Who are you condemning?" I'm not condemning individuals, I'm condemning new paths. God says there is a good way, to walk therein and to stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths. The old path is good!

If people refuse to walk the old paths, they will have to walk the new paths WITHOUT GOD! If these churches do not want old-time religion, salvation through the blood of Christ, the precious Holy Ghost, genuine revival with healing and miracles, God will let the devil take them over. If they don't want the old paths, does it mean that we are going to take the new path with them? NO!!

Some of our visiting ministers during Camp Meeting previewed some new TV film that hadn't gone out to the stations. As the film was projected on the screen, thousands of people gathered under the great tent which is integrated for all people from all churches to participate in a ministry that is worldwide in scope. We witnessed people healed, thousands saved, and multitudes praying and being filled with the Holy Ghost.

There were many dancing in the Spirit. We saw people getting healed and jumping out of their wheelchairs. Gene led the choir in "Christ is the Answer"; "Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!"; "Up Above My Head." How they sang – our integrated choir. Everybody was filled with the joy of the Lord, clapping their hands and singing their hearts out. God's blessing and power was falling under the tent!

Now different this telecast was compared to some you see. I preached the Word of God – on Judas – on hell's fire and brimstone. I told the people that God is not only a God of love and grace – God is a killer! I preached on judgment, the fury and wrath of Almighty God! I was taking a scriptural stand against sin, preaching holiness!

While I previewed that film, the devil spoke to me: "Why don't you change your program. Everyone else has. It's too old-fashioned. If you will change the whole thing, go to new methods, new formats, new programs, you would have a much easier time buying time on TV stations."

I thought, "Jesus, are we going to stick to the old paths? Are we going to stick to this old-fashioned Word of God and holiness preaching? Are we going to contend for God's blessing and power and anointing?"

The devil said, "If you throw all those old films away and start all over to produce something that nobody will get mad at, something that is not controversial, something that every sinner and backslider will like – they'll support it!"

I said, "God, I'm going to stick to the old paths!"

Preachers and evangelists have sought out new paths, because they feel they will get better support if they're not so old fashioned, if they won't preach so much against sin and the judgments of God. They have decided not to preach so much about holiness, because people will support that which is not controversial.

Why should we waste our time and God's money producing something that the devil likes and that accomplishes absolutely nothing for the kingdom of God?

God said, "If you will stay in the old paths, I'm going to give you people you've never had before to support this work and to stand behind you."

God says to ask for the old paths. If you will ask, He will show you the good way, and you will be able to walk therein. Let's pray, "Jesus, give us the old paths, that good way where we will find peace. Oh, Lord, we will listen to the sound of the trumpet. Sound it now; sound it aloud. Give me ears to hear the sound. Give me feet to go back if I have already stepped out upon a new path. In the name of Jesus, for His glory!"

I haven't looked for new paths. I have stayed on the old ones. We have suffered ridicule, persecution, and been called everything but a child of God. But we're not looking for an easy way on a new path. All those who live godly in Christ shall suffer persecution. Offenses must come. But we who suffer with Him shall reign with Him! The old paths of the Lord are indeed the good way, for He is with us all along the way!

A HEART TO HEART TALK WITH PREACHERS

(A. A. ALLEN – 1969)

I feel a certain responsibility for the thousands of full-gospel ministers whose faith has been inspired and challenged by this Miracle Revival ministry. Many of these carry credentials with the Miracle Revival Fellowship and look to me for counsel and advice. It is my sincere prayer that this Holy Ghost anointed message will stir every servant of God to greater dedication and new works for the glory of God.

The prophet Jeremiah, in days gone by, spoke these words, "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein" (Jeremiah 6:16).

More people today are so wrapped up in formal denominationalism that they will never return to the "old paths." Why? This is because there is too much worldly pleasure to be found in the "new paths." When people begin to backslide, they gradually drift into these "new paths" of conforming to the ways of the world. Of course, they will not admit they are backslidden. Instead, most of them boldly declare, "I am all right with God." Without a genuine born-again experience and change of heart, these people will never again walk in the "old paths." You do not have to ask a man or woman if they are backslidden. Just look at the path they are now walking.

A well-known magazine recently published an article on a young musician, raised in a Pentecostal church, but now playing with some of the world's best-known "Rock 'n' Roll" bands. He is playing for the devil, but still declaring the reason for his success is "God in him." Brethren, God may have originally given him his talent, but God is certainly not in him now! If God were in him, then God would be doing or approving of everything the devil is doing through that man. Yet, today, we find situations similar to this being widely publicized as "of God," and some people including Christians do not seem to discern the difference.

A certain so-called Pentecostal preacher recently made the news. The report associated him with a Hollywood star who had appeared as a guest on his platform. Preacher, you will not see any movie stars on our platform! The Star of our revivals is Jesus! When Christ is no longer the Star of your meetings, then you will need something or someone on your platform to draw a crowd. People will come to see a Hollywood celebrity. Why? Because, today, people are more worldly-minded than godly-minded.

I Thessalonians 5:22 states, "Abstain from all appearance of evil." Associating with Hollywood celebrities in your meetings and in their houses, in return, is certainly not avoiding all appearance of evil. Whether or not your intentions are fleshly, having too close an association with widely-known figures of the world always causes reporters to take advantage of the opportunity to make derogatory remarks. The world will laugh at you and make light of your ministry. A preacher cannot spend his time around a swimming pool with a bikini-clad actress who is world-famous as a sex-symbol without bringing a reproach upon himself and upon the work of God as a whole.

Preacher, if you are going to be used of God in the gifts of the Spirit, then your life must be godly and holy. If your life is not sanctified, people may brand your gifts as being from the devil instead of from God. You cannot build up your ministry by putting

the devil on your platform, no matter how famous he or she may be. This is a trick of the enemy to ruin your ministry, your influence, and your reputation. Neither can you do everything the devil tells you to do and still have God with you. Brethren, do not let Satan deceive you! Fulfill God's call on your life.

Recently, our office received a letter from a certain woman who calls herself a "prophetess." She advertises that she has a "new commandment from the Lord" to keep a certain Soul Revival Clinic open in one of America's largest cities by spending most of her evenings as an exotic dancer, where she claims "Eye socket two "em." Her advertising card and news ads, which declare that a person may obtain prayer, blessings, and healing, daily through her picture, dancing in a near-nude, strip-tease manner.

Such articles prove to me that many who claim to be in the Church today have left the "old paths" and have taken "new paths."

I recently added a two-page newspaper report to my files that describes the formation of a Discochurch in New York City, and also added an article printed in the September 12th edition of Life Magazine, entitled, "Worldly Uses for Old Churches." According to reports, the church directors who purchased a lovely old church building, took great pains to capture an "irreligious spirit" in its present furnishings. Even a mural of Satan embracing a topless-clad angel is boldly displayed. It is reported that as the parishioners enter the Discochurch, horned ushers greet them and direct them to their pews, where they may drink alcoholic beverages, or join others on a dance floor of blinking strobe lights. The mammoth pipe organ, which once played church music, now has been connected to a $25,000 stereo system, playing discotheque music. Among those visiting this Discochurch the reporter noticed a "topless"-dressed woman, with only her long blond tresses to cover her upper nudity. Another woman, dressed only in a loincloth, cracked a whip and writhed in time with the music. The church directors confessed, "We probably couldn't have gotten away with this a couple of years ago." Even the reporter writing the news article stated, "The opening of the club left a few observers with the curious feeling that they were presiding at the closing hours of western civilization."

Just because a building looks like a church, or has a sign indicating that it is a church, doesn't mean that people worship God there. Some church buildings are now being used for homes, restaurants, art studios, and even supermarkets. Jesus declared, "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship him" (John 4:23). Sincerity in a false doctrine is not acceptable. We must believe ALL the Word of God and put some spirit into our church services for our Father to accept our worship.

Certainly a Gallup Poll taken a year ago was not wrong when it reported that 58% of the American people believe that the denominational churches today have lost their influence, while 70% of the American people who went to church felt that religion was losing its influence. But this year's Gallup Poll reports that Church is no longer Church; now it is just considered religion.

I am not calling our attention to isolated cases. From many clippings in my file I see the headlines, "Pastor Installs Bar in Church." "Pastor Welcomes No-top Styles to His Church."

Recently, a certain large theological seminary in this country put out a poster calling Jesus a vagrant, a charlatan, and an anti-christ. Further they stated that He was a marked and dangerous man. Brethren, all of this should be enough to make us weep.

Many times in the past I have made the statement if the Church fails, the devil will take over. When Satan takes over, he always does it with sex. Now, sex has taken over

the modern church. Pastor, you had better watch out! If you do not start drawing the lines somewhere, it will take over your pulpit as well as your pews. Some church members and preachers today dress more outrageously than the worst of harlots. This is because God's Word has not been preached on dress; there have been no lines drawn. Preachers, we must stay filled with the Holy Ghost, or we may find ourselves walking in these "new paths" of religion.

I have noticed also a great need among ministers and church members today to beware of false prophets and witchcraft traps. A few months ago I received a letter from a preacher in California, who was filled with the spirit of witchcraft. It is surprising how many thousands of people across the nation receive similar letters, and yet fail to discern the spirit in which they were written. Many of these people are led to believe that they have received a letter from a man of God, because of the manner in which it was written. Certainly this is not true, but just a gimmick that preacher is using to get offerings. Here is a letter I recently received:

"Dear Rev. Allen, greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus. I write this letter in the name of Jesus, and in obedience to His voice. I have not wanted to write this letter, but I must obey the Word of God. I tremble as I write it, because I write in all meekness and humbleness of spirit, which is the Spirit of God." (If people would stay filled with the true Spirit of God, they would not be taken in by every wind of doctrine.)

"Knowing that you are a true man of God, and obey the voice of God, I am obeying his voice right now. You are a man of great power and miracles." (You would be surprised how many preachers that would influence.)

"The Lord told me to write this letter and tell you to give me THE CAR YOU ARE DRIVING NOW." (At the time I received this letter, I was driving a rented car from a car rental agency. I certainly could not have given him that car.)

"The Lord said when you give me this automobile, the gift of prophecy will work for you as never before, for Jesus wants you to do more prophesying." (Can you buy the gift of prophecy for the title of a car? Who else does this sound like but Simon the Sorcerer? (Acts 8:9-11) He also dealt with witchcraft.)

"I have heard God speak through you in many of your meetings, and I know that you will recognize the voice of God in this letter. You will obey, for your success depends on your obedience to His will." (My success depends on my obedience to Jesus' will – not man's nor what man thinks God's will to be for me.)

It is interesting to note that the spirit of witchcraft always states that if you do as the writer asks, you will receive great blessings. But, if you do not, there is only failure for you, which usually means a curse. Preachers, be careful that you are not guilty of this. Certainly, there are many scriptures that do bear out that the failure to claim a blessing will bring a curse, but Preacher Friend, you had better be very careful how you use these scriptures. Recently I received another letter from this same man. He had probably just watched our telecast carrying the sermon, "Looking for a Man." I stated in this sermon, "God is looking for a man. If you can qualify, write me a letter." Here is his answer I received:

"Dear Brother Allen, I greet you in the name of Jesus. The Lord told me to write you in reply to your request for an evangelist, a man of God, to join your A. A. Allen Revivals, Inc., and let you know that I meet ALL the qualifications right now that you expressed in your telecast.

"I am going to enumerate some of the God-given qualifications I have. I am a man of faith, a nine-gifted preacher, non-denominational. I have never attended a seminary,

but am qualified in all points, especially in the school of hard knocks and doing without. I don't mind being lied on and talked about, and don't mind it if a million preachers with the devil in them laugh at me. I am not looking for a salary, and I don't mind working for no money. I live by faith. I have lived and preached, doing without. I am a man with the proven gift of prophecy. I believe in it like I do the name, Jesus, because God Himself was the first one to prophesy.

"The Lord spoke to me some years ago, and told me I would join your Miracle Revivals. He told me I was going to join your party, and now I know the time has come. I have been just waiting for the field that the Lord has assigned to me. In fact, God is going to speak to you, and God is going to TROUBLE YOU, and let you know I am the man you should choose to join your Miracle Revivals. I am the man with the PERFECT gift of prophecy, and that is who you need working for you. God is going to trouble you, Rev. Allen, and is not GOING TO LET YOU SLEEP. This is one letter, Rev. Allen, you will not be able to pass by. God is going to trouble you. You are going to give me a job or else. As you read this letter, God will speak to you, and say, 'THIS IS IT'."

Brethren, one of the greatest reproaches being brought on the Pentecostal Revival today is either the misuse of the gifts, or a false prophet who does not have a gift, but who tries to deceive people into thinking he is a godly man. Witchcraft today is on an increase across the nation and around the world. Along with it, is a vaunted spirit being propagated, "Look who I am, because I exercise a gift." (They seemingly do.)

Remember, preacher, everything that is genuine and God-given has a counterfeit from the devil. Today we need to learn to "Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1).

Some things that start with the Holy Spirit do not end up with Him. Preacher, let me repeat what I have previously stated. You have got to live godly if you are going to exercise a gift that is genuine and real. There must be a close association between you and the Lord, which only comes through prayer and the reading of His Word. If this association is not there, the devil will slip in and give you a counterfeit.

Another one of the new paths seeping into the Church today is that of compromise. One of our minister friends recently attended the showing of a Protestant religious film. Following the film, an altar call was given and a goodly number responded. These were taken to the counseling room to be dealt with about their decision. At that time, each one filled out a "Convert Card." One of the questions on the card was, "What is your church preference?" Many of these new converts wrote, "Catholic." After the service was dismissed, my preacher-friend asked if he might be given some of the new convert cards that were marked "Catholic," since he had been a Catholic himself at one time. He was told, "Oh, we cannot give you these cards; they are to be given to the local priest." Can you imagine our giving our converts' cards to a priest?

Today, many preachers will not preach any subject that is considered controversial, or which might antagonize or offend anyone of another religious group. Fear of becoming unpopular if a strong stand is taken on certain subjects, causes many ministers to compromise. When a preacher desires the vote of every person and every denomination, he will then preach nothing which might be considered controversial. When he does this, he may become popular, but he will never spearhead a GOD-SENT REVIVAL!

Many Pentecostal ministers today are making a vote for donominationalism, when they should be seeking God's blessings, God's presence, and God's power in their

ministries. I have noticed that when a minister feels that the blessing and power of God is not enough, he will then start looking for other ways to promote his meetings. Brethren, do you really want revival, or just popularity and the people's money?

Preacher Friend, you might as well make up your mind that if they hated Jesus, they will hate you; if they persecuted Him, they will persecute you also. John 15:21 declares, "But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me." "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you" (John 15:18). Some preachers have come to the conclusion that the only way you can keep these cold, backslidden, denominational church members and preachers from hating you, even killing you, is to compromise. One of the best ways they have found to compromise and thereby escape persecution, is to go back to the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, or Episcopalian Churches. Some have gone back, and others are seriously considering going back. But God declares He has not called us to go back, but to go on (Hebrews 10:38,39). Therefore, let us remain in the calling wherein God has called us. If He has filled us with the Holy Ghost and has called us to be Pentecostal, then let us be Pentecostal!

This Pentecostal message with the manifestation of the gifts will not be accepted in the modern-day churches. I Corinthians 9:16 states, "...woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel." This does not mean just John 3:16. God has not called us to pass out milk bottles, but to give out meat. He also desires His people to chew that meat, that they may grow spiritually. If the Church today is ever going to be like the Church in the Book of Acts, then it must live on more than just milk.

Pentecostalism came out of a holiness movement that specialized in taking heed to others. In a sense, we are our brother's keeper, but what about ourselves? Paul stated in Acts 20:28, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers..." This scripture speaks first about a personal holiness that does not include what any other person thinks about you, or what your church standing is. It directs you to be concerned with what you think of yourself, when you are alone with God and your own conscience. This is important for preachers today, because the success or failure of the individual church depends upon the degree of its minister's dedication to God. Satan lays traps for preachers, because he knows that if he can get one preacher to fail, that will hurt the cause of Christ more than a dozen church members failing. This means that especially Pentecostal preachers are going to be subjected to many more trials, tests, and temptations than the average Christian. Churches cannot rise any higher than their ministers. A church that allows blasphemous dances in the sanctuary, with Rock 'n' Roll music and psychedelic lights flashing on the walls, has never had a true, Bible-believing man of God as their pastor.

Brethren, the 20th Century world can tell whether or not a preacher has been with Jesus, just as much as the world could in the Apostolic Age. Many ministers who are not willing to live holy and godly lives try to attract people by trickery and deceit, but they only succeed in deceiving themselves. We are living in a day when people think that a Christian can do anything that is worldly, and still be right with God. But, Galatians 6:7 states, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked..." Ministers who have been truly visited by the Lord will show it in their lives and in their words.

The Word of God is like the law of gravity. If you break the law of gravity, you may break your neck. If you violate God's laws, you only succeed in breaking yourself on the law. This is why we must "take heed" to ourselves. Jesus is the one who should be

popular and receive the applause. Therefore, we must keep Him the Star of our ministry and meetings, and look only to Him for promotion.

Promotion does not come from a specific church or denomination. It does not come from a Bishop, Presbyter, General Superintendent, or State Overseer. "For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge; he putteth down one, and setteth up another" (Psalm 75:6-7). A minister may try to promote himself, but without God's promotion it will not last. When God promotes you, no man can demote you. I do not care how may denominations may slander or lie about you, If God lifts you up, and you continue in His will, Satan cannot pull you down.

Personally, I want to be what God wants me to be and where God places me; not where I may place myself. We can do nothing without God's help, God's power, God's anointing, God's gifts, or God's promotion. But if we will pray, live godly, believe the Word of God and preach it, then in due season we will reap, if we faint not. This will be because we have a grip on God's hand, and because He is moving, working, and operating through us.

I have also noticed in my travels that pastors and evangelists often have trouble getting along together. What is the reason for this difficulty? The biggest problem that pastors have with evangelists, and that evangelists have with pastors, seems to be over the offerings. Some pastors manage to get along with an evangelist for a two or three-week meeting, and may even feel a real moving of the Spirit in their church. Then if the evangelist is good at getting offerings, the may have him back the next year.

Brethren, a church should be a blessing to the evangelist the same as the evangelist is to the church. How can God bless if an evangelist has just been brought in to draw a bigger crowd and thereby get more money? Souls should be the main objective of every revival and of every church service.

It has been said that, "Some so-called shepherds spend so much time and effort making money in order to build bigger and more beautiful feed troughs (churches), that they have no time or money to feed the Word of God to the sheep." Pastors can become so involved in activities to raise funds for radio, television, bills, and church-building expenses that they fail to feed the sheep. Evangelists also may become too involved with tents, chairs, and equipment expenses, and thereby fail to feed the sheep. Perhaps the cause of this is insufficient faith to move God to meet the bills. Therefore, the pastor feels he should have the majority of the money, and the evangelist feels the same way. Often a pastor and evangelist may split an offering on mutual agreement. There is nothing sinful about this if you do not lie about it.

Brethren, I believe there is a way to take an offering so that both the pastor and evangelist will have their needs met. We need God's help to keep us from becoming too involved financially. Our faith will bring in sufficient funds to pay our bills and meet our needs. Our calling and vision must come first!

Regardless of the problems that present themselves in your ministry, remember God is the Victor! He wants to fight the battle for you. Hold your peace, and let the love and grace of God be shed abroad in your heart. Seek God for wisdom and understanding as Solomon of old. Strive to lift up Jesus always, then watch Him work for you! After all, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31).

BLESSINGS ON CREDIT!

Vow and Pay Later – Who Ever Heard of Such a Thing?

(A. A. Allen – 1969)

Today, everyone in business insists that you let them bless you on credit. You bank will send you a credit card when you haven't asked for one. Automobile salesmen tell the TV audience, "Don't even bring your pocketbook when you come to trade. All you need is a good credit reference." Read the ads in your daily newspaper: "No money down – nothing to pay for three months. Just fill in the blank, and sign your name on the dotted line."

People sign their names on contracts, promissory notes, leases, and loans. They VOW TO PAY. They think little or nothing about making payments to a finance company, a car dealer, a real estate broker, the clothier, the bank, the credit union, a friend, and an appliance, furniture or department store. By means of a contract, we enjoy the convenience of the telephone, lights, water, and gas on credit. We pay for what we use at the end of the month.

SATAN KNOWS ABOUT IT

Many people think nothing about getting a cash advance from their employer. By mutual agreement, a portion of each paycheck is withheld until the full amount is repaid. People make vows and promises everywhere to just about every kind of business in the world. However, when it comes to the Church and God's work, you hear many declare, "I don't believe in making VOWS!"

When one can make a vow everywhere else in the world except in church, you can readily see that the devil must have something to do about this matter. Satan knows the importance of "VOW AND PAY LATER," and the multiplied blessings received therefrom. He makes it his business to try to prevent people from promising God anything.

GOD'S CHILDREN KNOW ABOUT IT

God's children were the first to vow, and they made their vows to God. After all, **this is one of God's surest methods of blessing people. Their vow is acceptable with Him at the time when they have nothing more to give than their word.**

When a person has nothing to give but his word of promise, in the sight of God, that is just as good as GOLD or CASH. God knows if that person honestly means to pay his vow when the blessing comes. In fact, if the person who vows honestly believes that God is going to bless him, it will bring the same blessing from the Lord, even if there is no money down.

Many people who come into our campaigns are deeply in debt. Some are in serious financial trouble. Again and again, I have watched many of these deliberately pledge or vow, as a means of putting God to work for them, in order to get a release from their debts. They vow expecting a financial miracle from God to deliver them out of their troubles.

GETTING CREDIT FROM GOD

One meaning of credit is "financial trustworthiness." I want you to know that many people today, whom God knows are financially trustworthy, are receiving God's blessings on credit.

In Genesis 28, the Bible records how Isaac sent away Jacob from Beersheba, fleeing from the face of his enraged brother. Never before had Jacob faced such trouble. As he journeyed alone, he was fearful and uncertain; his future looked dark. He had no job, and he could not return home. Some people would have had a breakdown. God must have reminded him what he should do. In that dark hour, in the hardest place he had ever been in his life, Jacob made himself an altar of consecration, **"And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the Lord be my God; And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee."** (vs.20,22).

That promise, coming from Jacob, was probably the greatest sacrifice he had ever offer3ed God upon the altar. He was pledging to give money that he did not have. Jacob did not know how much God would give him, or where it would come from, but he said, "...of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee."

Blessings on credit! Did it work for Jacob? Here is what the scripture says was the result of Jacob's making that vow: "And the man increased exceedingly, and had much cattle, and maidservants, and menservants, and camels, and asses." (Genesis 30:43) **IT MADE HIM RICH!**

Satan knows GOD is the ONE who can get you out of your troubles. He knows if God will do this for one, Jacob, He will do it for another – YOU! This is blessing on credit. Vow now, pay later – no money down. Little wonder that Satan (even working through your own preacher or your best friend) will oppose you when you consider making a vow and getting involved with God.

THE LORD'S RELEASE

In days gone by (See Deuteronomy 15), the Lord provided a "release" for His people who were in bondage to debts. It came at the end of every seven years – in God's perfect time. "And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbor shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbor, or of his brother; because it is called **the Lord's release**" (vs. 2). It was a time of deliverance! To be observed as long as there were poor brethren in their midst.

I believe everyone is obligated to pay their bills. God knows how to send you a miracle to release you from all your debts. Hallelujah! If God says there is a release, that settles the whole thing. I believe it!

Of course, some people have been shut away in prison so long, if someone would open the gate and say, "You're pardoned," they would not know what to do. That is true!

National newspapers carried the story of a man who had served forty years of a life sentence in prison. One day he received a parole. They came down to his cell and opened the door. To his surprise they said, "Man, you're free!"

He answered them, "I've spent most of my life here behind bars. I wouldn't know what to do if I were outside. I want to stay here." He absolutely refused his freedom.

That is like some preachers and some laymen. God turns the key in the door, and opens the gate, but they have been in denominational prison so long, they wouldn't know what to do if they were to be set free.

Some people wouldn't know what to do if they got rid of that stack of bills every month. It would be such an entirely new way of life, they would have to adjust to a new way of thinking, living, and operating.

God wants to give you a chance to see what you would do. **Take advantage of God's grace. Figure out the bills you owe, and tell God you need the Lord's release.**

A MILLION DOLLARS ON CREDIT

A number of years ago, I was under a million-dollar burden. It was so heavy, only God could release me from it. In the natural, no man could have stood up under such a load without breaking down.

A very active atheist was offended by a few words in a Miracle Magazine article. He sued me for half a million dollars, which he declared was the amount his organization had suffered in the conduct of its affairs as a result of the anti-atheistic, anti-communistic article.

Abut the same time, the Internal Revenue Service, under a new administration in Washington, chose me as a test case to see what they could do about denying tax exemption to religious, non-profit organizations that are not tied down to a denomination. We were chosen because we were the largest independent group with an international ministry. I knew that if God didn't help me win, and release me, ten thousand other independent preachers would fall with me.

The IRS Commissioner contended in the court case that in the taxable years ending May 31, 1958 and 1959, the A. A. Allen Revivals, Inc, was "organized and operated primarily for private gain, and that net earnings 'inured' to the benefit of private individuals." In spite of the fact that it was untrue, if he could produce any evidence that would make his contentions appear to be true, the tax-exempt status of the corporation would have been forfeited, and the taxes and penalties involved could have totaled a half-million dollars.

Where could I get a million dollars if my enemies won the court cases? The devil was making a supreme bid to destroy this Miracle Revival ministry. Each day, as I stepped to the pulpit to preach and minister to the needs of the people, the devilish spirit of fear tempted me to doubt that God would bring me through victoriously. Each day, God renewed my strength to continue under this unbearable burden. Thank God, He has promised to "...make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (I Corinthians 10:13).

Months went by as the two cases were pending. When the burden got so heavy that I could not carry it any longer, God spoke to me: **"Son, follow my instructions: 'VOW AND PAY unto the Lord your God:...He shall cut off the spirit of princes: he is terrible to the kings of the earth.'"** God said, **"I will make harmless the spirit of the infidel, and I will show you that I know how to manage and rule kings and those who are in authority. 'Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain.'"** (See Psalm 76:10-12)

Note that these promises are conditional – they apply to the one who will vow and pay.

Right in the services under the tent, I took one of the small pledge envelopes. I did not even have the money to pay the amount I was pledging. On the back of the envelope I wrote five things from which I needed God to release me. The man who had sued me for a half-a-million dollars was the first. Next, I listed the IRS case. The last three items I listed were burdens I needed to be released from, also. God assured me He would move all these burdens.

The release came so fast that I was amazed. Within a few days, the atheist dropped his lawsuit on the condition that I would never mention his name again. Half a million dollars of burden was gone in a moment's time!

When the tax case was heard in court, a short time later, the IRS Commissioner presented his case against us. Two of our witnesses answered his probing inquiry. Their testimonies were unimpeached and uncontradicted. The IRS Commissioner rested the case and did not go forward with any evidence. Newspaper headlines announced, **"Miracle Valley Wins Tax Case!" God gave us victory over the second half-million burden! God met my million-dollar need, and I didn't even have to go to a finance company!**

The other three victories I had carefully claimed on the back of the pledge envelope followed in swift succession. God released and set me free from five unbearable burdens! He blessed me ON CREDIT!

After this great release came, the Lord reminded me that I had received all this blessing on credit. Though I had not yet paid my pledge, God knew I meant to. I had been so busy ministering and helping others, I had not taken the time to write out the check and pay it. Friends, I want you to know that God does bless on credit!

GOD IS THE WAYMAKER

A person who is in bondage to financial burdens – bills and payments on homes and cars, furniture and appliances – needs deliverance. That person needs to be set free from obligations to be better able to fulfill God's will in his life.

Clem Livingston of Trenton, New Jersey, knew God had called him into the ministry, but a heavy yoke of obligations kept him from fulfilling God's will for his life. Every time he stepped out into evangelistic work, he would have to return home. He couldn't leave his debts for his father to pay.

One night, under the Miracle Revival tent, when Brother Don Stewart preached from Proverbs 13:22, Brother Clem grasped onto faith. He prayed, "God, I know there are riches that sinners have laid up, and that some of it is mine. You can release it." He figured up all the bills he owed, and believed God to supply the need and release him from debt. In faith, he said, "Lord, You can give me more besides."

For five months, Brother Clem Livingston had been off from his job with the railroad, because of an injury incurred in an accident on heavy machinery. All that time, he had received no disability assistance from the railroad or the state. Just two nights later, he returned to the campaign and testified to a miracle!

The insurance company had called and offered a settlement. As soon as he signed a release for them, they released $2250.00 for him. It met all his needs. He paid all his bills, paid off the pledge that he had made, and started a bank account. He was able to say, "Lord, there is nothing to keep me from serving You in fullness!"

GOD'S LAW FOR BLESSING YOU

"The Lord maketh poor…" (I Samuel 2:7). Who does He make poor? The answer is in the Bible: **"Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction…"** (Proverbs 13:18). You will notice all the way through the Bible, **poverty, bondage, and indebtedness have a direct connection with refusing to obey God in giving.**

God has laid down a law: If you want His blessing, you first have to do something. **"And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life"** (Matthew 19:29). **Where shall you receive the hundredfold? Right here! Plus eternal life!**

Notice who must take the first step to receive this promise. God hasn't promised to give you back a hundred houses until first you give Him one. God hasn't promised to give you back a hundred lands until you give Him one land. You do something for God, then God will do something for you!

GOD WILL BLESS YOU ON CREDIT

I love the Lord so much, because He has made another law – if you have nothing to give Him, He will bless you on credit. You just promise to give Him something when you get it. God loves you so much, and He's so anxious to bless you, He will bless you on credit, at a time when you don't have a dime and you don't have a job! Vow now, and pay later.

Sometimes, Friends, we get under a burden that is just as heavy as owing money. Sometimes, the desire to do the will of God, which might cost a million dollars, is as heavy as owing somebody a million dollars. For years, God burdened me to build a Bible School where students from all over the world could come and work their way through if they had no money. I had no money to build it.

In a Fresno campaign, we were not meeting the campaign budget. One night, as we were taking the offering, God said: "Why don't you write a check for a hundred dollars? Just postdate it thirty days and let Me know that you really mean business. If you will do it, I will give you that acreage so you can build the Bible School for My glory."

God was telling me that He would release me from that burden. If I would write a check by faith for money that was not even in the bank, that was promising God something I didn't have.

I wrote a check for one hundred dollars, and attached a note on it calling attention to the date. I said, "When the thirty days are up, I will have the money."

At the exact moment I was writing the check in Fresno, God spoke to a man in Southern Arizona. "Son, I want you to give your ranch to A. A. Allen." At first he did not understand everything about it, but God was working. Later, at Camp Meeting in Phoenix, I was telling the people that I had been praying about land for a Bible School. The man, Urbane Leiendecker, stood up under the tent and said, "Now I know what God meant when He said to give my ranch to A. A. Allen. If you are going to build a Bible School, I have two square miles. I will give you a section."

God released me from that burden by giving me that which He told me He wanted me to have. You can have the same.

Some of you preachers want a tent and equipment, or you may need a church building. You are burdened down. God knows how to release you from that burden by supplying and providing what He has called you to do. You need the Lord's release. You take the first step, and God will move for you!

God has called some of you to do this or that, and you have not yet done it. He has called you to go here or there, to go overseas and be a missionary, but you have not yet gone. He has called you to preach the gospel in a tent, and you don't have a tent. He has called you to preach the gospel on radio and you don't even have a tape recorder. You are under a burden to do what God has called you to do. God will give you what He has called you to work with. **He will release you from the burden when you VOW AND PAY! I challenge you to try it. Let God bless you on credit!**

VOW NOW AND PAY LATER

Almost everyone has heard of the predicament Jonah found himself in after he refused to heed the voice of the Lord, and went on in self will and disobedience (Jonah

1:1-4). Jonah got himself into deep trouble. I dare say few have ever had more trouble than he, because he disobeyed God.

Jonah, describing his trouble, said, "For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas…The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depths closed me around about, the weeds were wrapped about my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains…yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O Lord, my God. When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord, and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple…I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving. **I will pay that I vowed.** Salvation is of the Lord."

Here was one preacher who finally faced his situation squarely, and made the needed decision in his life that would move God for him! The key to one of the greatest truths in the scripture concerning deliverance from trouble is found in three words: "I will pay." If he were to be forgiven and blessed, it would have to be on credit!

YOU MOVE FIRST!

Often, in so many of our campaigns and camp meetings, people ask the question, "Why does God require me to give, before He will return to me? Why doesn't God first give to me, before He requires me to give to Him?" God says, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways" (Isaiah 55:8). **God's law requires that you give first unto Him a portion of that which He has already given to you. If you have nothing, you may vow or pledge in advance to give to Him when the blessing comes.** That is what Jonah did.

Do you, like Jonah, feel that you are in "deep water"? When you feel your soul is fainting within you, it is time to remember the Lord. Tell Him what you will do. Make the first move! Then God will move for you, and even bless you on credit!

DO YOUR THING FOR GOD

(A. A. ALLEN – 1969)

Are you aware of the fact that all the way through the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, we find the miraculous working power of God doing marvelous things through men and women of faith? Without faith, it is impossible to please God (See Hebrews 11:6). That which is not faith is sin (See Romans 14:13). If you don't have faith, you're a sinner. If you're not a sinner, you have faith. Many people come to me and say, "Brother Allen, I just don't have a bit of faith." I say, "Well, you old sinner!"

People who come to me saying they believe, yet, do not know what they believe, do not believe anything. That's why they don't have anything.

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews lists many of the great patriarchs of faith and tells us what faith did for them yesterday. What faith did yesterday, it will do today! "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

The reason we don't see as many results of faith today is because we DON'T HAVE MUCH FAITH! Jesus Christ hasn't changed – just our faith in Him and what we believe He has power to do has changed. It's very easy for some to explain this condition by saying, "Well, it's just not for today." Who said it wasn't for today? Where did you get that information? Did you get it from God, or from some cold, backslidden, modernistic minister? (I'm inclined to believe the latter.) You say, "Well now, my church doctrine says it's not for today." All I have to do is go to God and His Word. That's why I can preach the way I do and believe what I believe and see what I see. Why don't you raise your hands and say, "My God, loose me and liberate me from man-made ideas and man-made manuals, bylaws, and constitutions. Just let me use Your Word for my guidepost."

If people today were given the Word of God in their churches instead of cold, dead formality, they would have more faith and see it put into action. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17). WHAT IF SOME DO NOT BELIEVE? "Shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?" (Romans 3:3). We don't have to argue with man about what God's Word says. We just open the Bible, and say, "If God said it, that settles the whole thing." Some of you need to loosed and liberated so you can believe ALL of the Word of God.

Some people never go to the Bible as their guidepost or roadmap; they'd rather go to their pastor. For example, when some people are curious about the Pentecostal experience according to Acts 2, they'll go to their pastor for the answer. Many times, the modernist pastor will say, "That's not part of our doctrine. You were filled with the Holy Ghost when you were saved." Why don't these people read the Bible which plainly asks, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost SINCE ye believed?" (Acts 19:2)

Regardless of man's doctrine, God is true. And if God is true, so is His Word. Because His Word is true, it will set me free if I read it and do what it says (John 8:32). I am free to believe everything I read in this old black Book! Friends, if we read the Word, and believe it and stand on it, we can expect God to help us put it into action and stimulate our faith to believe Him for the miraculous!

If you'll take a look in Genesis 18, Sarah couldn't believe the Word of the Lord that came to her, promising her a child in her old age. But God made her realize that

nothing is too hard for the Lord (vs.14). For, "Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she JUDGED HIM FAITHFUL WHO HAD PROMISED" (Hebrews 11:11). God can be instrumental in bringing to pass a miracle for the young and the old if they will let Him. All one needs to do is get in touch with God and have faith. I believe God has faith for every one of you!

God once had a miracle bush in Exodus 3 that burned with fire and was not consumed. When Moses, the man of God, walked by and saw it, God spoke to him out of the fire and commissioned him to "do his thing" using a miracle rod. Don't tell me that God is not in the fire!

At another time when the same man came off a mountain after spending forty days and nights in prayer and fasting in the presence of God, the children of Israel couldn't even stand to look on his face. It shone with God's presence (Exodus 34:29-33).
I call that a miracle shine! Why don't you get one? Why, if some people had any shine on their faces at all, they would take it off.

God had miracle food for His children which they gathered every morning and every evening. God gave them miracle shoes which grew with their feet and lasted forty years without wearing out. (See Deuteronomy 29:5).

God had miracle light by which he led His children – a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.

The children of God drank miracle water. In Exodus 15, God had a miracle tree. When it was chopped down and thrown into the bitter waters of Marah, the waters were made sweet. Later, they also drank miracle water which came out of a rock – supernatural source with which man had noting to do. It flowed by the power of God.

When the children of Israel had sinned against God and were bitten by the serpents in Numbers 21, all they had to do was take a miracle look and then live. If some people would start looking in the right direction, they would live! Turn your face toward heaven and see God do something for you!

God opened the mouth of a jenny ass in Numbers 22, and she began to preach to a backslidden preacher. Balaam didn't like it. That backslidden preacher didn't want any female telling him that he had no business beating her. He said, "If I had a sword, I'd thrust you through and through." It's a good thing he didn't have one. That little female donkey just kept preaching to Balaam. Some of you men don't like to have women preach to you. Well, they have no business preaching unless God has called them. But, if God has called them, you had better turn them loose and let them "do their thing" - the right thing for God.

"By faith the harlot, Rahab, perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace" (Hebrews 11:31). A harlot received a miracle? When faith is exercised the way she exercised it, she was no longer a harlot. When Rahab dropped that red string out the window (Joshua 6) she had received her miracle.

In Judges 14, a man named Samson picked up a new jawbone of an ass: God turned it into a miracle. As long as Samson had that jawbone in his hand, not one of the Philistines could get to him. He killed them right and left, leaving heaps upon heaps of human flesh.

Faith took defeat out of the battle in I Samuel 17, as David went to battle against Goliath. When David picked up that stone from the brook, he knew that stone in itself could never get the job done. But God got behind the stone and guided it swiftly and straight to its mark, and Goliath fell. A miracle! If you want to talk about our "doing our

thing," talk on. David "did his thing." But, the thing he did was ordained of God, Biblical and scriptural. What God did yesterday, He will do today. Raise your hands and say, "God I want to do what You want me to do."

Once God had miracle blackbirds. In I Kings 17, He sent ravens to feed His prophet, Elijah, with bread and meat every morning and evening. When the man of God saw the blackbirds coming to him with meat and bread everyday, he knew it was a continuous miracle of God. Where did those ravens get that meat and bread? How did they know where to find Elijah? God had directed them. Any blackbird that can hear the voice of God and have enough intelligence to be guided by Him is a miracle blackbird. God had told Elijah, "I have commanded the ravens to feed thee." Therefore, Elijah didn't say, "Get away, blackbirds. I have no need of any blackbird bringing me anything to eat." Elijah was willing to accept God's way! White people had better open their hearts. The only place some may find the gospel may be in some of these colored churches!

Once, Elijah was awakened by an angel. A miracle cook had baked a miracle cake on a miracle fire (I Kings 19). After Elijah ate it, he "did his thing" for God. He made a forty-day miracle journey without eating another bite. If you get a taste of this miracle manna that comes down from heaven, you're going to do something besides just go to church and sit in a pew. God is going to give you something to do!

Did you ever hear about the miracle mantle in II Kings 2? Elisha took the mantle that had been Elijah's and shook it over the river of Jordan. He said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" By parting the waters, God let Elisha and everyone else know He was close by.

When a miracle stick – just a limb off a tree – was thrown into the Jordan River, God made the axe head (probably ten pounds of steel) float to the top of the river and swim to the bank! (See II Kings 6:5-6). This was a result of faith mixed with the power of God.

In Hebrews 11:33, faith took the bite out of the lions' mouths. It took the burn out of the fire when the three Hebrew children were thrown into the fiery furnace.

God talked to a fish and performed a miracle. If you will look in the first chapter of Jonah, you will find that a miracle fish (prepared by God) "did its thing." The fish obeyed God just as the blackbirds obeyed Him. When God's power comes in contact with you, YOU ARE GOING TO DO SOMETHING TOO! Today, all the world is talking about "doing their thing." And we can do ours!

The recent GREENSBORO REVIEW carried an outstanding article of our recent meeting there, entitled, "THE ALLEN REVIVAL FAITHFUL DO THEIR THING." If the manifestations described in this article are "doing our thing," then I believe everyone of you ought to have a thing to do. If the devil's crowd can "do their thing," God's people can "do their thing!" We've got a bigger and better and more holy "thing" to do than the devil's crowd. The devil hasn't got half as good a "thing" to do as God has given us. God has commissioned us to preach the gospel (the Word of God) and thereby put faith within the hearts and lives of men and women to believe God for the miraculous. God has a "thing" for us to do on the highway to holiness. He said, "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the spirit" (Ephesians 5:18). If God has saved you and filled you with the Holy Ghost, He has called you to do something.

People who go to church just to hear a cold religious lecture, to listen to a musical recital, or for entertainment, are missing God a million miles. It's God's anointing and power that brings us His blessings and the manifestations of His Spirit. In our worship

services, as we put faith to work in obedience to God's Word, we see God work for us. "Clap your hands, all ye people" (Psalm 47:1). "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord" (Psalm 150:6). "Praise Him with the dance" (Psalm 150:4). As I walk in obedience to God's Word, I find that "He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon high places" (Psalm 18:33).

YOU WILL FIND ALL THE WAY from Genesis to Revelation that faith wrought miracles. Faith will work miracles for you. Faith took the hunger out of the wilderness wanderings, and took the thirst from the dry desert land. The Bible says that faith put sickness away from the people of the Old Testament and the people of the New Testament Church (See Exodus 23:25 & 15:26, I Peter 2:24). Faith moved emptiness from the meal barrel and poverty from those who had faith to trust God (See I Kings 17:16).

Faith will put gold in your teeth. God will be your dentist if you will let Him. It's happening in our meetings everywhere we go. As people believe God, huge cavities in their teeth are being filled. God is doing it! It doesn't matter what God uses as a filling. He can fill teeth with anything He wants to. Some fillings look like gold; others look like silver. Somebody said, "Well, if God can take gold and pave the streets of heaven with it, He can surely put a little in my tooth!" That's faith! God spoke to me to tell people that if He can put meal in an empty meal barrel, He can put gold in your teeth; and if He can put gold in your teeth, He can put it in your purse.

When Jesus rebuked the winds and the waves they obeyed Him (Matthew 8:26-27). In the gospel of Matthew we find that a fig tree obeyed Him: "And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it and found nothing but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforth for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away" (Matthew 21:19).

Jesus talked to the dead (not the way the spiritualists do). He just said, "Lazarus, come forth!" (John 11:43). When Jesus spoke, the power of God moved, and Lazarus "did his thing" for God. Can you imagine a man who had been dead for four days coming up out of his grave and "doing his thing?" It doesn't matter how dead people are spiritually, some are as dead as "last year's birds' nest." They need to hear the voice of God and get His touch in their lives. I'm going to ask God to give you that kind of faith. The people of God, according to Hebrews 11:34-35, "...through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens."

Every miracle that I have mentioned was wrought, the writer of Hebrews said, through faith. How would you like to have the kind of faith that would work a miracle? Why would God give all these people faith – even the harlot, Rahab – and not give you faith? It matters not whether you're young or old, male or female. Whether from Genesis to Revelation, or anywhere in between (and I believe that we are all in between), God has a miracle for you. It takes faith – simply believing that what He has promised He is able also to perform. "And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou cast into the sea: and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith" (Mark 11:22-23).

Once a little woman said to me, "Brother Allen, it's different for me. You've got the gift of miracles, and you've got to put that gift in me."

I said, "Just what makes you think I've got the gift of miracles?"

She answered, "I've seen you on TV every Sunday morning, and I see you using that gift."

NO! THAT WAS JUST GOD DOING "HIS THING!" God must find a man or woman who has faith; through them God will do "His thing." He'll heal you; He'll put meat in your empty meal barrel; He'll raise your dead. The Bible says, 'Women received their dead raised to life again…" (Hebrews 11:35). What did it? Faith! And you can have miracle-working faith.

Some people don't want miracle-working faith. They don't have enough spiritual enthusiasm to seek God for anything. They reason, "Well, if God wants me to have it, He can give it to me. He knows I haven't got enough push to go out and get it. I'm not so sure God wants everybody to have this faith. I think maybe it's just for a few!"

Well, why don't you be one of the "few"? Be one of those who contends for the faith!

Some people say, "God knows my sickness. God knows I'm blind. God knows I'm crippled. Someday, in God's good time, if it be His will, He will come by." Yes, He will. And He will pass on by, too, unless you exercise your faith. Stand to your feet, and like blind Bartimaeus, refuse to be quieted or discouraged (Mark 10:48). Cry aloud, "Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me!" The Bible says Jesus stood still and commanded Bartimaeus to be called. Somebody tapped Bartimaeus on the shoulder and said, "Son, Jesus is calling for thee." Bartimaeus realized, "This is my time; this is my day. This is it! I've waited a long time for Jesus to pass my way!" They came leading him to the Master, and Jesus said, "Bartimaeus, what would you have me to do for you?" The blind man said, "Lord, that I might receive my sight." And as Jesus reached out and touched him, immediately his eyes were opened and he followed Jesus.

If Bartimaeus had just quietly waited by the wayside until Jesus came over to him, he never would have received his sight. He had faith, and he put it into action!

Are you going to let God pass you by? If you don't exercise your faith, He'll pass right on by and leave you blind, sick, and diseased. Unless you touch Him and let Him touch you, you'll also be left without a successful ministry.

Oh, I want Jesus to do something for you today! Don't you want the kind of faith that can move mountains? It takes only the faith as a grain of mustard seed (Matthew 17:20). Do you want the kind of faith that can take gold out of a fish's mouth? (Matthew 17:27). Do you want the kind of faith that will make threatening waters coagulate under your feet as concrete so you can walk upon them and do what God has called you to do? Would you like the kind of faith that will make an axe head swim? That will put a dam across the river? That will take you to heaven as went Enoch? You are going to have to have faith now, or you'll be left behind. If you can't have faith now, you won't have faith then.

Some of you have been going to these dead, cold churches so long that you have forgotten that there is anything to do. GOD WANTS YOU TO DO SOMETHING! God wants you to heal the sick, and cast out devils (Mark 16:17-18). God wants you to perform the miraculous by His power – He wants to do it through YOU! He wants the gifts of the Spirit to operate through you (I Corinthians 12:8-11). Not to do as you please, but to "do your thing" for God! Every one of you knows that God has called you to be a believer and make heaven your home. He's called you to work for His glory – to do the things Jesus did, and do even greater things (John 14:12).

You can "do your thing" for God because God has something for everyone to do.

A miraculous thing! A divine thing! You want it, and I'm asking God to give you the kind of faith you need to get the job done!

GOD'S BLESSINGS ON PURPOSE

(A. A. ALLEN – 1969)

Could you say that it is just a coincidence that you are a Christian today? Is it just a happenstance that you are filled with the Holy Ghost? Are these blessings the results of luck and chance that happen to all men? Are they some merited favor from God you have earned?

Immediately, you say these questions are ridiculous. Salvation and the baptism of the Holy Ghost have been provided for God's children. These gifts from God are available without money and without price to whosoever will. However, in order to receive God's blessings, one must make an effort – one must take a step of faith.

Many preachers are preaching today that it just happens to some people. It is just a matter of their good fortune. The Bible declares that prosperity is a gift from God. "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth…" (Deuteronomy 8:18). "Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth…this is the gift of God" (Ecclesiastes 5:19). Do you want scripture from the New Testament also? "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" (III John 2).

I believe what the Bible says! Prosperity is a blessing God has provided for His children; but they must act in faith to receive it in much the same way as they receive salvation and the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

If prosperity accidentally happens to some people, why wouldn't it be equally coincidental that only some people get saved by chance, and only upon some the gift of the Holy Ghost is poured out? If prosperity happens only to certain ones, and doesn't happen to others, why aren't all the other blessings God has described in the Bible simply poured out at random upon mankind? The Bible is very plain that the blessings of God are not just luck and chance – they don't just happen.

God has a good reason for blessing some, and at the same time cursing others. To the obedient, He said, "And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God" (Deuteronomy 28:2). To the disobedient, He said, "Moreover all these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed; because thou hearkenedst not unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded thee: And they shall be upon thee for a sign and for a wonder...Because thou servedst not the Lord thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things" (Deuteronomy 28:45-47). It pays to obey God; to praise and shout for joy!

Blessings and cursings do not happen by chance. If they did, the person deserving the blessings could have the curse, while the undeserving person might end up with the blessing. God knows how to distinguish His people from the devil's crowd. He knows how to bless people who hear His Word and believe. In Matthew 6, Jesus taught the people how God feeds the fowls of the air, and how He arrays the lilies of the fields. Then He asked, "Are ye not much better than they?…Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?…for

your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

You say that He hasn't fed you? That you haven't been clothed? I believe that God does not love the flowers of the field more than He does you. They simply yield to the will of God; they yield to the soil, the rain, the sun, and the blessings of God. No wonder they are dressed up. God says if you will seek Him and His will first, "all these things shall be added unto you."

Jesus said, Oh ye of little – what? Did He say that little planning, little vision, or little work was causing your problem? He said, "Oh ye of little faith."

What can be done about little faith? James tell us, "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also" (James 2:26). You are going to have to DO something. Take God's promises at face value and for a change stand on the Word of God. Watch God begin to move for you! Give your faith an opportunity to grow and mature. You can be a man or a woman of faith! Then God can bless you with prosperity!

Unbelief causes men and women to sit around in self-pity saying, "Well, God never meant for me to have anything. My preacher told me that to be holy I must be poor. If God would bless me with prosperity, I'd just backslide. If I had nice clothes, a decent home for my children, and a new car, I might get too lifted up in pride." That's just what the devil wants Christians to believe. These poor people have fallen into a snare set by a lying spirit that has hindered the work of God down through the years.

Foolish ones, bound by fear, unbelief, and poverty, who can they help for the sake of the work of God? How can they go into all the world to preach the gospel to every creature? How can they send someone? How can they possibly be Good Samaritans? These people are spiritual beggars – never able to help anyone, but always needing something for themselves. Not blessed – cursed!

Don't you know that money does not make a person backslide? "For the LOVE OF MONEY is the root of all evil…" (I Timothy 6:10). Only money that is obtained in the wrong way, for the wrong purpose, and spent in wantonness living will lead your soul to hell. Money spent in the right way can be a great blessing to the work of God.

In this generation, with a few million dollars, enough additional full-gospel literature, radio and TV broadcasts, dedicated men and women of God could be sent forth to reach every unreached corner of the globe with the gospel. The average Christian fails to understand that it is the lack of money that hinders most the move of God from reaching the world for Christ. God would like to bless you with prosperity so that you could have a share in this end-time revival.

"Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl…" we find in James 5. Not because they were rich, but these men did something with their money that displeased the Lord. The Bible says, concerning them, "Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud…Ye have condemned and killed the just…" These men obtained their money by fraud, spent it the wrong way, and laid it away for the last days. God did not condemn them for having money. He was angry with the manner in which they obtained and used it.

The Word warns those who have been blessed with prosperity not to feel that because they are increased with goods they no longer need the Lord. They are not to glory in their riches. They are not to become wise in their own conceit, nor to trust in their riches. "…if riches increase, set not your heart upon them" (Psalm 62:10).

God blesses His people with prosperity for a purpose, that they may use their money wisely as good stewards. Put prosperity to work for the glory of God! The servant who put his five talents to work and gained more was called "good and faithful" (Matthew 25:15-30).

What happens when prosperous people don't put their money to work for God? The Bible declares, "There is a sore evil under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt. But those riches perish by evil travail…" (Ecclesiastes 5:13-14).

Someone asks, "Why then are the blessings of God sometimes upon sinners?" The Bible answers that question: "For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to him that is good before God" (Ecclesiastes 2:26). God in His love and mercy permits some sinners to make huge amounts of money for the purpose of helping those less fortunate than themselves. They are given the ability to gather and to heap it up.

I have heard some sinners say, "Well, I'm not a Christian, I don't have to give to God." The fact that a man is a sinner, and yet God has blessed him with prosperity, is all the more reason why he must give to God. He needs to give to God, so he can continue to gather it to give to the church and to those who have a need. This is not in accordance with what some teach, but it's Bible.

Sinner, whether you know it and will admit it or not, God can cut you off in a moment's time, if you don't' give to him who is good before God.

Too many unsaved husbands take the attitude, "Oh, I'm no saint. I'm not saved. I don't attend my wife's church. God doesn't expect me to pay tithes."

God says He expects more than just tithes out of a sinner husband that He has blessed. God expects that man to give to him that is good before God. It's Bible and I believe it should be preached to sinners. If we preachers don't preach it, and the sinners don't give, I believe God is going to take their prosperity from them.

There are many scriptures to back up my belief. In Job 27:13-17, we find these words, "This is the portion of a wicked man with God, and the heritage of oppressors, which they shall receive of the Almighty…Though he heap up silver as the dust, and prepare raiment as the clay; He may prepare it, but the just shall put it on, and the innocent shall divide the silver." God says the prosperity the sinner gained by oppressing the poor will be inherited and divided by the just and the innocent.

I recall that a fine Christian woman came forward during one of our Camp Meetings a few years ago with a large offering for Miracle Revival Worldwide. She told an amazing story. For years, her wealthy brother gave his time and money to further the cause of atheism. Every time his name appeared in the papers as sponsoring those activities, she felt grieved. Faithfully, she prayed for God to save his soul.

One day, God said that it was enough. Suddenly the man who had never been ill a day in his life was hopelessly paralyzed. His money hired the best the world could offer in the way of doctors and nurses, but there was nothing anyone could do. He was so ill tempered that finally no one would car for him. As a last resort, he called his Christian sister for help.

The devil had ruled and reigned in this atheist's heart for so many years that he hated even the sight of his sister. For a few weeks, he was abusive to her with every word, but she carried her burden to God in prayer, and He comforted her.

She little realized that her loving and thoughtful care was reaching deep into his heart. One day, he asked her to help him pray for his lost soul. This was the moment she had longed for – it only took a moment. That great burden of sin rolled away, and the joy of the Lord flooded his soul. The few remaining days of this converted atheist's life were memorable. Quietly, he slipped away to be with the Lord.

Among his personal effects they found a beautiful testimony and a handwritten change in his will. All his property, his wealth and belongings were now his sister's. And she knew what to do with it!

As an atheist he had heaped up his wealth, but the just and the innocent divided it. As she gave in the missionary offering that others might have Miracle Revival, she explained that her $1,000.00 check was but a portion of the entire inheritance. She was having the joy of dividing and giving to win souls.

I am not afraid to look the sinner in the eye and tell him that the children of God are going to divide his money. I have had them say, "No preacher is going to get any of my money." But, God knows how to put a hole in those money sacks. In a moment of time, your health and all you possess can fail (Haggai 1:6). It can drain away like coins in a bag with holes!

Sinner, you can heap it up and store it away in the bank, but you had better watch out. The Bible says the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just. Sinner Friend, Backslider, Wicked Man – if you don't do the right thing with the money God has enabled you to make, God declares that your wealth is going to be spent by the saints of God. You will die without spending it, and God will see to it that it gets into the right hands.

You may say, "You're not going to spend my money. I'm leaving it to my children." God knows how to put holes in children's money bags, too.

I Samuel 2:6 through 8 tells us, "The Lord killeth, and maketh alive; he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dunghill, to set them among princes." God declares He has the power to lift up the beggar from the dunghill, to set him among princes, and He has the power to take the prince and put him right down on the dunghill. There is only one sure way you can stay off the dunghill. Obey God in your giving, or He can make you wish you had never become prosperous.

"A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up (in the bank) for the just" (Proverbs 13:22). Who put it there? The sinner. Who is going to spend it? The just. Millions of dollars in banks today will never be spent by the people who deposited them. This wealth of the sinner is laid up – on deposit, in savings, in bonds. For whom? The just.

If you are just, you're going to spend some of it. If you're not just, you had better get saved. You had better see that God's children, the preacher, or the church that is out winning lost men and women to Christ gets part of it. God can give you an increase, or He can put a hole in your money sack, and you will lose everything overnight.

I'm so glad I'm saved, justified by faith in Jesus Christ. That makes me eligible for a share of the billions that are in the bank. All the devils in hell can't keep God from blessing me with my share of it, because God has the whole universe in His hands. He has all the gold in Fort Knox. He has all the cattle on a thousand hills. He has all the earth's oil in His hands. He has the moon, the sun, and the stars in His hands. I'm walking in His hands.

You can claim no talent, ability, strength, health, or position without God's help. Back in the days of the depression, I worked eighteen hours a day at a dairy, and got about thirty-five dollars a month. I would milk cows and work until I nearly fell asleep. You either worked those hours or else someone else would get your job. There were dozens waiting for work.

The manager handed me my check one day and I said, "Well, thank you, Jesus." The other boy who worked there had gotten saved, and he too thanked God for his paycheck. Our boss said, "Jesus had nothing to do with your paycheck." That's what a lot of people think, but it's from the hand of God.

I asked Harry, "Where did you get the money to put in the bank?"

"Selling milk on the dairy route."

"Where did you get the milk?"

"I got it from those cows."

"Well, where did you get the cows?"

"We bred them or bought them outright."

"Where did they get the milk?"

"From eating the grass, by irrigating. You know what we do."

"I want you to tell me, where did you get the water?"

"It comes from melting snow on the mountain."

Then I gave him some thought provoking questions: "Could you have that water without God? Could you raise that grass without sunshine? Can you make the cow that produces the milk, butterfat, cream and cheese? Pigs and chickens eat the same green grass, but they don't produce the same things. You end up with bacon and eggs, instead. Farmers can't produce a crop of any kind without God's help. If you think you can grow peaches in your orchard without God's help, try planting them in the cellar. If God shut the sun off from this earth, where would we be?

The blessings of God are not coincidental. God blesses many of His children on purpose. Solomon asked for wisdom and understanding so that he could judge the people justly. Because he did not ask selfishly, the Lord said, "Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart…And I have also given thee that which thou has not asked, both riches and honour…" (I Kings 3:12).

When the Queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she and a great company with camels laden with spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stones came to Solomon. When she had seen his great wisdom and had seen the great house he had built, she said, "It was a true report which I have heard…the one half of the greatness of thy wisdom was not told me…happy are these thy servants which stand continuously before thee…Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighteth in thee to set thee on his throne…" Then she presented Solomon with rich gifts of gold, precious stones, and spices, an estimated gift of about thirty-three million dollars. She also gave him algum trees, of which he had made harps and psalteries for singers such as had never been seen in the land before.

If God could make a queen give Solomon that much wealth at one time, He can make someone give you a million or so.

That was just the beginning of the blessings of wealth upon Solomon. The weight of gold that came to him in one year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold, besides that which chapmen and merchants brought. And all the kings of Arabia and governors of the country brought gold and silver to him. "And all the kings of the earth

sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom, that God had put in his heart. And they brought every man his present…" (See II Chronicles 9).

The Bible says Job was the greatest of all men of the East because of his great possessions. I figured that he had more than two million dollars at the present-day market prices. In fact, so great were his blessings, Satan accused God of putting a hedge about him and blessing all the work of his hands. He implied that Job served God only because God had made him a wealthy, healthy man. "But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath…touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face" (See Job 1:11 & 2:5).

God granted both of Satan's requests. He could take Job's possessions and afflict his body, but he could not take his life. Satan's power was limited.

Are you sick? Are you afflicted? Has everything you had vanished? God knows all about you. Who do you think is keeping you alive? Why don't you shout and thank God that the devil can't take your life? It could be that God just took the fence from around you to test you. He wants to show the devil He has some children who will praise Him in the midst of sickness and trouble. Keep singing, "Though God slay me, yet I'll trust Him. I shall then come forth as gold. And I know that He still liveth, for I feel Him in my soul."

Quit saying, "Look a what the devil is doing to me." Start saying, "Look at what God is about to do for me!"

Job's test and trail, physically and financially, was just to prove what Job was made of. It wasn't accidental or coincidental. God can be in your financial reverses. If He lets you lose or lets the devil take something from you, it is so that He can give you back twice as much, and give glory to God for His great power. The Bible says, "And 'God returned to Job twice as much…" When He gave him twice as much of everything, it was not just coincidental. It was in God's planning.

Are you poor? Is your financial situation bankrupt? Are you burdened down with poverty? My Bible tells me, "The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich; he bringeth low, and lifteth up" (I Samuel 2:6). It could be a test for you as it was for Job. But, it could be for another reason. Examine yourself and your circumstances. In the light of the scriptures, find the reason. "Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instructions: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured" (Proverbs 13:18). Your poverty could be God's method of getting you on your knees, because you have refused to be instructed in the Word.

God says in Psalm 1, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly…But his delight is in the law of the Lord…whatsoever he doeth shall prosper" (vs. 1-3). Under other circumstances He says, "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments …thou shalt not prosper in thy ways" (See Deuteronomy 28:15, 29). These verses prove to me that God controls our prosperity, and our success has a direct connection with our obedience to God and His Word.

The Lord sent the prophet Haggai to prophesy to some people who had kept putting off the repairing and building up of the Lord's house. They provided no place and no time to worship the Lord. They had prepared themselves fine homes, while they left the work of God undone. God said, "Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes…Ye looked for much, and lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon

it. Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways" (See Haggai 1:1-11). God's blessings of prosperity had been lifted from them.

Is this a picture of you and your family? It can be a spiritual condition – always going to church and eating and drinking, but never getting the spiritual things you know God wants you to have. What did He say could remedy this poverty cycle? "Consider your ways." And then He said to get busy: "Build the house; and I will take pleasure in it…" (Haggai 1:8).

Look around you. Get on your knees and say, "God, there's something wrong. I make a good salary, and I bring a good paycheck home, but it's like putting it in a bag with holes. I expected much, but little came of it. God, You must have blown it away. I need your help, now. Help me, God." Ask forgiveness, and then get busy and obey God.

You didn't just accidentally make a bad investment. It wasn't just bad luck that you tore your new clothes. It didn't just happen that your home was burglarized. If some people don't get their money out of that old mattress and put it into God's work where it belongs, God may send some mice in there to make a nest out of those twenty dollar bills.

You're putting too much into your own house, instead of remembering God with your first fruits. Why did your paycheck go like it was in a bag with holes? Why did He blow on what you brought home? He didn't just accidentally blow at you. He looked at that paycheck and at what you brought home. He had a reason: "Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house" (Haggai 1:9). In other words, you have neglected the church or the work of God.

God knows the amount of your paycheck, and He knows what you have been taking to church. That's why He blew on what you took home. You may have to use the ninety-nine dollars that you cheat and steal from God to buy a wheelchair. You may buy a casket with the fine-hundred dollars you fail to give to the house of God. That thousand dollars you rob in tithes and offerings from the house of God or from the ministry of the Lord, you will be paying out in doctor bills, hospital and surgical expenses, in anguish and suffering. What you fail to put in the house of God in order to keep for yourself will never do you good.

In one way, your infirmity, financial reverses and troubles can be a blessing to you. If you will consider your ways and say, "Lord, this isn't just bad luck. I have not obeyed Your commandments, but I'm going to make it right. Now!" You don't want His curse – you need His blessing! He wants you in the place where He can bless you.

Don't say, "Well, I was born under the wrong sign." I've had people say, "Do you know what the fortune teller told me?" You don't have to go outside the city limits to that big sign with the hand on it to find out what the future holds. It's right in the Bible. You don't have to say, "Madame, I understand that you never miss; you can tell me my lucky day and my lucky number." You'll have to cross her palm with silver and folding money, too, before she's through. "Can you help me, child?" Yes, she'll help you get rid of what you still have. Don't expect to go out there to get anything restored. There is such a thing as a physical curse that some of these witches can put on those who disobey God by going to them. And only the mighty delivering power of God can ever set you free!

One little woman said, "Brother Allen, I've just got to make a pledge. I don't have any money, but I will send a little along." When I asked why she was in such a hurry, she told her story. When I was making an appeal to buy the helicopter, God had told her to write a one hundred dollar check to help us reach the wild Palanan tribes in North Luzon. She had that much saved to buy a new coat, so she reasoned herself out of sending the

offering. She reasoned that she was just a young convert, and everyone knows they make mistakes.

Many people are very strict about tithes, but when it comes to offerings, they think they can do anything they want. God says in Malachi 3:8-9, 'Ye have robbed me…in tithes and in offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse…"

That young lady went down to one of the finest department stores in Akron and bought a lovely coat with the money that belonged to the Philippine work. She said, "I watched the saleswoman put tissue between the folds, and carefully place the new coat in the box. I took it by the handle, and walked down Main Street. I did not realize at that moment a young man had seen me and decided that something expensive was in my beautiful box. As I came to an alley crossing, he jerked it out of my hand and disappeared down that alley. I couldn't say a word. I just stood there knowing I would never get my coat back.

"God began to speak to me. If I had mailed the one hundred dollars for the missionary work, I could have been blessed. And God could have given me a coat in another way. My heard bled inside. I worked so hard and so long to get that one hundred dollars and it blew down the alley so quickly. Brother Allen, please give me a pledge envelope right now. I want to get right with God. I want to make this pledge, and I believe God will help me get it paid."

Some people have worked long and hard for a lifetime, but because of disobedience, God blew their whole life's savings away.

Some people say, "Brother Allen, here is five dollars. Heal me." No one can buy healing with money. But sometimes money stands in the way of God's blessing of healing.

Under the tent, as I came through the invalid section one evening, a woman asked, "Is that you, Brother Allen? I thought I recognized your voice. I hear you everyday on radio." She was totally blind, couldn't sit up or lie down. Her toes were dropping off with gangrene from sugar diabetes. Her gall bladder was swollen to the size of a football. Doctors couldn't operate because of the sugar. The incision would have never healed.

"God is going to heal me tonight." She said. "Yesterday, when you were asking for one hundred dollar pledges, I mailed you twenty-five dollars."

It seemed to me that the little woman, propped on the stretcher, was basing her healing on a twenty-five dollar check she had mailed the day before. I said, "Stay in the Spirit. I'm not praying for the sick right now, but when the power of God starts falling, I'll have them roll you up on the ramp."

Later, as I was receiving the offering, I looked down the aisle, and four men were rolling her stretcher up to the platform. 'Is that you, Brother Allen?" she was calling. "Here, take this!" In her hand she had a big roll of green bills. God spoke to me, and said, "I told her to send you one hundred dollars. She sent you only twenty-five. This is the other seventy-five dollars."

"What is this?" I asked. I wanted her to tell me. I didn't want to take her money; it just broke my heart. But, if she kept it, it would been like putting it in a bag with holes. If she didn't give it, God was going to blow it out of her hand.

If God ever blows, you can't hold onto it tight enough to keep it. You can't put it in a safe, secure place, because God says it will be like a bag with a hole in it.

She declared, "While you were taking the offering, Jesus stepped up beside my stretcher. He said, 'Joey, I told you to send all that money to Brother Allen for missions. You sent him only a fourth, and kept the balance for yourself to buy a new winter coat. If

you don't obey Me, you will never need another winter coat.' Brother Allen, I don't want to die; I want to be healed. Take it."

When she gave the money, three miracles happened. The power of God hit her, and before she knew it, she was running – a woman who couldn't even walk before. She ran up the ramp and said, "Look at me! I'm walking!" She made another circle around the ramp and came back up. Suddenly it dawned on her that she was no longer blind. "Oh, God, I can see!" She started running again. She came back again, this time punching herself to see if she could find that enlarged gall bladder. She shouted, "It's gone, too!" She ran again.

If God tells you to give your money to His work, if He tells you to pledge it, if He tells you to send it, even if it is just a small amount each week, or a little each paycheck, don't fail to do it. If you refuse, watch out! God can blow one puff, and you'll be writing checks to pay for hospital and doctor bills. If God starts blowing, one puff is enough to blow you down to the grave. One hole that He ordains can lose you all your savings and bonds. It won't be an accident; it will be the planned purpose of God. You may have either blessings or cursings. He would rather reach down and start lifting you up, and He will do it.

Do you want and need God to help you? Take the Word of God and look at it. Follow God's instructions, and do what God says. Show me your faith without your works, and I'll show you my faith by my works. God expects you to DO something.

I hear some say, "I'll just take it easy and see if I can't get a little Social Security or Old Age Pension. Maybe, I might even get on welfare." Why don't you get on God's list? God will consider you when you stop and consider your ways.

ACT IN FAITH TODAY! Strive to do God's will. Believe that the Lord will make your way prosperous, and that you shall have good success (Joshua 1:8).

THE BOOK OF ACTS IS

HOLY GHOST IN ACTION!

(A. A. Allen – 1969)

"But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me…unto the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 1:8). And they went forth and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following." (Mark 16:20)

How can anyone say they are full of the Holy Ghost and have no action? Did the Holy Ghost ever die? Did the Holy Ghost ever quit being the Holy Ghost? Did the Holy Ghost become modernized? Has He become conformed to this world and lost His "holy" portion? I believe the Holy Ghost is one of the Trinity, still alive, still moving, still working, and still operating in the Church – the Body of Christ today!

Some people go to a so-called Pentecostal church that preaches about the baptism of the Holy Ghost once in a while, and seemingly they get the experience, but they get no action! They get no power! No fire! All these people seem to get is "tongues," but they don't get an experience that moves them into action for God!

I wouldn't give you two cents for what you call a Holy Ghost experience, if the only action you got was a few minutes of stammering lips: "Bla, bla, bib, bab, gah, gah, goo!" My children said that when they were six months old. I have seen people do that when they were drunk; they just gag, gag, gag. An awful lot of people who say they have received the Holy Ghost actually only got, "Gaga, gag, gag, pap, pap, papa" – all my children said "Papa" when they were a year old, and they weren't filled with the Holy Ghost.

I have seen many people whom I believe were merely "trained" by those who prayed with them, to seemingly receive the Holy Ghost. As surely as there is a genuine of anything, there is also a counterfeit. As surely as there is a true, there is also a false. What I am saying is not to discourage you, but to show you the truth and encourage you. I believe some Pentecostal denominations are full of people who have never received the baptism in the Holy Ghost experience. They have just been patted on the back and shook on the chin, and told what to say, until they couldn't say anything but, "Bla, bla, gag, gag, goo." And then somebody said, "You've got it! You've got it!" The only action they got was when somebody shook them under the chin!

It's little wonder that many Pentecostal preachers today will not have speaking in tongues in their main assembly and under their tent. Too much of it sounds too downright silly, too obvious that it isn't genuine; it isn't real.

You can say what you please, you Pentecostal people, but there is something artificial sounding about some of the tongues I hear. It makes you wish you were not a part of it. I believe this situation exists because many preachers have never had the real experience themselves.

Most so-called Pentecostal denominations have cut all the action out of their worship services. No genuine action left. You would think by attending some of their churches that maybe the Holy Ghost died, and they have Him buried.

When people come to our Miracle Revivals, they see Holy Ghost action! People who are full of the Holy Ghost like something alive and joyous in their worship. We have observed that people who are spiritually dead seek like company. If I were spiritually dead and didn't want to stick out like a sore thumb, I would attend a dead church. I would never attend a lively A. A. Allen Miracle Restoration Revival!

Some who attend our revivals are fanatics, fans for Jesus! People shout and praise God. Some dance in the Spirit, and others run as fast as they can like David of old. They speak in tongues and leap for joy! Some even shake and jerk. Somebody said, "They're going to snap their neck or break their back." No, here are people who still have some Holy Ghost action left. In most Pentecostal churches, you don't find action today. They say they have been filled with the Holy Ghost, but in some cases I doubt it. I would rather say of most of them that at one time they might have been filled.

I will give you an illustration. Hold up a little paper cup that is brimming full of water. Watch out, because when a vessel gets full, you may have an overflow. Then puncture a hole in the very bottom. I do this quite often to illustrate what I mean when I preach on being full of the Holy Ghost. Well, the cup was full, but it doesn't stay full long with the puncture. Now, I can hold that little cup up for the next hour and declare that it is full, but it wouldn't make it full. Some saints have been filled to overflowing with the Holy Ghost at one time, but they have lost all the power of the Holy Ghost and action they ever had. You saw the water all run out of the little cup when it got punctured, but you just couldn't see the Holy Ghost drain out of their vessel.

You Pentecostal people who are full of religious pride, you know there's nothing on the inside of your spiritual cup. If there were, and there is still a Holy Ghost stream coming down from heaven, there would be some action once in a while. There would have to be a run over!

In the Book of Joel, the baptism of the Holy Ghost is declared to be like rain, former rain and latter rain. When it starts raining, people don't just sit like a dumbbell! I would like to see the Holy Ghost outpoured. "Oh God, just open the heavens and pour out a new baptism of the Holy Ghost on everyone until they get so filled and soaked, and begin to pour out and get some action!"

The stiffer a person gets, the less action there will ever be. Some people get crippling arthritis from accumulated calcium. They are brought to us in wheelchairs; they can't even move. Some of them say, "I can't walk, Brother Allen. I am stiff." They just sit there perfectly stiff and still. Some people sitting in the church pews are all stiff too.

They are stiff with spiritual arthritis. They don't believe in shouting and dancing in the Spirit. They don't believe in shaking and prophesying or talking in tongues. They don't want to have any action.

The Holy Ghost, whom God sent to put action into the church, is rejected. He has been spit upon, scoffed at, mocked and insulted for so many years now, that even if people had any portion of the Holy Ghost left in them, He would not move. He has been told not to move!

The Word of God says, "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption" (Ephesians 4:30). How in the world can you continue to be sealed until the rapture, that day when He comes to redeem us off this earth, when you do always resist Him and rebuke Him? You're ashamed of the Holy Ghost manifestations!

I know how some do: if someone stands up and begins to talk in tongues, they say, "Organist, can you play a little louder? Turn the speakers up, please. That lady is out of

place. Ushers, sit her down." Well, if you say the lady was out of order when the Holy Ghost was speaking through her, you might as well make it plain: the Holy Ghost is out of order in your church. The Holy Ghost has been slapped in the face, rebuked, manhandled and strong-armed. He has been put down so many times with no permission to ever move or act, until now He is insulted.

Many pastors compliment themselves on the fact that they have this thing settled down now. Most of the longhaired shouting, shaking saints are dead, already gone on to be with the Lord. Some of these preachers only have one or two left in the church. They are just waiting for old grandma to die, so they won't have any more embarrassment out of her. He doesn't like her shouting, her talking in tongues, and sometimes shaking her hair down. He knows that he is going to preach her funeral one of these days, and then he will only have this younger generation left; they really don't have any Holy Ghost manifestations at church.

I said that wherever there is a genuine of anything, don't you think the devil does not have a counterfeit? I am very careful what I say along this line. I have been in the ministry more than thirty years, and I know we could discourage some very sincere people. In our meetings, people come from all denominations and independent groups. I have enough wisdom from heaven to know that speaking about a counterfeit baptism of the Holy Ghost might discourage some of these people from ever seeking the Holy Ghost. But at the same time I want you to know there is a genuine and a real Holy Ghost, and I want you to receive the promise of the Father – the genuine baptism of the Holy Ghost.

How many have the genuine baptism? That's a good question. What about your experience? Did you receive His power to make you a bold witness for Christ? Did your experience make you an overcomer? Put both of your hands up and see if the Holy Ghost can shake you this morning. Why don't you let Him fill you to overflowing; see if you can let Him fill you to overflowing; let Him talk through you in tongues again. You can know if you have a counterfeit and did not really get the genuine baptism of the Holy Ghost. If your experience can be seated and quieted until He can't shake, He can't cause you to dance in the Spirit, you no long quake or jerk, or even laugh and rejoice in the Spirit, testify, or talk in tongues or prophesy, then I am afraid you never did receive the genuine Holy Ghost and fire! When you are full of the Holy Ghost, you can't put Him down and give Him spiritual arthritis. You won't make the Holy Ghost act like Presbyterians and Methodists and Baptist! If your experience wasn't genuine, you have actually insulted the Holy Ghost: you have slapped Him in the face and resisted Him, and by your actions told Him you want nothing to do with His actions.

The Holy Ghost wants to act – He can attend an Allen Revival! This could be why He has left so many churches, and so many individuals.

Don't tell me the devil doesn't have a counterfeit. But as surely as there is a genuine, there is a counterfeit. As surely as there is a counterfeit, there is a real! The real Holy Ghost has action! The real Holy Ghost has power! The real Holy Ghost opens the door for us to walk in and take from the shelves of God's gift house the supernatural gifts of the Spirit.

Why is it that few so-called Pentecostal preachers today ever exercise any kind of gift? Why will a minister send all his church people to the hospital when they are in need of healing? It's because in that church there is no gift of healing, there is no gift of faith or of miracles. Why is it that nobody prophesies to edify that church? There is no one

there who exercises the gift of prophecy. As surely as there is a real, there is a counterfeit!

I want to give you a real example of why I know there is a counterfeit. This isn't just one isolated case either.

Some of the worst demon possessed, insane cases in the nation are brought into our meetings, because word has spread that people get delivered from demon powers. Some of them have read the books I have written down through the years about deliverance from demons. Many times, a person who is demon possessed, a raving maniac, fighting, cursing with every breath, suddenly begins to do something else. When I start praying and rebuking the devil, often, and in numerous cases in widespread places, the devil decides he is going to put one over on me. He reasons, "I am going to talk in tongues, and he will believe that we devils have come out, and this person is delivered."

All of a sudden that vile raving maniac stops struggling, and begins to talk in tongues! This language sounds like that some of you talk in – I call this a religious demon. That is not the Holy Ghost talking. It is a counterfeit, meant to throw me off the track, if I didn't know the difference. But there are some preachers and saints right there in the meeting who don't know the difference between the devil's counterfeit and the genuine Holy Ghost talking in tongues.

The same as there is a counterfeit Holy Ghost, there is a counterfeit salvation. Many people who say they are saved have never met God. They have never had a change of heart. The devil has given them a counterfeit. They know nothing about holiness and living for Christ. Christ is not in them. The devil has given them a counterfeit, and they have accepted it as the genuine gift of God – salvation.

We must not reject real salvation just because there is a counterfeit, and millions of people only have a counterfeit salvation that will never take them to heaven. I PREACH ABOUT THE GENUINE, and I warn the people about the counterfeit that won't make you walk right, talk right, or live right. You won't even feel right, nor bear any of the fruit of the Spirit. The counterfeit will make you war against everything that is real.

There is much more evidence to receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost than just speaking in stammering lips or in tongues. My Bible says, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me…"(Acts 18). I believe one reason why many Pentecostal denominational churches exercise no spiritual gifts is because there are a very few of them who have ever been filled with the genuine Holy Ghost. You people who have a counterfeit baptism of the Holy Ghost, or you that once had the experience that is real, and allowed it to leak out, it is time you start searching your heart.

I make it my business to keep informed about current church events and preachers. Did you know that many who were once leaders and evangelists in Pentecostal denominations are no longer with these organizations? They are now Presbyterians, Methodist, and Baptists, no longer claiming a Pentecostal experience! I know what I'm talking about!

One of the greatest gospel singers who ever belonged to a certain Pentecostal denomination used to pastor a church near me. No doubt many of you have heard him sing at camp meetings and on recordings. He was an ordained minister with that organization for many years. Today, he ministers in Los Angeles with the Baptists each week on Channel 13.

The Pentecostal denomination he was affiliated with for many years requires that nobody can even receive a license to preach until first they are filled with the Holy Ghost. It is a question that is definitely asked each minister. Today he says it was a mistake; he never did have the Holy Ghost. I say he never did have the genuine – he got the counterfeit.

If he had ever been genuinely filled with the Holy Ghost, do you believe he could ever denounce it? Could he ever go back to the old denomination? You better watch out!

This is just one example. If I had the space, I could name you a hundred. You soon forget them.

When I was a young preacher many years ago in one particular denomination, there was one young preacher who preached at most of the young people's rallies and youth camps. He used to be their greatest evangelist. Why is he now pastoring a Presbyterian Church in Southern California? Why did he leave the Pentecostal organization to go back to one of the deadest groups in the world? It may be because he preached too much football when he was a preacher, and went to too many football games when he was an evangelist. I never heard him preach much of anything but football. He would use it as an illustration and give it a spiritual twist.

I wondered how that old boy knew so much about football. You don't catch me going to the games. I have too much to do for God! My time is taken up with ministering the Word! You don't even catch my television set tuned to a football game on the first of January. That isn't my life!

Either these people never had a genuine baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire, or they sniffed with disgust in His face, insulted Him, and would never allow Him to move or act through them in the church, until He departed. When the Holy Ghost leaves you, after you once had an experience with Him, watch out! You may be a "goner," especially if you now attribute His works to the devil. That is the SIN AGAINST THE HOLY GHOST – the unpardonable sin!

Thousands of Pentecostal preachers and their church people today are declaring that the marvelous works of the Holy Ghost and the works of God through the ministry of some of God's anointed servants are "of the devil!" Many willingly and knowingly attribute the works of the actions of the Holy Ghost to the devil. Some say that I cast out devils by the power of Beelzebub. The religious leaders in Jesus' day accused Him of doing the same thing. Jesus warned them, "...All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men; but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men" (Matthew 12:313).

Many say, "That is of the devil. It is not of God. If it were, wouldn't we have it in our church?" For most of you, the answer is "No!" I say you would not. You had it, you rejected it. "Sit that lady down, ushers, she is out of order. Organist, please play something. Turn up the sound." In desperation, the lady sits down. Everybody learns a lesson: There is no need to try to let the Holy Ghost give a message in this place. They might as well just play church.

In the seventh chapter of Mark, the Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus and asked, "Why walk not thy disciples according to the traditions of the elders?" Jesus asked them a question: "Why do you by following after man-made traditions make of none effect the commandments of God?" Dictionaries tell us that a tradition is a belief or a practice not derived directly from the Bible, but arising and handed down within the Christian community. Jesus asked them why they taught organizational bylaws and the tradition of the elders for doctrine. When preachers neglect to preach the Word, and

preach doctrines that have been interjected into the church by men, the Bible is made of none effect.

When the anointing of God comes upon a vast audience under the great Miracle Revival tent and in major auditoriums across the nation, and a thousand people run down the aisle in a single service to get saved, many so-called Pentecostal preachers don't call that the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Many of them get up in their pulpits and tell their people, "That is not real. Those people are not being saved. That is just mass psychology and high pressure methods."

When the Holy Spirit inspires people to pledge for the support of Miracle Revival, they don't believe that God prompts people to do that anymore. They say that Allen is nothing but a con man. They are so bound by their own denominational rules and doctrines that they can't preach the gospel freely as I can. They have slapped the Holy Ghost so many times and insulted Him, that the Spirit can't lead their people to give and pledge support for their work.

I know what some say – it comes back to me again and again. When people are moved by the Spirit in my revivals, these modernists say it is over-persuasion. If people repent with tears running down their face, or if they make a little noise in the service, they call it emotionalism. When people get healed, they call it excitement. "That woman just got excited, and jumped off the stretcher. Allen gets the people excited when he has his musicians play." If people fall prostrate under the power of God, they call it hypnotism.

I want to tell you what happens. The Holy Ghost is still alive! Things happen when He begins to move into action!

In one of the huge auditoriums we leased for one of our Miracle Revivals, the city council ruling required us to hire 15 firemen to stand on duty during the services. I said, "We don't expect a fire, the place is fireproof! None of our people smoke, so there is no danger of fire." But they said it didn't make any difference; we had to hire the firemen.

As the people gathered for the services, the firemen opened the doors for them. That was nice, but when we lined the people up for prayer, and were laying hands on them, and they were falling under the Spirit all over the place, the firemen got excited. "Call an ambulance! The people are fainting!" shouted one. I said, "You have no business going to call an ambulance. You are here to take care of a natural fire – not Holy Ghost fire!"

They didn't know what was happening. It meant they didn't go to a real Pentecostal church where the Holy Ghost still is in action. They called it hypnotism, hysteria and fainting!

If I were the Holy Ghost, and were accused so often of being a nut, a maniac, an insane one, I wouldn't put up with it very long. If people were embarrassed when I came into their midst, I would move out! Would you? Why would you want to stay where you are not wanted and where the people would not let you move? The Holy Ghost will not be still!

It has been so long since the Holy Ghost moved in many churches that if He would ever move again, it would scare the pastor almost to death. He wouldn't know how to handle Him. I don't believe you have to "handle" the Holy Ghost!

Some say, "Let's do all things decently and in order." If you declare the Holy Ghost is not decent, or in order, you are a liar. The Holy Ghost never does anything indecent, or immoral, or out of order. He is a perfect gentleman.

Methodists teach their people that the Bible emphatically declares in I Kings 19:11: "And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and a strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind…" This is the verse most Pentecostal and denominational preachers have used for years, to knock the wind and anything that moves out of the congregation.

"But the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake." So they declare from this verse that God is not in anything that shakes. And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire…" They take this verse to prove that God is not in any fire. So they declare God is not in anything that shakes or moves, because they read the next verse, "And after the fire there was a still small voice." God comes in a still small voice! So they teach their people, "Stay still and stay small."

Not all the saints will stay still. Some are saying, "Let's go to the Allen Revival. Let's go where there is a little wind, a little shaking, some fire, and the Holy Ghost. I feel like kicking my shoes off and dancing before the Lord!"

What does God's Word really say? God was not in that particular wind, nor in that particular earthquake, nor in that particular fire. It is true. But you can't prove that God is not in any other wind, nor any other earthquake, nor fire!

Was God in the earthquake when it shook the mountain where Moses met God? The people heard the thunder, they saw the smoke, and they trembled when the whole mount quaked (Exodus 19:18). God was in the earthquakes when Christ died, and when the great stone was rolled away from the tomb (Matthew 27:54 & 28:2) God was certainly in the earthquake that set Paul and Silas free in Acts 16:26.

Was God in the cloven tongues like as of fire that set upon each one in the upper room in the book of Acts? There was a sound of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were seated. I say some saints haven't spent any time reading their Bibles. They are too busy watching television, or gossiping over the telephone or the backyard fence, to ever find that God parted the Red Sea by a strong east wind that blew all night long!

Why don't modernists preach to their people from Isaiah 29:6? God says, "Thou shalt be visited of the Lord of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire."

Preachers know if they want the straight-laced, "uppity" socialites in their services, like lawyers, doctors, executives, and political figures, they had better tone this thing down. Make it look like Methodists. Make it look like Baptists. Make it look like Presbyterians, because they have most of the professional people in their pews.

If you Pentecostal pastors want to get the socially prominent folk into your church, you will have to dress it up, tone it down, and play cold, dead funeral music. You will preach tradition instead of the Bible. You wouldn't dare to preach holiness or the power of God to socialites. You couldn't preach about tithes, or offerings, or vows to these upper-bracket earners. They would say you were after their money! You would find yourself avoiding mention of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, or of signs, wonders, or miracles!

You wouldn't have to wear your collar backwards, but it would look more like Episcopalians or Catholics if you did. That is why many Pentecostal preachers today are putting their collars on backwards.

I see them come into our meetings with a big silver chain dangling around their neck, and a big silver cross with Jesus still being crucified. You are trying to act like the old denominational preachers. No wonder some of you have to sell gimmicks to meet your financial needs. You have chicken dinners and get in the numbers racket to make it financially. God has left your life and your church!

Denominational tradition says everybody should be solemn in church. People shouldn't shout, smile or be joyous. Most pastors insist that you join their church, or fellowship as they call it. This is a custom that has been handed down for many generations among the Methodists and Presbyterians. Pentecostals have adopted it; it is a good way to tell the people what they can do and what they can't do. They can tell members of their fellowship where they can and can't go, and where they have to pay their tithes and make their pledges and offerings. It is the same reason why preachers baptize babies or sprinkle water on them to christen them with a few drops of water on the infant's head in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. I say it is of the devil. There is no Bible for it, and it is nothing more than religious tradition. It is a practice that is not based upon the Word of God, but upon the tradition of men. I guess the Pentecostal boys will be sprinkling babies next. They do everything else!

The same traditional religious practice forbids an evangelist from coming into an area for revival unless all the pastors of the area unanimously sponsor or cooperate with the meeting. If one pastor hangs out, it will cause discord among the brethren, so you can't minister for God in their town at all. It is for this same reason that pastors forbid their members to attend revivals they are not sponsoring. The shepherd is just "guarding" his flock. Many go so far as setting the example of condemning and criticizing all preachers and evangelists not listed in their book, declaring they are of the devil and not of God, not even saved.

This is the reason why most preachers say, "Don't say too much about money. Just pass the offering buckets."

That's the best way to get out of God's business! People need the Word of God concerning giving to inspire them to obey God! And when they have obeyed God, He can open up the windows of heaven and pour them out a blessing that they will not have room to receive it all! (See Malachi 3:10).

When one young man came to Jesus, the Lord dealt with him about keeping the commandments of God and about his money. "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor..." Jesus didn't draw back from preaching about money. It was the message that ruler needed. Jesus made it plain, "You have too much money. You own too many houses and lands. Give everything you have to the poor, and then take up your cross and follow me."

Jesus didn't care what people said about Him. Neither do I. For the sake of lost souls, I must preach the gospel!

Too many Pentecostal churches today want to stay in the middle of the road. They declare, "We believe in miracles, but...You know that we all believe that God heals the sick, but...We believe that there are genuine gifts of the Spirit, nevertheless..." The laymen are afraid to move for God.

If you were to meet Jesus on the road today and ask Him what you must do to be perfect and ready for His second coming, what would He say to you? Let Him speak to you right now. If God chooses to come to you in thunder, with an earthquake, or in a great noise, will you open your heart to Him? If He chooses to speak to you in the wind or by fire, are you going to accept Him? It just may be that He will not choose to come

and minister to you in the still small voice. Will you let Him visit you suddenly? The Holy Spirit of God has action. If you will ever get filled with the Holy Ghost, He is going to put some action in you!

Let God fill you – NOW! Be willing to take the blessing of God the way it comes, with all the shaking, all the noise, all the fire, all the power. You will never be the same again. God will be able to move in your heart and life. You will be anointed to be an effectual witness for Christ. Your life and your ministry will be a new chapter in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles that the Holy Ghost has never ceased writing.

New Testament Prosperity

(A. A. Allen – 1969)

I spend half of my time learning what people around the world are doing. I spend the other half trying to do something about it for God!

Religious leaders came to Jesus in the 7th chapter of Mark. "Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders?" They didn't ask, "Why are you not having a revival?" They knew He was having revival! They didn't ask, "Why are you not raising the dead?" He was raising the dead! They never asked Him, "Why do you not have power to cast out devils?" He had power over the devil and was casting them out! They did not ask, "Why are you not preaching the kingdom of heaven or the kingdom of God?" Jesus and His disciples were doing that! They questioned why Jesus and His disciples did not do everything like all the cold, dead religious leaders of their day. "Why walk not they disciples according to the tradition of the elders…?"

Jesus answered them in effect, "Why do you, by keeping your cold, dead traditions of men, make of none effect the commandments of God?" A tradition, according to Webster, is a practice or custom arising within a Christian community that is handed down from generation to generation – a custom or a practice that has no scriptural foundation.

The elders of organized religion in Jesus' day had their tradition, and He seldom missed the opportunity to upbraid them. They said long prayers to be heard for a show to appear to be holy before men (Luke 20:47). They kept long faces. On the day that they fasted, they let everybody know, by not washing their faces or combing their hair. Their man-made customs and practices were taking people to hell instead of preparing them for heaven. Jesus called them a generation of vipers, blind leaders of the blind, whited sepulchers, broken cisterns, whose ears and hearts were closed to the truth. They didn't want the truth.

Jesus declared to them, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me" (John 14:6). "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). The common people heard Him gladly, but Jesus' words were offensive to the religious leaders. They let Jesus know very promptly: "We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man; how sayest thou ye shall be made free? (John 8:33). In other words, they said, "Abraham is our father, and we're his descendents; we don't have any need of your kind of preaching." Every one of them was lost without God and on the way to hell. They didn't like what Jesus preached, because it was tearing up their little playhouse.

Preachers today, by the thousands, spend their time in the pulpits, in all their church activities, and through their weekly religious papers, telling the people what God does not do today. I could spend hours quoting and reading to you certain passages from many of them but it wouldn't bless you. Most of them tell you what God is not doing, and what He is not going to do. Everything that God ever did in the way of healing, deliverance, and miracles is way back in the past or far into the future, they say.

Bless your heart, today is the day of our salvation! Now is the time! Science fiction boasts of its time machines. We can't go back into the past to get some of God's promises. We certainly can't get in a rocket and be shot over into the millennium. Men

have succeeded in getting to the moon, but I don't believe men can make a rocket that will take them to heaven. They can leave footprints on the moon, but walking on the golden streets is an entirely different matter. God has to take us there.

Religious tradition has bound so many down through the years. They're telling us now in all their publications that God is not doing these things today. He did it way back there, and He will do it far into the future, but they have nothing positive to offer the lost world today – no faith, no sure hope. It would seem, from all their publications, their preaching, and their radio and TV presentations that God is doing nothing today. No wonder the world suspects that God is dead; they haven't seen Him move in cold dead churches where they have attended. But I declare, on the basis of the Word of God, He will do all you will let Him do for you!

In some so-called Pentecostal churches, God is doing no more today than He is for the Catholics, the Methodists, the Presbyterians or the Lutherans. You can hardly tell the difference in their ministry. The Pentecostal pastor occasionally says, "Everybody say 'Amen'! Say, 'Praise the Lord!' Say, 'Glory to God!'" That doesn't mean a thing.

A prompted "Amen" doesn't mean people are spiritual. Just because someone is a good cheerleader and can get people to respond by prompting them doesn't mean he is spiritual. Generally, it is a sign that he has no other way of getting a shout out of the people. He knows his preaching won't make them shout. To get the shout out of them, he has to pump or dig it out.

In Miracle Restoration Revivals I have no intention of telling people to shout if I can't preach them happy. I want to hear shouts of joy and praise coming forth from your innermost being unto the Lord!

Recently, I read a weekly publication printed by one of the world's largest Pentecostal (?) denominations. The article declared that prosperity was only for Old Testament days, and that material blessings are not for New Testament Christians. If that were true, I didn't find that they quoted scripture to back it up. I guess this generation has been born out of due season. If their doctrine were true, then God failed to make any provision for people of our day and age. We just should have lived before the time of Christ; we could have claimed the blessings of Deuteronomy 28 and been blessed with prosperity. We could have been blessed as we went in and blessed as we came out and blessed in our basket and in our store. We could have filled our barns with plenty.

According to the modern church world, it's too bad you were not born before the time of Christ. Should you have been fortunate enough to have been born in Old Testament days, you could have claimed Old Testament promises. God would have blessed the increase of your cattle, your kine, your flocks, your sheep, your herds, and your fields. You could have raised a good wheat crop, if you had been an Old Testament wheat farmer. However, since you live under God's New Testament standard and have accepted Jesus Christ, they teach that you can't claim the promises of the Old Testament to raise a good crop today.

Does that sound right? I'd rather quote the verse that says, "Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23).

If you had been born in Old Testament days or before the time of Christ, and you had an apple orchard like those we see on the western slopes of Colorado or in Washington, you could have had trees loaded with find apples. Since you are a Christian alive today, their man-made tradition warns you that the trees will not necessarily produce apples for you. They say, "Well, God doesn't bless our orchards today and the increase of all our flocks and herds, because all the old promises of prosperity were given

only for people up until the time of the gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John." Since that time, New Testament saints can't expect God to bless and prosper them. "The days of miracles are past," so they say!

I will quote portions of some Old Testament scripture, and add a few words of comment to expose the error of their writings. I quote from Psalm 112:1-3, "Praise ye the Lord (until you get to the Book of Matthew?). Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord (through the Book of Malachi?), that delighteth greatly in his commandments (only through Old Testament days?). His seed shall be mighty upon the earth (Old Testament only?)...wealth and riches shall be in his house (up until the time of Jesus only?): and his righteousness endureth...(how long?)...forever!"

Here is another scripture, I Samuel 2:7-9, "The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich (only under the Old Testament law?)...He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill (only from Genesis to Malachi, but not from Matthew through Revelation?) to set them among princes (but not after Christ came?)...He will keep the feet of His saints (Old Testament promise only?)." These faithless preachers would have a difficult time explaining away some of these scriptures to me!

In Proverbs 13:22, we find these words: "A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children (not under the New Testament, but only under the Old?) and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just (positively not after Christ was born?)."

Job declared under the inspiration of the Spirit, "This is the portion of a wicked man with God, and the heritage of oppressors, which they shall receive of the Almighty. Though he (the wicked) heap up silver as the dust, and prepare raiment as the clay: (through the Old Testament only?) He (the wicked) may prepare it, but the just shall put it on (not after the time of Christ? only up until Jesus time?), and the innocent shall divide the silver." (Only through the Old Testament and not through the New?)

Wouldn't that be confusing? If you are going to believe some of their negative, faithless writing and preaching, then every time you read an Old Testament scripture, you would need to add that this is only for the Old Testament saints and not for the New Testament. That is what they are preaching.

Joshua expressed it like this,"...for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success" (Joshua 1:8). He didn't say a word about the promise being void after the time of Jesus.

The wise man said, "Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God." (not after the books of the gospel?) If the gifts of riches and wealth form God were only for the Old Testament saints, then God would be unjust. Well, tell the modernists about that. I'm just telling you what most of them are preaching.

The psalmist declared, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want (through the Old Testament only?). He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters (not after Jesus the Good Shepherd came?); he restoreth my soul (not today?); he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake (not after the time of Christ? only Old Testament?). Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me (no consolation for New Testament Christians?); thy rod and thy staff they comfort me (up until the time of the gospels only?). Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies (only in the days of the Old Testament?)..." (Psalms 23).

I don't hear any shouting when I read the scripture like this. They don't do much shouting either in some of these churches where they preach that God blessed people only through the Old Testament, but not today.

I'm living today! Some Old Testament scriptures have been the greatest inspiration to me! "...thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over." The psalmist expressed here the same experience I have had with God many times! "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all – the – days- of – my – life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord." Let them say Old Testament scripture is not for New Testament saints – that's the biggest lie the devil ever told. Why don't preachers preach the truth?

The Bible says, "ALL SCRIPTURE is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect..." (II Timothy 3:16-17).

Raise your hands and say, "God, I believe ALL Your Word is for today! I believe ALL scripture is given by inspiration of God. I believe ALL of it is for me!" Tell God you are going to claim His promises – even the promise of riches and wealth, the gift of God.

In Matthew 27:57, we read, "When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple..." Is this in the New Testament? He was a disciple of Jesus, a convert. The Bible said he was a rich man. How do you like that! A New Testament saint described in the Word as a rich man! My Bible tells me, "All things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23). Don't you believe that God would like to perform a miracle to put some money in some of His children's pockets when they need it?

I'd like to call your attention to a scripture where one of the New Testament saints needed money, and God performed a miracle to give it to him. If He will perform a miracle to give money to one man, He will perform a miracle to give money to another man. "For there is no respect of persons with God" (Romans 2:11). I believe it! Do you?

One man definitely needed some money to pay his taxes; Jesus happened to be needy, too. In Matthew 17:24, Jesus and the disciples had come to Capernaum. They had barely arrived when they that received tribute money came to Peter and asked, "Doth not your master pay tribute?" And Peter answered, "Yes." Jesus told Peter, "Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that firsts cometh up; and when thou has opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money; that take, and give unto them for me and thee" (vs. 27).

If you think all the New Testament saints were dragging the bottom and the Early Church never had anything or never knew anything about prosperity, why did Jesus teach us to "...pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father...shall reward thee openly...for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask Him" (Matthew 6:6-8). This doesn't mean that you can't be tried and tested; neither does it mean that God wants His children to scrape the bottom constantly.

In Acts 4:32-34, we find this account of the Early Church: "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. Neither was there any among them that lacked..." It says neither the churches nor the saints lacked. What have you been preaching? Why do you think God put this account in the scripture? God wants His children to lack nothing.

"...Neither was there any among them that lacked, for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, and laid them down at the apostles' feet..." Some people might do well to notice that they did not

I'm not saying that there won't be times that we will have to scrape the bottom. I've been there many times. We don't have thousands of dollars piled up in the bank. At Miracle Valley, we live from day to day. God just gives us each day our daily bread, so to speak, but it takes an awful lot of bread to do the work for God that we undertake.

Miracle Magazine alone costs up to $50,000 a month just to print it. How would you like to have that bill – fifty thousand dollars every month? That's just one item.

Sometimes we have run as much as $18,000 to $25,000 worth of postage through our postage meters at Miracle Valley in one month, sending out the gospel of Christ! Sixty million pieces of mail went into our mailbags last year. As high as postage is now, how would you like to pay the postage on that?

Someone asked, "What does Brother Allen do with all the money that comes in?" The fact of the matter is that I don't ever see much. We support ninety missionaries in just one country – the Philippine Islands. We're still paying for last month's paper bill that put Miracle Magazine into the mail for you. We step out by faith, and God meets the need!

I know what it is to be hungry. During the Camp Meeting at Miracle Valley and the Indian Camp Meeting at Shiprock, New Mexico, I never ate a meal for twenty-five days. I began to get skinny and to look hollow-eyed. Paul said he knew what it was to get hungry – he knew what it was to be full, too. Just because a man is hungry doesn't always mean that he couldn't buy something to eat. It could be that he is obeying the Lord in prayer and fasting.

Paul declared, "I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound..." Do you know the meaning of the word "abound"? It means to be abundantly, even lavishly supplied. Paul didn't stop there; he continued, "...every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need" (Philippians 4:12).

Today, I am abounding. But at the same time, I am suffering need. This month's radio and TV bills have run to $40,000 (including production costs). I am not sure that all of this month's radio and TV bills are even paid yet. So, I'm abounding in some phases of this ministry, but still suffering need in others.

Last year we used 28 railroad carloads of paper in our print shop. How would you like to buy just one railroad carload of paper for us?

Here is Paul's outlook, and I like his positive faith, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). Let this portion of scripture be your motto as you go forth to do the Lord's work each day.

Paul continued, "Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my afflictions. Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only" (vs. 14 & 15). Paul was talking about a good church that gave to him financially. "For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity" (vs.16). Whatever the gift may have been (I believe they sent money that far away), Paul's necessities were provided, and he declared that it was a sacrifice, acceptable, well-pleasing to God (vs.18).

Have you a heavenly account? Paul was speaking of sacrificial gifts sent to him by the Philippians, "Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your

account." I'm asking you, what kind of account do you have up there? "But I have all, and abound: I am full having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, and odour of sweet smell, a sacrifice, acceptable, well-pleasing to God" (vs.18). He's talking about gifts that were sent to him. "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (vs.19).

This is New Testament scripture. In the New Testament Church, according to Paul, God will supply all our needs according to His riches in glory.

Is heaven bankrupt? Are the angels living on welfare? Is our Father still rich? Does He still own the cattle on a thousand hills? Is the earth and the fullness thereof still His? Does He own all the silver and gold? I say He owns all the potatoes in Idaho – all the wheat in Kansas – all the cheese in Wisconsin – all the corn in Iowa – all the hogs in Illinois – and all the gold at Fort Knox! I believe that all the money in the banks and on Wall Street in New York belongs to Him. (See I Chronicles 29:12).

God declares, "The wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just" (Proverbs 13:22). Don't you think God doesn't want to give it to you? Don't you think He knows how?

Old Testament and New Testament – I'm claiming all scripture for God's children today! If God had rich disciples in New Testament days and could perform a miracle for Peter to provide his need, I'm believing God to send you fishing. Whether fishing for a fish or fishing for men, I'm asking God to give you the fish with money in his mouth to pay your taxes, to pay your bills, to meet your obligations and duties. If God will do it for one, He'll do it for everyone. If God won't do it for everyone, He won't do it for one.

Paul was thanking and praising God for these many gifts he had received and said he was full; he knew how to abound. He declared he had need of nothing; then, he turned right around and said, "I know my God will supply all YOUR needs…"

What do you need? What is your vision? I refuse to limit God. I could use one hundred billion dollars now to publish the gospel around the world to people who have not yet heard.

Let's ask God to bless all of us with prosperity, so we can preach this gospel unhindered in the uttermost parts of the world. Only if the financial needs are met can we fulfill the call of God in our own individual lives and fulfill Christ's Great Commission in our generation. When God called us to preach the gospel to every creature, He knew it would cost money.

Every Sunday morning at 8:30 in Los Angeles, we have a thirty-minute telecast on Channel 13, the most powerful TV station in the nation. Of course, the station only puts it on provided they get a check from A. A. Allen Revivals, Inc., during the week – in the amount of $700.00. It costs that amount every Sunday morning. That is just one TV program on one station. We carry our faith-challenging telecast on approximately 58 stations. They all do not charge that high, but I'm just telling you what one costs. The TV broadcast in Philadelphia costs $200.00 every Sunday.

You may say, "Well, do you think it's proper for you to pray that God will send you money?" Yes! God told us to proclaim His gospel. I believe He expects us to use the best means possible for reaching the most people for Christ! With the help of God and our partners who help share the financial burden of this ministry, we have never failed to pay the bills. Until they start giving us free TV time, I think God wants to give us money to pay the TV bills. This may be until Jesus comes, because generally free time is given to those who have nothing spiritual to offer the people.

If you are up to your neck in debt, God wants you to pay off your debts. In Romans 13:8, the Bible says, "Owe no man anything…" In other words, owe no radio

station anything – owe no TV station anything – owe no furniture company anything, "...but to love one another." "...thou shalt lend...and thou shalt not borrow" (Deuteronomy 28:12). Why should this mean just Old Testament days? This means under Jesus, too. The Bible declares He is the "same yesterday, and today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

I am glad I'm alive now; that I didn't live in Old Testament days. Today, we have a better covenant, built upon better promises. We have Jesus as our Savior and example to follow. We have the written Word for our foundation. "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for you sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" (II Corinthians 8:9).

Are you living under the Old Testament? Don't you know that Jesus fulfilled every prophecy concerning the Savior? Every type and shadow of the Old Testament? Aren't you living today? Jesus wants to bless you now. He wants to do it today. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

A thousand years to us is as one day with the Lord (II Peter 3:8). Two thousand years would be as two days. Three thousand years would be just three of our days. With this scripture in mind, let me remind you that only a few days ago, the Lord said, "Riches and wealth shall be in his house and his righteousness endureth forever – The wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just – Riches and wealth are the gift of God – thou shalt eat the riches of the Gentiles."

To me, it is as though He just said it. If the Early Church lacked for nothing, why should you? May I pray for you that God will bless you and prosper you? "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper (that's financial) and be in health (that's healing), even as thy soul prospereth (that's sanctification)" (III John 2). Paul declared that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners (See I Timothy 1:15). God wants to sanctify your soul; He wants you to be holy; so that you can go to heaven. He wants to heal your body and give you health and strength. And God wants to prosper you financially. We might as well claim every bit of it. Tell God you claim it NOW!

I want you to pray a prayer with me. It's only three words, but God heard and answered David when he said, "Send now prosperity." The Bible says that David died "in a good old age, full of days, riches and honour..." (I Chronicles 29:28).

Can God trust you with riches? Will you use them for His work and His glory? Make that consecration and pray, "Lord, send now prosperity."

It's not a sin to have money; the sin is in loving money more than you do God (I Timothy 6:10). The love of money is the root of all evil! The rich young ruler didn't go to hell because he had money. He rejected Christ and went to hell, because he loved and trusted in his great riches.

James pronounced woe upon rich men in James 5, not because they possessed riches, but because of the way they got rich and the way they spent their wealth. He declared, "Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl...Your gold and silver is cankered...Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days...Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and have been wanton." If you let God bless you and you get wealth in the right way, and you spend it right, the Bible says it is a blessing and a gift from God, likened to opened windows of heaven in Malachi 3:10.

God just warns us that when riches increase, we're not to let it wrap us up. We must love Jesus, love souls, love the Great Commission, keep the commandments of God and do His will. When you love Him more than you love money, you'll often be willing

to give your last dollar to see the gospel preached. When you do, you will agree with others that you can't outgive God. He will give it back to you one hundred times over.

"And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life" (Matthew 19:29). The key to receiving from God is "giving" to God – giving of ourselves and our finances for the work of God. Then…"my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Paul was referring to financial needs.

Your need and my need, our greatest need anywhere, is to PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE. Together, we are all called to do exactly this. It is Christ's command. Since He wants us to keep His commandments, He will certainly make it possible for us to do so.

I am doing all I can. Are you? As brothers who are called to share the same vision and the same burdens and to fulfill the Great Commission in our generation, I pray that God will meet all your needs so that you can help me meet all my needs.

This edition of Miracle Magazine will cost up to $50,000 to produce, print and mail around the world. This is my faith ministry to the world. It is only one of my needs.

The Allen Revival Hour radio and TV bill this month will cost approximately $60,000. This is God's way to preach the gospel today in spite of the expense. It is another of my needs.

Each day, approximately 29,000 pieces of mail per working hour goes into our mail bags at Miracle Valley. These are letters, tracts, anointed cloths, books, and records to preach the gospel in printed form, to encourage the ones who are discouraged, to comfort and help the troubled and dejected, to assist the poor, sick, afflicted, and crippled to believe God for His promises to do what no other can do! This is also a great need of mine each day.

The missionary projects of the A. A. Allen Revivals, Inc., is always a great need. Bible school opened recently with 129 new students. At the close of the term, they will be ministering among the heathen high in mountainous areas, where no one else will go. We support these Filipino graduates for one year to help them become established in a new work for God. At present we are supporting more than 90 missionaries in the Philippines alone. Single workers are supported for as little as $15.00 each month. The total is a great need.

Regarding the new tents that are ordered – already, we have changed the initial order to a larger size. So many are attending the tent meetings to be saved, healed, and delivered. Many sinners make an effort to get to our meetings. They write personally and say, "Brother Allen, my souls is lost. I want you to help me get saved." In recent meetings the big tent has been packed and jammed with people standing all around the outside. We need bigger tents.

A new van and tractor will be required to carry the additional canvas and about 2,000 more chairs. Each new chair costs $3.50. The financial need for this additional equipment to accommodate greater crowds is tremendous.

These are only a few of my needs that I trust God to meet for the sake of the thousands of people that are being reached with the gospel message each month. I am praying God will call you to help me share the load. Won't you take the burden for my needs upon your own heart as your own needs, burdens, and responsibilities? Will you pray and also give?

Let me know you are claiming God's prosperity to meet your needs and to help meet my needs. Together, we will fulfill the Great Commission of Christ in our generation!

OUR GOD IS SENSATIONAL

(A. A. ALLEN – 1969)

The God I serve is sensational! He has promised to be in the midst of where two or three of us gather in His name. He manifests Himself in many amazing and inspiring ways in Miracle Revival services. The most sensational One I have ever read about is the God who gave us the Bible.

Who said God never manifested Himself in the fire? Who said God was never in the water? Who said that God never moved in an earthquake? Who said He wasn't in the wind? People who declare that He was not in the wind and not in the fire of the Book of Acts have never been filled with the Holy Ghost. They've never had an upper-room experience. People declare that Christ was not sensational, and for that reason none of His ministers today should do anything sensational. They need to get their noses in the Old Black Book. The most sensational things that I have ever read are the acts of the Holy Ghost recorded throughout the Book of Acts.

One of the greatest sensationalists of all times was the One who passed through shut doors, and stood inn the midst of His disciples. He was the One who walked on water, He talked to fish and birds, commanded the dead to rise, and spoke peace to boisterous winds and waves. His name is Jesus. I find Him in Genesis through Revelation. All scripture in the Old Testament points ahead to Christ; all New Testament scripture points to Jesus' birth, His life and ministry, or His death at Calvary. Jesus is all the way through the Bible!

One day, a very old couple heard the voice of this sensational God I'm preaching about. (See Genesis 17). Abraham and Sarah were well advanced in years. Anyone knows it's impossible for a woman past 90 years old to conceive and bear a baby by a husband who is past 100 years old. Who said God isn't sensational? They just couldn't believe that God was so sensational. This flower had been dried up and hadn't bloomed for fifty years. This was one of the most sensational things that ever happened! At first, they laughed, just as a lot of people are laughing today who don't believe in a sensational God. The Lord will rebuke them as He did those two for their unbelief. God said, "You'll see! At the time, you're going to have a child anyway." They did!

I'm going to accept exactly what God tells me. I've heard the voice of God enough and I know from reading Genesis through Revelation that God doesn't always do the thing that is customary, that corresponds with reason, or that appeals to man's intellect. God's way is always full of surprises. He has said, "Behold, I will do a new thing…" (Isaiah 43:19). A new thing always surprises!

I know that God will do sensational things today and tomorrow for His people because of what is recorded in the Word about what He did yesterday and in years gone by. God does not change. Jesus said, "The works I do, ye shall do also, and even greater works shall ye do." He set our example. When I find Him sensational in His Word, then I believe I have a right to be even a little more sensational than He.

God spoke to Elijah in I Kings 17, "Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan. And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there" (I Kings 17:3-

4). Do you believe God will do a thing like that? Most folks don't go to church where they ever see anything from God that is sensational.

"And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook." What could be more sensational? Sitting down by a brook, the man of God looked up and saw ravens coming with meat and bread in their claws and bills. They came twice a day, with breakfast and dinner.

I hear some people say, "Not for me! That couldn't be God. My God just isn't that sensational. Let's settle down now, and do things decently and in order. I believe if that were God, He would never have used black birds. He would have chosen a dove!" God tells us plainly, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8-9).

During a severe famine, (I Kings 17), a prophet of God called to a little widow who was about to starve: "Fear not…make me a little cake first, and after make for thee and thy son. For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruise of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth." Because she believed and obeyed that sensational preacher, she was one widow who had bread on her table every day during that terrible famine. Because she willingly scraped every bit of meal she could from the barrel for the man of God first, she was privileged to watch God multiply meal in the barrel when there was no corn in the land.

Four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal failed to pray fire down from heaven upon their sacrifice in I Kings 18, in spite of their fervent prayers all day to their god. "And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner, with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them" (vs. 28). It was to no avail; there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded. Their god was an idol.

God's prophet, Elijah, took a bold stand that day. He said, "…the God that answereth by fire, let him be God…" Then he decided to make it hard for God to answer by fire. A lot of preachers are always trying to make things easy for God. Not Elijah! He was a sensationalist. because he knew that his God was a sensationalist. Instead of making it easy for God to burn up the sacrifice, he commanded the servants to pour barrel after barrel of water over the altar. Don't tell me he wasn't being sensational! "Put on another barrel!" You say, "Well, I don't think we ought to make it too hard for God. I think you ought to take a few aspirins along with it." The man of God said, "Pour on another barrel of water!" It was plain old sensationalism.

Why put so much water on the sacrifice? Why soak it up? Why make the thing fireproof, when the prophet is going to call down fire from heaven to burn up all the sacrifice? Why not make it a little easier for God? Elijah wanted the people to recognize what a miracle this was!

Our sensational God answered by consuming fire. It burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, and even the dust, and it licked up all the water that was in the trench around the altar. Sensationalism? Yes, the most sensational thing all Israel had ever seen.

A sleeping prophet was nudged by an angel to awaken and eat. "Wake up, son, I've got a cake waiting for you, and a cruise of water by the pillow." He obeyed, then lay back down to sleep. The angel nudged him a second time. "Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee" (I Kings 19). God knew this man needed something special for the task ahead. God had determined to do something sensational, and He started by sending from heaven an angel for the cook! The cook was sensational, and the cake that he baked on the coals was a special cake. The scripture says that the prophet "…went in

the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights…" He didn't have to eat anything until after the sixth week. He was God's sensational preacher!

In II Kings 2:11, the Word says, "And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder. And Elijah went…" Where? "Oh," some say, "I don't believe in sensationalism.

I believe Jesus had something to do with that whirlwind that took Elijah into heaven. As Elijah was taken up, his mantle fell upon the shoulders of his young attendant, Elisha. He went down to the Jordan River and smote the waters with the mantle and said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" (vs. 14). Suddenly, God did a most sensational thing. I believe He put His hand across the river; the waters piled up just to let us know He's a sensationalist from Genesis to Revelation. That wasn't the first time that happened at the Jordan. Joshua and a whole army also went over it dry shod by another mighty miracle.

Some people wouldn't believe it if they heard God speak. They don't believe in sensationalism. They believe anything God does must be done in a dignified manner, and according to their church custom and tradition. Why, their minister would never think of doing sensational things like the A. A. Allen Revival party does!

Elisha said to a poor widow who was being compelled to sell her sons in the slave market to pay the bills left by her deceased husband, "What has thou in thy house?" She said, "Nothing but a little pot of oil." That sensational prophet instructed her to go and borrow empty vessels from her neighbors. "…borrow not few." (See II Kings 4:17). They lined up vessel after vessel – huge empty earthen vessels. The miracle that followed was pure sensationalism for the glory of God. Every neighbor knew it, because she borrowed their vessels to hold the oil God multiplied from her little pot. When she got all the oil sold, she didn't have to sell her sons to satisfy the creditors.

A borrowed axe head fell to the bottom of Jordan River in II Kings 6. Nearby stood the prophet of our sensational God. "Where fell it?" he asked. And they showed him the place. "Well, what can be done about it?" bystanders wondered. That preacher was a man of action! He reached up and cut a limb from the nearby tree, and began to trim off the branches to make a stick.

"Man, what do you think you will do with a stick? You'll never fish that iron axe head out of the swirling water with that." God was about to be sensational through his prophet.

The prophet cast the stick into the river in the exact place where the axe head had fallen, "…and the iron did swim." That's nothing but sensationalism! What happened was completely contrary to the laws of nature. Call it what you like, but the man was able to put the axe head back on the handle, complete his work, and return it to the owner.

You hear, "We don't believe in sensationalism in the Methodist Church." "We Baptists like to stay calm and cool; we don't like sensational things in church." Denominations can remain cold and dead if they want to, but when a preacher gets enough of God inside, it is just natural to do sensational things! New things that they can hardly believe! (Isaiah 43:19).

In II Kings 13, a group was burying a corpse in the cemetery, when suddenly a band of enemy soldiers came into view. They had to do something quickly. Hurriedly, they lowered that dead corpse into another man's sepulcher, and placed the body upon some bones. Just then God said, "I'm going to move on this scene and be sensational." God put resurrection power into those old bones – the bones of the prophet Elisha. When that cold, dead corpse touched the bones, he couldn't stay dead. He leaped to his feet!

How did it happen? God got into those old dry bones. Why don't you let Him get into yours? He's a sensational God. Let's be His sensational people. How in the world can you believe in God or the Bible and not believe in sensationalism!

If I were some folks, I'd be ashamed of myself for saying, "Well, all of that sensationalism – all that noise, all that shouting, all that dancing, all that music, all that weeping, all that shaking – is God in all of that/"

A woman bound a line of red cord in her window. She had just risked her life by hiding and aiding in the escape of two spies from the children of Israel through this window by the means of this very cord. "Our life for yours" the spies had promised. That cord was the token for her life to be spared when defeat came to he city. "That little piece of scarlet cord is going to save my household," she said. (See Joshua 2). Sensational? Yes, indeed! That length of red cord bound in her window saved her and the lives of her entire household. What a wonderful type of the blood of Calvary that does save the souls of entire households!"

Joshua was another of the greatest sensationalists (See Joshua 10). There was a battle yet to be won one day; but time was running out. Joshua was one of these who believed in a job well done. He just commanded the sun and the moon to stand still. And they did! "And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the Lord hearkened unto the voice of a man; for the Lord fought for Israel" (vs.14). You don't believe in sensationalism? It's in The Book!

As David stooped to pick up a few pebbles from the brook, and slipped them into his sling, he said, "God, You've got to be sensational now. You're going to have to get in this thing. I'm going to throw this stone, Lord, and You've got to put some power behind it and guide it" (See I Samuel 17). I like to think that Jesus got into it, the Holy Ghost got behind it, and God guided it! Didn't they have a time!

They put a man into a lion's den in Daniel 6. What's so sensational about that? Well, it was almost an every day happening in some of those kingdoms in that day. It didn't start out sensationally until God came on the scene. Many had been thrown to those lions, but none had ever come out alive. God shut those hungry lions' mouths all night! Daniel said, "My God will – my God did!" What a sensational ending!

Don't be afraid to be a sensationalist for God, folks. He is a sensational God. I'm going to try my best to be a sensational evangelist. Didn't Jesus do all that the prophets of old said that He would? Let's talk about some of the sensational things that Jesus did.

He commanded the servants at the wedding in Cana to fill the waterpots with water. "But Lord, it's not water they want, it's wine." (See John 2). Jesus knew how wine is made. He knew where wine could be bought at the merchants, but He decided to get the wine in a sensational way. Jesus was a sensationalist.

To some people, there is nothing worse than a sensationalist who is religious. The very idea of someone being sensational in the house of God or in the name of Jesus!

Do you remember what happened at that wedding as they began to pour? That water had become the best wine they ever had! The guests declared the host had saved the best until the last. Who doesn't believe in sensationalism in the name of Jesus?

Have you paid your taxes? Even in Jesus' day, the collector of tribute came to collect taxes from the disciples. "Doth not your master pay tribute?" they asked. Peter answered, "Yes!" (See Matthew 17:24-27). Jesus instructed Peter, "...go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee."

The very idea of having a man go fishing expecting to find money in the fish's mouth to pay his taxes! Do you believe God was in that? We know He was. There's no telling what God will tell you to do if you will listen to Him.

In front of the temple one day, the disciples confronted Jesus regarding a man who was born blind. "Master, who did sin, " they asked, "this man or his parents that he was born blind?" (See John 9). Jesus' answer prepared them for one of the most sensational miracles of His entire ministry. What He was about to do wasn't done in the privacy of a prayer room behind curtains. Jesus spit on the ground and made clay out of the spittle, like we used to make spit balls when we were children. My momma would say, "Oh don't do that; it's unsanitary." It may be, but don't tell me Jesus didn't do it! He took little balls of mud, and wiped it all into that man's blind eyes, "And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool Siloam…he went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing." And did his miracle cause a stir!

Some people say, "I think if you pray for the sick and do things like this, you ought to do it in the privacy of the prayer room. And you should say, 'Heal them now, Lord, if it be Thy will.' Just don't put the sick up before the congregation. Don't be so bold. Don't be so demanding on God."

Don't think that many churches in Pentecostal denominations aren't barring prayer for the sick from their main assembly these days. I believe Jesus is still the example we are to follow. Jesus didn't hide the afflicted in the prayer room to pray for them.

I recall that as a great multitude of people followed Jesus, He stopped a funeral procession coming out the main gate of a city. (See Luke 7:11-15). He could have slipped away to the quiet cemetery and quietly prayed, "Father, if it be Thy will, please let life return to this corpse." Jesus didn't choose to minister that way. He stopped that great funeral procession right in the main gate while everyone was watching. "And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother." That's the kind of Jesus we serve!

There were only five barley loaves and two small fishes – not enough to feed a man; it was only a boy's lunch (John 6:5-14). Thousands upon thousands sat down in the grass around Jesus to watch as He gave thanks and began to distribute from the loaves and fishes to the disciples, "…and the disciples to them that were sat down…as much as they would" (vs. 11). It's sensational to feed five thousand men all that they want to eat from five small loaves and two fishes. Our God is sensational!

When Jesus went to the tomb of Lazarus, "…He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth" (John 11:43).

If Jesus were to come to your church, would He have to move in such a way that no one could hear Him to keep from offending all the members and the pastor? Or would they let Him take charge of the service?

Jesus went into the temple in Matthew 21:12-14, and had the kind of church service that pleases God – AFTER He cleaned out God's house with a scourge of cords in His hand, "…and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves…And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them." Jesus wants to heal the blind in your church. He wants to heal the lame and afflicted in the house of God. There is deliverance for the people when He has His way! And His ways are sensational!

In the midst of a violent storm, the twelve disciples labored to row their storm-tossed boat, Jesus came to them walking on the water, but when they saw Him, fear

gripped their hearts. Jesus was coming to them in such a sensational way that they couldn't believe it was He (Mark 6:45-51).

God said He would work a work in our day that we would not believe though it be told us (Habakkuk 1:5). Why? There are going to be such sensational things God is going to do that many won't believe unless they see them.

When the God we serve is so sensational from Genesis through Revelation, how can we pattern our life and ministry after the God of the Old Testament and the Christ of the New Testament without being sensational?

Throughout the New Testament the ministries of the apostles were sensational. After they were filled with the Holy Ghost, "...they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following" (Mark 16:20).

When you use that name, Jesus, which is above every name, something sensational is bound to happen. The God I serve, His Christ who washed me in His own precious blood, and the Holy Ghost that fills and anoints me – I've got them all in my heart, in my mind, in my hands, and in my feet! "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 2:5). "...as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God and they shall be my people." (II Corinthians 6:16). Paul said, "...Christ in you, the hope of glory." (Colossians 1:27). Sensational? Yes! Every step of the way!

One young man who was an anointed musician was called upon to perform a strange task. He did what I have been impressed to do, because the king's servants assured him it would succeed. (See I Samuel 16:14-16). The Spirit of the Lord had departed from King Saul, because of his disobedience, and an evil spirit troubled him. Saul's servants counseled with the king, "seek out a man, who is a cunning player of an harp: and it shall come to pass, that when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well."

When I can take my Bible and show where Saul got well because of skillful, anointed playing of music, I have a Bible foundation to tell you that when the anointed singing and playing of music begins in a Miracle Revival service, evil spirits are going to flee from the minds and bodies of many listeners.

The Bible tells me that David, the son of Jesse, was recommended for his cunning playing of the harp. "And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him." The evil spirit couldn't stay in the presence of singing and music that praised and worshipped the Lord!

Many people have similar experiences when they attend Miracle Revivals. As the joyous music begins to play, the choir begins to sing and magnify the Lord, the entire congregation clap their hands and sing with all their might, and people shout and dance before the Lord, many marvelous things happen in hearts and lives! People become revived, refreshed, and well, as evil spirits have to depart form them. Sensational! Yes!

This even happens to many who are not privileged to attend these services in person. Many who listen to the Allen Revival Hour on radio and TV, those who have received Miracle Revival recordings by mail, and whose ministers have shown some of the Miracle Revival film for their churches have found deliverance by means of the transcribed services. They too become refreshed and well right there in their home or in their church, as the case may be. Sensational? Yes? Delivered by a sensational God!

That Which Is Not Bread

(A. A. Allen – 1969)

"Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David."
– Isaiah 55:2-3

I happened to attend "church" this morning in my hotel room. That is, I tried, by turning on a religious telecast on a certain TV channel. It happened to come from a big downtown church in one of America's greatest cities. What I saw was so thoroughly disgusting that at first I turned it off. But I said, "I'm going to turn that right back on and make myself watch and listen to it today." I'm glad I did.

The time was being donated by the television station as a public service. It was quite a production. It took so many to produce it, so many celebrities and well-know personalities. They called it a "church service!" I didn't see or hear a thing in the entire program that was like "church." If Jesus would walk into that place they call a church, I believe He would have driven them out for desecrating God's house!

The pastor said, "Now, for religious entertainment, we will introduce this 'jazz group,' and we're going to have what we call a 'jazz mass.'" The TV cameras zoomed in on three long-haired young men sitting to one side behind the pastor. They looked like some homosexuals you see on the streets. They were plain downright entertainers, who were being paid to play the jazz mass. I watched those three long-haired sinners pick their guitars and sing their worldly folk songs. The cameras made flashbacks on people in the congregation, and members of the choir. They had their heads bowed reverently. Those unsaved jazz musicians weren't playing for Jesus at all!

You can call that "church" if you want to, but it's nothing new! The Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, the Methodists, the Baptists, some of the old denominational churches that no longer have any spiritual life, are doing everything they can to get a little action and life back into their cold, dead churches. They are bringing action in, without bring Jesus in, without preaching the Word, without using the Bible, without the Holy Ghost, and without God! In other words, they're trying to have church to please man. They are worshipping the creature and pleasing him rather than worshipping the Creator and seeking to please Him.

They're not having church! They just call it church! Just because they call their jazz mass church, doesn't make it church.

When I go shopping for shoes, I look for a sign that says, "Shoe Shop." If I were to go inside and find nothing but women's dresses, I'd say, "This is not a shoe shop. I find nothing but women's clothing." I don't care if the proprietor did declare it was a shoe shop, I'd have to say, "Show me the shoes!" If he couldn't produce some shoes, I'd say he was misleading me. He ought to take that sign down, and put up another that would advertise "Ladies' Wear."

If I were looking for men's wearing apparel, I'd look for a sign that said, "Men's Wear." If I walked under that sign, and all I found were hammers and nails, saws,

wrenches, and hardware, I'd say the sign was misleading. It would be a hardware store. I'd feel either the sign or the merchandise should be changed.

When I'm looking for bakery goods, I look for a sign that says, "Bakery." When I go in, I expect to find bakery goods. If all I found were meat, I'd ask, "Where are the bakery goods?" If the clerk would answer, "Right here. The cases are full." I would say, "Man, don't you know the difference between red meat and white bread? I'm not that dumb." He should change the sign or change the goods!

I can take a paint brush and a can of paint, I could go into any building and in any kind of lettering write the word C – H – U – R – C – H over the door. However, just because I paint "church" over the door doesn't make that building a church. I could take that same paint brush and can of paint and go to any little old doghouse and write over the door "church." I could call it Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, or Catholic. I could even call it THE church. That wouldn't make a doghouse a church. A church is not determined by the sign you read on the outside. It is determined by what you find on the inside of the building.

You can have church out under the stars or in a brush arbor. You can have church in a tent. You can have church in a cracker box, if you can get enough people inside, and enough of the Spirit of God! You can have church in public halls, or the City Coliseum. Church is the place where you meet God, and where God is moving and working, where the Bread of Life is given out and enjoyed by God's children.

I feel sorry for the people who just go to the little doghouse with the sign, and say, "We belong to THE church." Some people declare they're getting bread off the shelf of the church where they attend. What they receive is like a plastic bread wrapper that someone has emptied of the bread, then blown full of hot air! It may say "Sunbeam – Taystee – Holsum," but anybody with common sense, even a small child, knows there is no bread in the empty bag. It's just full of hot air!

Some people have more sense than to go to such churches. However, many of your loved ones and friends are going to buildings that merely have the church sign. The religious leader behind the pulpit proclaims that he is giving bread, but when you reach for some to satisfy that spiritual hunger, you don't get a bit of bread!

Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life!" He said, "I am the Light of the world! I am the Door! I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life!" If you attend a church where you don't get Jesus, and what He taught, and what He practiced, you're not getting Bread! Your soul will starve!

What I saw on the TV channel there in the Big City wasn't bread; it was hot air! The poor people who sit in the congregation of that big denomination each week are people who spiritually don't know the difference between Bread and ladies' wearing apparel! They don't know the difference between a bakery and a jewelry shop!

In my revivals I give out the Bread! I'm going to give you the Word of God! I'm going to preach to you about Jesus! Millions of church people today have been inside of a building; they say they've been to church, but they're not fed. They are starving to death!

Back in Bible days, some who were sitting outside the city, starving, said, "Why sit we here until we die?" That's a good question to ask yourself. Some people will never get up and make an effort to search for Bread. They will sit and starve to death, because some people don't want God. They don't want the Bible; they don't want Christ. They don't want that wonderful Bread of Life. They just want beautiful, impressive religion with form, ritual, and ceremony.

Read the twenty-fifth chapter of Matthew. See what God is going to do with people who are not good stewards of His portion. He has placed something into every one of our hands, whether it be one, two, or five talents. When He returns, we are expected to return His portion with usury! To the unprofitable servant, He said, "You should have put my money to the exchangers, then at my coming I should have received my own with usury" (See Matthew 25:27). Then the Lord commanded that the talent be taken from him, and he was cast into outer darkness where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Who in the church today is that unprofitable servant? The one the Lord called "wicked and slothful"? I say it's people who support and pay the preacher who gives his flock a bag of hot air for their spiritual bread. The bag may be labeled "bread." They may call it "gospel" or "church," but there is no satisfying portion there to sustain spiritual life.

You can tell if it is a church or not by what is preached, and what takes place there. You will know by the number of people who get saved, and by the life of Bible holiness the people practice. You will know by the sick who are healed, and by the demons that are cast out. You will know by the number of people who are baptized with the Holy Ghost and talk in tongues. There will be the joy of the Lord there that touches people's souls, and causes them to rejoice! How can you prove it is the church, the gospel, or bread when there is no evident sign of any of the things that took place under the ministry of Jesus?

I don't mind telling you that I'm trying my best to pattern my ministry, and my life, my speech, and my daily walk after Jesus. When we love Him, walk like He did, talk like He did, then we're going to do the things He did!

Many friends who attend our meetings, who receive Miracle Magazine, and who listen to our broadcasts and telecasts say, "Brother Allen, I'm with you, but I just remain neutral. I don't think you ought to publicly oppose those things. After all, these men are ministers. Perhaps they are doing their best." That isn't what Jesus said to the Pharisees and Sadducees. They were the religious leaders of that day. Jesus declared they were fools, blind guides of the blind! He called them "whited sepulchers, full of dead men's bones." He declared they were a generation of vipers! Jesus didn't keep quiet, and He didn't stay neutral. He rebuked them!

Jesus found that He couldn't have His kind of church in their synagogues. That's why He did most of His preaching on the bleak mountains, in the marketplaces, and on the street corners. He ministered to great gatherings by the seaside.

The people of the country of Gadarenes were like some religious people today. They felt that Jesus made a terrible mistake in their country when He had "church" at the seashore with the man who was possessed by Legion (See Mark5). They asked Jesus to depart from their coasts. They'd rather have their swine than have a mighty miracle of deliverance for a poor insane man. They wanted no part of healing the sick, casting out of devils, nor of Jesus' ministry of rebuking sin openly that they might see and fear.

I don't say that everybody has to walk like I walk, live like I live, nor believe exactly as I believe. But in the church, there must be some resemblance of Christ's life, of His preaching, His ministry, and His results! This is the only way the church can fulfill the Great Commission of Christ. People sitting in the pews, at least occasionally, ought to act like Bible saints! It's not Christ's objective just to see a church, or a building called a church, filled with people. A crowd is no sign of revival. Sports events and the world's

entertainers can draw large numbers. However, the crowd is no sign that God's blessing is upon it!

U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, dated December 9, 1968, gave an account entitled "Why Churches Are Losing Clergymen." Religious leaders are upset about the multitudes of clergymen who are leaving cold, dead denominations for secular work. Dropout of priests from active ministry was over thirty percent more than in 1967. Methodists declare they don't know how to stop the trend. Their big seminary where the "God Is Dead" theory began is almost empty. The chickens are coming home to roost! Who wants to train for a ministry that proclaims that God is dead? Now they can hardly get men to train to be Methodist preachers.

I declare these dead churches don't need preachers. The quicker these dead churches are buried, the quicker sincere people will start looking for another church – an old time revival. They might start reading their Bibles at home, and have revival on their knees in their own prayer closet. Why get so disturbed? I think it's the surest sign of coming revival that we've had in fifty years. It's just too bad that U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT had to bring the news. So many won't listen to a preacher today. I think it's the greatest thing that has happened to the so-called church!

The report went on to say this is ONLY denominational groups, and NOT AMONG EVANGELICAL CHURCHES! This is an evidential sign that you ought to get into an evangelical group that is still preaching evangelism, still having revivals, and still having evangelists. All the more reason why you ought to find an evangelist who is preaching and practicing evangelism for Christ, and having revivals, and support him or her.

How long has it been since an evangelist came to your church and had a revival?" Too often you hear, "We don't believe in evangelists or revivals anymore." No wonder so many preachers are leaving.

I know some of you will defend cold, dead denominations, but the Word tell us "a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." There have been too many bad apples in the barrel too long. To make matters even worse, many of these preachers entered the ministry as a profession – they know nothing of heartfelt salvation. Many have never had one crumb of the Bread of Life. When you haven't partaken of any Bread, it's a difficult job to give other people Bread.

Recently, in one of my tent revivals, a fine young fellow came up to me. He said, "I'm a seminary student. Could you sell me some of your books at a ministerial reduced rate? I see you've got some in the back I'd like to have."

I said, "No, I wouldn't sell you any at a reduced price. I'll give them to you free of charge. I'll give you all you want." And I meant it.

He was looking for a bargain because he was a preacher. Why should a minister, or a student for the ministry, think he has to get something at a reduced price, just because he's serving God? To me, the idea is an abomination. It's faith destroying. It's what he and many of you have been taught for years – that a preacher shouldn't have anything, and should be underpaid.

Thank God, the Bible says the laborer is worthy of his hire! You shouldn't muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. If a preacher doesn't tread out any corn to feed his flock, then it's about time you muzzle him. Why pay a preacher to stand around and eat up all your corn, and not tread out any of it for the congregation?

God have mercy on the thousands of hungry people who have been made to believe that they are paying for and receiving bread at their so-called church! Many will

support medical missionaries, who have nothing more to offer the heathen than drugs and medicines, and cold, dead form, ceremony and ritual, who haven't seen souls saved in more than twenty years. Some preaches haven't seen a revival in fifty years!

It's not enough for you just to remain neutral. It's not enough to join the army and put on the uniform. It's not enough to come and enjoy the preaching and say, "Brother Allen, I'm with you." If we're going to be victorious over the devil, we've got to take up our weapons of warfare, sharpen our sword on both edges, and get on the firing line for Jesus! Let's preach and work for God as never before! Let's expose sin openly, that others may see and hear, and will be saved! Let people know they are mistaken when they think they're getting bread, when all they ever get is a big bag of hot air! Tell people who have lost hope because they believe God is dead, that our GOD IS STILL ALIVE! He is the same yesterday, today, and forever! He is forever a Miracle Worker!

"CRY ALOUD, and spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." Isaiah 58:1.

THE MOST MISUSED WORD…"CHURCH"

(A. A. ALLEN – 1969)

A number of years ago, I was preaching about modernism and blasting that thing as hard as I could, just like the Apostle Paul did when he wrote the letters to Timothy. All I was doing was quoting Paul, where he said, "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith (depart from the church), giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer." (I Timothy 4:1-5)

I used Paul's warning about the last days, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers…lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: FROM SUCH TURN AWAY." (II Timothy 3:1-5)

After I finished preaching, a little gray-haired woman stuck a gnarled finger up in my face and said, "I liked you until you preached that sermon. You were just preaching against me and my church."

I asked, "What church do you belong to?"

When she told me, I said, "How can you say I preached against your church? I didn't even mention one church by name. I did quote some scripture where the Apostle Paul said that in the last days some would have a form of godliness and would deny God and His power, and everything that is spiritual and real. The scripture says some would heap to themselves teachers, because they had itching ears." I said, "I didn't say anything about any church or The Church. I'm talking about cold, deadhead, professing Christians who have never been born again. If some of them ever were, they have backslid, and are no longer a part of the Church. These are the ones from which God said, 'Turn away!'"

'Well," the old lady said, "that's my church you were preaching about."

I said, "If I were you, I'd surely be ashamed to admit it. I wouldn't want anybody to know I had any part of something God specifically told me in the Bible not to have any part of, but to 'turn away'."

This little lady wasn't really taking a stand for the Word of God, or for God and His cause, or for the genuine Church. She is working and fighting for a lost cause.

The word "church" today is the most misused word in the world. It's the most misapplied word. It's the most misunderstood word in the world. It's the most improperly defined word. Too many like to use the word "church' to apply to their group of people, trying to describe where they assemble to soothe their own conscience, because they know they are not really a part of THE CHURCH. Even the people who call themselves "Satanists" call their meeting place a "church." If some of these groups ever were a part of Christ's church some time in the past, today they would have to be identified as part of the apostate church – a part of the harlot church.

The architecture of some of the buildings of the apostate church is very deceiving. They are built like most people suppose that churches are to be built. **You can't tack a name on the building and call it a church just because of its "churchy" architecture.** You can have church anyplace! You can have church under the stars. You can have church in a garage. You can have church in a theater building. You can have church in a tent – we do! And great multitudes of people are finding God there!

In Genesis 28, Jacob had church all by himself out in the wilderness. **Church is the place where you meet God.** The scripture says, "Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place, and I knew it not…this is none other than the house of God…" Jacob wasn't anywhere near a house; he had slept out under the stars with his head on a rock. Because he had met with God in that place, he knew that surely he was in the house of God, and in the very "gate of heaven." He erected an altar there, and called the name of that place "Bethel," which literally means "the house of God." He called it a church, because there is where he met God and made a vow to serve Him. I don't care if a building someone calls a church costs seven million dollars; unless people meet God there, it is not a church!

To some of us, church is where people assemble to meet God. It isn't just where people meet to learn about God. If you don't meet God there, it is not a church!

One of these so-called churches I have heard so much about is deep in the south. They call it a Methodist Church, along with its swimming pool, its dance floor, its pool hall, its bowling allies, and its gymnasium. In that great building complex, two bars are included, where hard liquor and cocktails are served. I'm telling you the truth! When they call that place, that they claim cost seven million dollars, a "church", they're telling a lie. They've got a denominational-owned bowling alley; that's not a church! That's a pool hall! That's a tavern and a cocktail lounge! It's a social club! But people soothe their conscience by joining a place like that. They spend their spare time there, and put their money into it, and say, "I'm going to heaven." I don't believe it! I say not a single one who goes there will go to heaven. If God says, "Come out from among them and be ye separate, touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you", He means for His people to "COME OUT!"

I say none of them will be received unless they come out. God said if you will come out from among them, He will receive you. God didn't say to compromise with the world, and fill His church with sinners who are "lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God." (See II Timothy 3:1-5)

You ask have I given you one isolated case? No indeed! **Newspaper headlines have disclosed some very shocking things that are taking place under the guise of religion and in so-called churches.** One headline reads: A MINISTERIAL STRIPTEASE, which describes a so-called religious film that was previewed in the Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Upsaia, Sweden. The film was commissioned by the council and paid for in part by five Protestant denominations. Reportedly, it is scheduled to be distributed to U.S. churches after its premier in Sweden. In the movie that revolves around a worship service, the minister removes all his clothes in the end to symbolize the stripping away of barriers between men and God. Maybe in **your** church! If it is a member of that group which commissioned the film in the first place and helped pay for the production!

Another headline came to my attention: "Toronto Anglican priest calls for church without God." He made his appeal in his book, "Church Without God", in which he made

the statement, "I claim to be a Christian and an Anglican. Yet I can say in all sincerity that there is no God." This man claims to be a preacher. He pastors a church in Toronto.

On the cover of one newspaper, a Methodist preacher's wife was pictured dancing with a 17-year old boy at 4:00 in the morning; she's 28 years old. The headline was her answer to people who are criticizing her lack of dress and her activities being done in the name of the church. The news headline read: "The Minister's Mini-skirt Wife Hits Back At Gossips, 'COOL OFF! I'M FILLING THE CHURCH – SO WHY COMPLAIN?" And there beside the headline is her picture, posed as a stripper. She could fill a burlesque theater or a tavern if she would strip off there like she does at church, with no admission charge.

What kind of people is this woman filling their so-called church with? Well, when they gather for discussions, these are the three topics they reportedly discuss: the pill, sex, and premarital relations. They talk until 5:00 in the morning. The pastor and his wife offer space in the parsonage to younger and older people alike, where they can do just anything they please, and it doesn't cost them anything. In other words, they could have sexual relations right in the church, and they wouldn't have to go out and pay the price of a motel.

It's about time we no longer close our eyes and ignore some of these things. The Word instructs us, "Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear." (I Timothy 5:20) "...unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure: but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate." (See Titus 1:15-16) "...rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith." (Verse 13)

What does your preacher preach? What does your church or denomination believe in? What does it approve of? Or I might ask, "What does it disapprove of? What do you support? What does your tithe and offerings support, encourage, or take care of that God does not approve?

Some of my old friends won't say a word about this. They don't exactly go along with some of the things they are seeing today, but they say, "Once a Methodist, always a Methodist." There came a time when I had to leave the Methodist church where I was saved, because God was leading me into a deeper experience with Him. Instead of going on, many church organizations and their preachers have gone back. Many leaders who have ministered to Pentecostal people for years, instead of going on, they are going right back into formalism. If you aren't careful, you are going to be encouraged to follow them right into perdition.

You had better go on! "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." (Romans 8:13-14)

The world considers that "silence gives consent." By your silence, are you showing your approval of things that are an abomination to God and His Church? Are you supporting prayers to dead saints? Sprinkling water on babies? Lighting candles and burning incense? Reading prayers? Does your offering support a "religious" social club? Liquor drinking right in the so-called churches?

Do you by your giving stamp your approval on all that your church and denomination is doing? Is it just supporting form, ceremony, and ritual? If this is a picture of the place where you go to church, God says, "Come ye out from among them..." If you don't and you stay with them, it's a sign that you approve of what they do.

Your silence, when you see things taking place that are unscriptural, your failing to show your disapproval, lets the world know, "I do not disapprove. I haven't got enough old-time religion to disapprove of what the devil is doing in the name of religion." Your remaining neutral oft times means that you haven't got enough old-time religion to get to heaven yourself!

"Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? And your labor for that which satisfieth not? Hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me; hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you..." (Isaiah 55:2-3)

God asks why do you spend money for that which is not bread? He means, why do you put God's money into cold, dead, modernistic churches that are no longer having revival, that no longer give bread to the people? God is going to call every one of you to account for every dollar you put in some of these dead religious denominations that have long since stopped preaching the gospel of Christ! Every time you support it, you stand your approval upon every modernistic preacher behind every pulpit in denominations!

Why will you give your time and support to a religious group that doesn't believe the old-fashioned gospel, that is not preaching all of the Word, that is not having revival, that is not bringing lost souls to Christ? It is the so-called church that doesn't have enough old-time conviction of the Holy Spirit to preach the lipstick and mini-skirts off of the preacher's wives!

It can mean the difference between heaven and hell for you. In Matthew 25:14-30, we are told by Jesus Himself that there is a day of reckoning coming. The servant to whom He gave five talents was a good and faithful servant. He gained another five talents for the Lord. The servant to whom He gave two talents was also a good servant. He also doubled his increase for God. But there was a servant that Jesus called "Thou wicked and slothful servant..." He had only received one talent, but when his day of reckoning came, he tried to return that one talent to the Lord without any increase. And that unprofitable servant was cast into outer darkness: "there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

It's time some of you people let God lead you OUT from among them! You can't continue to stay in a cold, dead church just because your grandma bought one of the stained glass windows, or because your grandpa paid for the pulpit, or just because your name is on the roll. You can get your name off that roll in a few minutes if you want to.

I think of the millions who are starving to death spiritually, who have never had one crumb of the bread of life. Multitudes are dying without God, while at the same time millions worldwide have just been stuck in the cold, dead denominational churches that are not even giving one slice of the real Bread of Live to the lost heathen.

You say, "What is bread? Just what is the Bread of Life?" In John 6:35 Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." So, Jesus is the Bread! Spiritual Bread is Jesus! He is that Bread God sent us from heaven; He was broken and is offered to us. Jesus said that healing is the children's Bread. The ministry in a church that does not bring healing to the sick and suffering among the people is not giving God's Bread to the people. Healing is the children's Bread!

You may say, "My church doesn't preach about healing. My church doesn't believe in the gifts of the Holy Ghost, or the gifts of healing." Then there is no Bread in your church! You either ought to see that it starts being a bakery, spiritually, turning out good gospel spiritual bread, or you should get out from that place and leave it alone!

Here is God's Word regarding the work of God, "Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry...?" God has called every one of us to deal the Bread of Life to the hungry. "Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily; and thy righteousness shall go before thee: the glory of the Lord shall be thy reward." (Isaiah 58:6-8)

You're either going to give Bread to the hungry, or God has not promised to heal you. Under some conditions, He does promise to heal you. "Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their images. And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread; and thy water; and I WILL TAKE SICKNESS AWAY FROM THE MIDST OF THEE." (Exodus 23:24-25) When you take to the heathen the Bread of Life, and tear down their images and idols, God promises to heal you.

If you are not missionary-minded, if you aren't interested in taking the gospel bread to the hungry, God hasn't even promised to heal you. I'm not talking about putting money into a so-called church offering. I'm talking about putting your money into God's work that is giving the Bread of Life to the lost souls of the world who are starving to death.

Some people are soothing their conscience and patting themselves on the back. They go to church, and they think just because they put a dollar in now and then, here and there, they're gong to make it. Of course, they're going to have to find help someplace else when they need healing in their own bodies. After their little service is dismissed, they rush over to that other place, where they hope to get help from God. We see them come into our meetings. They come to Miracle Revival to try to get healing and a miracle that they so desperately need. God knows they haven't been giving one crumb of bread to help feed the lost millions. God has not promised them a miracle!

Friend, in this day and hour when so many are taking the path of least resistance regarding apostasy in the so-called churches, don't you let this spirit, "The best way to win them is to join them", get a hold of you. This will be a snare to you. Obey God at any cost: **"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." (II Corinthians 6:17-18)**

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1969)

We will feel compelled by love to stop as the Good Samaritan did, and pour oil and wine into the wounds. We will want to cover his nakedness, and minister to his needs. We will take him to an inn, leave our credit card, and say to the manager, "I'll return this way in a short while. If there are additional costs, charge them to me." That is what the Good Samaritan did to his neighbor! (Luke 10:30-37).

The devil doesn't like to see gospel tents in the air. I can remember when there were hundreds of gospel tents stretched for God across the nation. Most of them gone now – folded up. Many of the preachers who preached under those tents are either dead physically or spiritually. It doesn't make any difference to the devil if he kills you physically or spiritually, just as long as he can do something to put you out of God's business.

There is one thing that insures our present salvation, and that is to go on with God and do what He has called us to do. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). God has not called us to go back; He has called us to go on! All disobedience is sin – it's a sin to disobey God! God allowed the children of Israel to die in the wilderness, because they refused to go on where He wanted to lead them. I want to be ready to meet God at all times – I want you to be ready, too. We must keep going on for God!

A lawyer confronted the Lord one day and inquired to know the way of eternal life (Luke 10:25-37). Jesus knew this man was learned in the Word. "What is written in the law?" Jesus asked. And the lawyer answered, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself" (vs. 27). He already knew the way. However, since the young man didn't have enough love to spread very far, he asked, "Who is my neighbor?" It seemed he wanted to make sure he didn't love too many people, especially if they were people of a different race or color of skin, or with a different custom than his.

When you really love God, you don't ask, "Who is my neighbor?" You don't ask Jesus whom you should love – you love everybody!

There are 25,000 miles around the earth. When God said He so loved the world that He gave His Son, He just reached around the entire world. I believe when you love the Lord, it will make your love for people reach around the world, too. You will want to reach the red man, the yellow man, the brown man, the black man, and the white man for Christ.

The young lawyer was a little bit particular, but Jesus told him he couldn't go to heaven unless he loved his neighbor as himself. Most people do love themselves. They are concerned about their own welfare, and filled with self-interest. It may be all right to love yourself, but God also wants us to be concerned about our neighbor – about our brother.

I never heard such screaming in my life as I did when the storm struck the tent in East St. Louis a short time ago. The canvas over the platform ripped and fell on the choir members and ministers. The huge sign over the platform plunged to the ramp, narrowly

missing Don Stewart. Poles in this section bent, snapped, and fell. God miraculously spared lives.

I asked Sister Haynes, a sponsoring pastor, "What did you do?" She said, "I jumped clear off the platform and hit the ground running!" Why did she jump off the platform? Because she didn't want to be hurt. The steps were buckled, and the heavy canvas weighed down everyone on the platform. They had to jump to get down.

I saw men running toward the platform calling, "Liza! Where are you?" "Martha! Where are you?" "Mary! Answer me!" They were looking for wives and children who had been sitting on the platform. They climbed through the debris in the cold, drenching rain that poured through gaping holes in the canvas overhead, and helped them out. These men loved those women just as they loved themselves.

That was the sweetest thing I have seen in years. They didn't care about themselves in the storm. They ignored the danger of cracking poles. They were looking for someone they loved. In all the excitement, one man shoved me aside and cried, "Where is she?" That is what you call true love.

Jesus said to love our neighbor as our self. I wonder, do you love your neighbor as yourself? Do you?

In order to make it clear to the lawyer how he could get to heaven, Jesus related the story of the Good Samaritan. Most of us know the story well, how the man who went from Jerusalem down to Jericho fell among thieves. He was beaten and robbed, stripped and left half dead. A religious leader, a priest, came by that way. He saw the wounded man lying there in the ditch, but he went by on the other side. It was no concern of his. There was nothing in it for him. Besides, he had more important obligations.

Then came the Levite, another important religious man of his day. Perhaps he thought, "He's not my kind, therefore I'll not get involved." This man also passed on the other side, without a backward glance.

God showed the young lawyer that those we see about us who need our help are indeed our neighbors. And if we love our neighbor as our self, it will not matter who he is or what he has done. We will feel compelled by love to stop as the Good Samaritan did, and pour in oil and wine into the wounds. We will want to cover his nakedness, and minister to his needs. We will take him to an inn, leave our credit card, and say to the manager, "I'll return in a short while. If there are additional costs, charge them to me." That is what the Good Samaritan did! (Luke 10:30-37).

Then Jesus turned to the lawyer and asked him which of the three was a neighbor to the one who fell among the thieves. With his own lips, the lawyer confessed, "He that showed mercy on him." Then said Jesus unto him, "Go, and do likewise" (vs. 37).

If you want to make heaven your home, do exactly as Jesus said to do. The man who needs your help is your neighbor. I want you to know that the priest and the Levite were religious, but LOST! They allowed their hearts to become calloused to those about them with needs, and they went to HELL!

You who want healing for your body will never feel the healing power of God until you learn love as well as faith. God is love. When you know God, you will know love. When you know God's love, you'll practice it. You will love your neighbor as yourself. You would not leave yourself to die in that ditch.

If your roof were leaking, you would try to get up and repair the leaks. And the first opportunity you had, you would replace that old roof with a new one.

My tent "roof" is leaking! Aren't you as concerned about my "roof" as you are your own? Are you really? Will you help me repair this old one? Will you help me order a new one?

You and I have got to make heaven our home. To me, heaven is cheap at any price. According to the instructions in the Word of God, I'll never get to heaven unless I love my neighbor – unless I love the preacher with the Holy Ghost-anointed ministry as much as I love my own self. We're brothers and sisters in Christ. We're mothers and fathers in Him. We're one in the great family of God.

Friend, I've got to get to heaven, and you've got to get there, too. I want to call to your attention Jesus' own words found in Matthew 25:31-46: "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory; And before him shall be gathered all nations? And he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungered and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in; Naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

"Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? Or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? Or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?" (vss. 27-39). You may ask, "When was it you had no "roof" over your head, and we helped build you a house?" And God shall answer, "Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Let's not be hearers only, but doers of the Word. When you do these things for Jesus' sake, He is going to reward you. There are so many people today who are not doing this.

"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels; For I was an hungered, and ye gave me no meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me not in; naked, and ye clothed me not; sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not."

"My tent was falling apart; you could have helped me." It's time that you let God talk to you. It's time that you listen to the voice of God.

"Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye did it not to the least of these ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal." We must get to heaven!

God has so many good children who have set out from Jerusalem to go down to Jericho. Many have fallen into the hands of thieves; they have been beaten and left half-dead. Many times I believe God lets something like this happen to individuals just to see what the priest or the Levite church member is going to do. God is giving ministers and workers a spiritual IQ test to see if they are ready for heaven. In Luke 10:30-37, God tested those two religious men and proved they didn't want to go to heaven. They went by on the other side.

When so-called Christians fail to feed the hungry, clothe the poor, and help the stranger, they fail God. This is why the Word encourages us not to forget to entertain strangers; for thereby some entertain angels unaware (Hebrews 13:2).

In East St. Louis, Illinois, in that torrential downpour of rain and violent winds, for a few moments it looked as if the storm would take the entire tent. God didn't let it go down; we didn't even miss one service. Thank God!

We've got the best tent crew in the world! They worked all night to get the damaged canvas that was sagging on one side back in the air for the services on the closing day of that campaign. When they saw God's house about to fall down, they didn't go to bed to get their sleep. Some of the preachers and other men asked, "What can we do to help?" They saw the need, and they were willing to give their time and their strength to help. All those men weren't doing that for me; they were doing it for the Lord. A part of God's house was damaged and collapsed. They said, "It may have a few leaks and a few broken poles, but we'll get it back up for Jesus. If it had taken a week, twenty-four hours a day, they would have stayed with it and got the Lord's house up!

One man came to me in that downpour of rain, and said, "Here, Brother Allen, take this. You were preparing to take an offering, but the storm disrupted the service." He gave me two $10.00 bills. I said, "Brother, I'll see that it is put in the right place for God's glory."

Five minutes later, a woman came to me, and said, "I lost my billfold in all the excitement during the storm. We can't find it anywhere. It just had a dollar in it, Brother Allen, but we wanted so much to be able to stay until tomorrow." She asked me for $7.50 so they could have a hotel room for the night. I gave her one of the $10.00 bills. I had never seen the woman before. I was unable to take that family into a house, but by providing lodging that night, in God's sight, it was the same thing. I'll get the same reward when I get up yonder. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the lest…ye have done it unto me." Jesus says it's like taking Him into my house and giving Him lodging.

God reminds us, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers…" (Hebrews 13:2). "Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away" (Matthew 5:42). That woman only asked for a small amount. I'm happy I had enough to give her what she needed. If Jesus should ask you for $7.50, you'd give it to Him without asking, "What are you going to do with it?"

The Bible has much to say about bearing fruit in this Christian life. The first fruit of the Holy Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22 is LOVE. It means loving the stranger, loving the sinner's soul, loving the man who is down and out.

It means loving people who have a need, no matter what their social background or race. The very fact that there is a need is all the more reason why we ought to lift him out of the ditch, minister to his needs, and show him the love of God.

To paraphrase a little, they asked the Lord, "When were you ever in the ditch, and we didn't help you out? When did your roof leak, and we wouldn't help patch it? When did a tornado tear down your house, and we wouldn't furnish our labor to help you build a new house??

In the old days, all the people in a community met and built a new house for a neighbor. How wonderful it is when God's people are concerned with the needs of others.

That night in East St. Louis, after the damage was done, and the storm violence began to subside, we looked up and praised God for His protecting power. As we looked up, we were looking at God's house, but it broke our hearts to see it ripped and sagging. I thought, "My! If this old tent has absorbed any of the preaching, the prophetic music, and the power of God that has come down from heaven through that canvas to heal the people and perform miracles for those who sit on "death row" night after night in the invalid and

emergency section, all you would need is one little scrap of the canvas to remind you and God that you claim your portion of signs, wonders, and miracles forever!

I mean it! I still have a piece of the old white tent in my billfold. Since I put it there, God has blessed me more than He had ever blessed me before, in all my days put together. I'm just pouring my heart out to you.

Few have ever been blessed of God like David, whom God anointed king over Israel. Why was it? I'll tell you: David put God and His house first in his life!

With all his heart, David desired to build a house of the Lord (I Chronicles 17:1). One day, God gave him the pattern for His house, but instructed David that Solomon, his son, would do the actual building. Immediately, David began gathering the materials for the great temple. It was a task, but it was a labor of love. Later he declared, "...I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God, the gold...silver...brass...iron... and all the manner of precious stones and marble stones in abundance..." (I Chronicles 29:1). Much of this gold, silver, and brass that David gathered had been dedicated to the Lord for quite some time; they were the spoils of victories God gave him in battle (I Chronicles 18:1-11).

Then David added, "Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good...over and above that I have prepared for the holy house...gold...and silver..." (I Chronicles 29:3-5). God had so blessed David with riches and wealth that he was able to give of his own proper goods over and above all that he had prepared for the holy house! He gave more than he originally purposed to give. He gave more than just the tithe. He determined to do more for the house of God than anyone else.

Why was Solomon wiser and richer than any king before or since his time? God gave us the answer right in His Word: "Because this was in thine heart, and thou...hast asked wisdom and knowledge...that thou mayest judge my people...Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honor, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like" (II Chronicles 1:11-12). "And Solomon determined to build an house for the name of the Lord" (II Chronicles 2:1).

What did God say about these men? David set his affection to the house of God! Solomon determined to build God's house! Because they put God, His work, and the ministry to God's people FIRST and utmost in their hearts and lives, God bestowed blessings, riches and wealth upon them.

Friends, I want you to know I have set my affection on a house of God – the Miracle Revival tent! In David's day, the only house of God the people knew was the old tabernacle of curtains. The ark of God's presence had gone from tent to tent, and from one tabernacle to another (See I Chronicles 17:5). David saw the need in his day for a permanent house of God. Today, with a stone church on almost every corner in some cities, I have seen the need for a tent that can once again be moved from place to place and erected to bring God's mighty presence and power to the people.

At this time, in spite of damage done to our present tent, and the deteriorating conditions we have discovered, I am still as determined as Solomon to build the house of God!

We definitely felt that our tent would last through 1970, but God let that wind hit the tent in East St. Louis to show us that the tent is actually about to fall apart.

This past winter, our tent men spent three months repairing and gluing all the seams. In spite of all their efforts, it is once again falling apart.

In addition to this, Jimmy Vickers, our tent foreman, had already told me the prayer tent may not last the rest of this tent season. It is also about to come apart.

Spawning tornadoes were sweeping through the East St. Louis area at the time sudden winds caused all the damage. They tell me that it was seventy miles an hour. It's a miracle our tents were left standing. That storm could have blown all the poles down and killed hundreds of people. If those big poles bad begun falling over the vast crowd under the tent that night, almost everyone could have been killed. Praise God for His mighty protective hand!

God manifests His presence in the midst of His people under the tent. I'm reminded of so many instances when demon-possessed people have broken away and run with demon strength to keep from being led into the tent where God's power will cast out the demons. When these people are brought in, many times, the devils cry out loud, "I'm afraid. I'm afraid of you!"

If demons are afraid to come into God's presence under the tent, O God, every one of us ought to run under the tent! Every one of us ought to do every thing we can to see that the Miracle Revival tent stays in the air. When necessary, we must replace the torn and worn tent with a new one.

Christian, do what David and Solomon did. Set your affections on the house of God. He will bless you when you do.

Some may say, "Well, it isn't my house." I'm aware that some preachers build a house for themselves. They call it a house of God, but they also refer to it as "My church." I want you to know that the Miracle Revival tent isn't my tent. It isn't my church. It is the Lord's house!

I believe God let us know that NOW is the time to plan and prepare for a new tent. It takes at least three months to build one. If everyone will ACT NOW, it can be ready for Miracle Revival tent season this coming spring!

In a sense, I am in the ditch – the tabernacle I use for this miracle-working ministry has been beaten by the wind and robbed of its soundness by almost constant exposure to the elements. To some of you I come as a stranger, but I feel that every word I am saying is coming straight from heaven. Today, I am calling on God's people for help.

Meetings of this kind must go on! There are not many "houses of God" like this left. We're going to have to replace this tabernacle when it is necessary. Even if Miracle Revivals have not blessed and increased your own individual church, it is still worthwhile to be a part of God's program that is on the move in the world today.

I don't say this selfishly, I say, "O God, give us a thousand tents like this, and a thousand evangelists to do a greater work for God than I am doing!" "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest" (Matthew (9:37-38).

Too many these days are dropping out of the evangelistic field. They're finding other work where they can make good money. I say the person who can leave the evangelistic field and sell insurance didn't have much "preaching" in him to start with. I couldn't do it!

One of the biggest tents in the world a few years ago came down because the evangelist wanted to divorce his wife and marry another woman much more than he wanted to continue his ministry. A lying devil came in the form of an angel to the foot of his bed, and told him that he had a right to divorce his wife and marry again. In fact, he declared the angel told him, "If you don't do it, you're not going to have any ministry

left. But if you do it, you will soon be preaching to millions instead of the people under the tent."

He went ahead and divorced his invalid wife and married again. In three weeks' time, he was folded up. He sold his tent, his chairs, and all of his trucks and equipment. Someone heard later that he was a carpenter some place in California. The devil folded him up!

A long time ago, I predicted that another great tent would be folded and never stretched again. It's folded up today. The evangelist will never go back on the field under a tent; he may never go into another great auditorium again. Today, he has learned to be a Methodist. Can you imagine a man who has been filled with the Holy Ghost, who has talked in tongues, healed the sick, performed the miraculous, going to a special school to learn to be a Methodist? That's like climbing to the top rungs of God's ladder, with thousands of God's people following, and then backing down to the bottom. "But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul" (Hebrews 10:39).

A great infidel made his boast publicly a few years back: "I killed Jack Coe." Whether he did or didn't I am not sure, but I do know Brother Coe is gone! His miracle-working ministry was ended by his sudden death.

I said that I was in the ditch – I feel more like it is Jesus and His miracle ministry that is in the ditch. Sometimes He permits these things to happen to see what we will do for Him. Jesus didn't say in Matthew 25:35 that it was your brother, your friend, or your neighbor who was in need. He said it was He! It wasn't Johnny Jones who was hungry, Jesus said He Himself was hungry and someone gave Him meat. When I help someone who is hungry, or thirsty, or in the ditch, according to the Bible, I have helped Jesus! "Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (vs. 40). I believe with all my heart that in this sense Jesus has taken my place in the ditch.

The Miracle Revival tent has always been the Lord's house. As soon as the East St. Louis campaign closed, the damaged sections of the great tent were rushed to a tentmaker for extensive repairs that we hope will enable us to finish the season in this tent. We were thankful it could be done during the Camp Meeting. These repairs were very necessary and expensive, but God has always met the need.

There are people who could write a check for the full amount of the new tent, but we have never had anyone underwrite the cost of replacing a tent. Some people could write a check for ten thousand dollars, yet the cost would not be covered. It takes more than three times that much to build a new tent. In the past, it has been the offerings of thousands of our friends that have made possible the purchase of repairs that have kept each one in the air as long as possible. Almost every family that has been blessed through some phase of this ministry has wanted to have a part in getting the new tent that will keep Miracle Revival on the field for God.

We thank God for your faithfulness. It has helped these meetings become greater all the time. We are one of the few remaining Pentecostal tent evangelists with an international ministry, preaching the gospel, also going forth on radio and television. I don't feel it's anything to be proud of that we're just about the only one left. Hundreds of tents should be stretched across the country, jammed and packed every night. But I can't make other preachers do it. We are doing all we can here and abroad to train young men and women for a ministry with signs, wonders, and miracles.

This is not the easy life, living out of a suitcase most of the time. Ask our tent workers and their wives; ask their little kiddies. This is the hardest work in the world.

On the night of the storm, Richard Page's wife, Patti, was under the tent. She was expecting their first baby the next week, but she was attending church every night. Brother Bill Harvey, who was operating the sound equipment, turned to Patti as the tent began to shake and said, "If anything happens, you crawl under that platform."

I considered it thoughtful of Bill to tell her that. Her husband, Richard, was at the piano, and he couldn't help her at that moment. It was only a few minutes later when the storm struck in all its fury. I looked out and saw Patti, heavy with child, running to the platform and then crawling under it. Thank God, there was a platform for her to crawl under.

This life isn't easy, Friend. This isn't just a song and dance. This is the most important work in the world. God hasn't called all of you to do evangelistic work, but He has called you to stand behind us whom He has called to do it.

I have set my affection on the house of the Lord. I know God is talking to you. Will you also set your affection on the house of the Lord? Will you be able to say, like David, "I have put God and His house first, and He has blessed me also with gold and silver"? Can God do it? His Word says He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us (See Ephesians 3:20).

DID GOD EVER CALL THE WHITE MAN TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE BLACK MAN?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1969)

God looks at the color of the heart – not the skin: "Look not on his (man's) countenance, or on the height of his stature…for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." (I Samuel 16:7) "The Lord trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth." (Psalm 11:5)

Down through the years of my ministry, I have known white men and women who have testified that if it had not been for the testimony of a faithful Christian black man or woman who had witnessed to them about the saving Grace of Jesus Christ, they would never have found Jesus and been converted. The fact that the man was black did not indicate that the man was either inferior or superior to the white person to whom he was witnessing. By the same token, many black people are saved and joint heirs with Christ today, because a faithful white witness pointed them to the Savior. The fact that the person was white does not indicate that the white man was either inferior or superior to the black person to whom he ministered and won to Christ.

Were these attempts of Christians to win to Christ people of another race ordained of God? Does the fact that these Christians' efforts were successful in winning someone of another race mean that their ministry was ordained of God? The answer is found in the Bible. I would like to prove to you from the Word of God, our guidepost, that God has called us to preach the gospel to every creature. There is no racial issue with God!

Salvation is promised to whosoever will receive Christ. John tell us in John 1:12, "…as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." The color of our skin has nothing to do with our becoming the sons of God. We can be sons of God if we believe and receive God as our Father.

The Holy Ghost is God's gift to consecrated hearts of any race. Peter, when addressing the Jews, had this to say: "And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them (the Gentiles), as on us at the beginning. Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost. For as much then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?" (Acts 11:15-17).

Are the gifts of the Holy Ghost for people of any race? Paul wrote the most of his instructions regarding the gifts of the Spirit to the Corinthians (Gentiles). "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant." (See I Corinthians, chapters 12-14). I have seen people of almost every race filled with the Holy Ghost and used of God in exercising the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

In the Great Commission, Jesus commanded us, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (See Mark 16:15-18). How can anyone draw a racial line and make this great command of none effect?

I believe that the Lord has given consecrated Christian colored people power with God just as He has Christian white people. We need all the power of a united effort to withstand the devil, and to make an effectual worldwide ministry for God!

So often in the news we hear about "black power." I believe that the black man should have power, but it should be the power of God. Too many black people today are looking for power, but you can tell by their actions they are not looking for God's power. You can tell what little power and authority some of them have is of the devil, because of the way they talk and the way they act.

The Bible tells us plainly, "For there is no respect of persons with God" (Romans 2:11). Missionaries come from many distant lands to Camp Meeting with the good report that this verse of scripture is true. They have witnessed the pouring out of the Holy Ghost upon consecrated people with every color of skin on the face of the earth. If this were not true God never would have filled so many black people with the Holy Ghost. God must have a good opinion of some of you black people, or He never would have called you, ordained you, and let the Holy Ghosts set you aside to preach the Gospel.

To whom has God called you to preach? Very definitely, God has not called you black people to preach only to black people. If you declare that God has called you just to preach to the people of your own complexion, you are going to have to get your call out of a new version of the Bible that I have never seen. I don't find that in my Bible.

White people who stay full of the Holy Ghost have power with God. You will find that the power with which God has endued you will make you so color-blind that you will want to use God's anointing and blessing and power to bring healing and deliverance and salvation to every man of every color, every race, every creed, and from every nation. When God called a man, He called him to preach the gospel to every creature regardless of color or even church affiliation. (I have the record of it in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, and in the Book of Acts.)

Church membership seems to have lost its meaning today. I have never seen such a time when so many churches offer their people plain, simple "nothing." Nothing but an empty form! Nothing but religious pride and racial prejudices! They are so bound by denominational pride, that it puts a wall around their people. This is the biggest sin that a so-called saint or church member can be guilty of. Their select group is inside; those people of another color are on the outside. They don't have any fellowship with the outsiders. These church members are in a place where the Holy Spirit of God can't reach them, and they can't reach God. And they wonder why they can't have revival!

You can't have revival that will bring new life into your church without God's Spirit and anointing, without God's convicting and saving power, without God's help and blessing. When you are filled with denominational pride, God resists your efforts. "God resisteth the proud, and be giveth grace to the humble" (I Peter 5:5). Every one of us needs all the grace we can get from God. I mean old-fashioned Holy Ghost, heaven-sent, God-given, just plain "Jesus' grace!"

We need unmerited favor that will extend each of our arms 12,500 miles long. When you see my outstretched arm, you may say that it's only about three feet long. No, it is not! I feel that each of my arms is 12,500 miles long! So are the arms of my Lord. This is exactly what is meant by the verse of scripture, "God so loved the world..." He just reached out with His long arms of love all the way around the world. He reached around all 12, 500 miles of it, and hugged it to His breast, declaring that He was going to save every sinner who will repent, whether he be the blackest man or the whitest man in the whole world. It didn't make a bit of difference with God. He just loves souls. And

when you get full of God, you will love just like He does, and you will love the same people that He loves.

God must love the Indian or He wouldn't be saving so many of them in my meetings, and on the reservations. God must love the colored man, or He wouldn't be saving so many of them in my meetings. He must love the brown man, or He wouldn't be saving and blessing so many of our Spanish-speaking people in the Latin countries. God must indeed love the yellow people, because million upon millions are just waiting for a crumb of the Bread of Life. When we preach a simple gospel message, we see them come running by the thousands to the altar to seek God. When we tell them that Jesus said, "Whosoever will may come…." I have never known Christ to reject anyone because of the color of his skin. Neither have I heard Jesus ask, "What kind of people are in that altar call? What color is their skin? I must know before I can save their souls."

The congregations of people who attend Miracle Revival Campaigns and Camp Meetings are made up of people of all races, all colors, many languages, and almost every creed. There are people from the whitest of white races to the blackest of black, with every shade of color in between. From the straightest blond hair to the kinkiest black!

I have met some preachers who declare that a black man doesn't have a soul. I say that a black man has the same kind of soul as any white man has. They say he is just like a horse or a cow. These prejudiced people say that if the person is half black and half white, they only have half a soul. That is the most ridiculous, unsensible thing I ever heard.

On what verse of scripture could anyone base the belief that God loves just the white part of you? Or God loves just the black part of you? God doesn't even look at the color of the skin. He is looking at the heart. When He looks at a heart that has repented of sin, He reaches out with His long arms of love and hugs you up close with everyone else who has drawn nigh to Him.

Would you say, "God, don't hug me up close with that other man over there." Do you think God will tolerate such an attitude toward His redeemed?

I don't generally have to talk to people like this in my campaigns. Most people know that my meetings are completely integrated. Every race finds a welcome. But on some occasions, someone will come up to our staff members and complain. They don't want to come in and have to sit with people of another race. Don't tell me some colored people aren't "snooty." They don't want to sit down next to white people; they are so proud that they are black. Some white people who attend the campaign come out and say, "Well, I do want to be healed, but do I have to go in there and get in line with a black person?"

I told the supervisor of our emergency section, these people who want only quick, front-window drive-in service prayer to be healed are not interested in the service. They are not interested in God. They are going to have to get saved first. It's too much trouble rolling them in to have them sit there and do nothing but criticize and murmur because they have to sit beside a white person or a dark person. Such people aren't going to receive a thing from God. They haven't got rid of that old prejudice that has carried down through the years. I think it is a shame and a disgrace, and I think that in the sight of God it is an abomination. Who do these colored people think they are? Who do these white people think they are? We are all God's children.

We never had such a problem as we did in one auditorium revival. The building had three balconies. We roped the balconies off with signs, "CLOSED – CLOSED – CLOSED," until seats on the main floor were filled. We had to send members of our staff

to the balconies to stop those backslidden hypocrites from cutting the ropes. They wanted to get as far away from certain other people as they possibly could. I don't mind telling you that God didn't call me to reserve seats for high-minded people with devilish, hellish, racial pride. God called me to "preach the gospel to every creature." If they ever get to heaven and find that God hasn't changed the color of the skin of my colored friends, they wouldn't even want to stay in heaven.

If you don't like integration down here, you wouldn't like it in heaven. You say, "Well, after we get up there, we will have a different feeling." Oh no you won't! You are not going to have the privilege to be changed from here to there until first you make a change of heart here. And you are not going to be changed just because you move from here to up there.

Do people think that God is going to segregate heaven and rope off a special section for each race of people? I don't believe there will be any special sections for any snooty folk.

I'm not sure that God is going to change the skins of all races to be one color, but what would some of you white people do if God made you black when you got there? Some of you would say, "Well, I don't want to go to heaven." Well, I am going to tell you the truth – you just might not get there either. I don't care whether I am yellow, brown, black, red, or white, just so I get there!

It amazes me how some dear old saints say they are so burdened for the black man of Africa. Some of them even declare that they have a missionary call to some of the countries where there are only black people. That is the biggest lie that they ever told. If they don't have a burden to reach black people here in our country, and are so filled with devilish pride that they don't even want to sit on the ground floor with colored people here, God never called them to preach the gospel to black people abroad.

We Christians should have a vision of reaching ALL mankind. We should be able to love the whole world, regardless of what color the skin is or what part of the world people are from. God so loved us all that He gave His only begotten Son. Jesus loved us all so much that He was obedient unto death, even to the death on the cross – all the way until He could say, "It is finished!" If your love is any less than that for all mankind, you need a change of heart. Jesus didn't die for SOME of us. He died for ALL!

When I look out over the vast congregation under the big tent, I don't actually see white people and black people. I see some brown ones. I see some chocolate-colored ones, some cinnamon-colored ones. I see some red ones, some pink ones, and some yellow ones. But I don't see anyone as white as snow or as black as tar. When your heart is full of God's love, you will not be looking for the difference of color. You will love them all and do your best to minister to their needs for the glory of God!

I sometimes see a dark-skinned boy walking down the street with a white girl. If they get married (some are doing it), they will have children who are half white and half black, just as much white as black. What will your attitude be toward these children?

You hear people who are full of prejudice say, "People ought to be either one color or another." But here is a situation that cannot be ignored; a condition that cannot be changed. You can't blame a baby for not being all of any one race. You can't pull all one blood from that little body, and make it of one race that way. You don't chop the baby's head off, or run a knife through its heart. You don't abandon it to die. Surely you are not that hard-hearted and callous.

As far as I'm concerned, I love people of mixed blood just as much as if they were full-blooded. I seldom notice a person's race. I believe Jesus loves them all, too. What do you say?

Would you believe that the Apostle Paul was ordained by a black man? In Acts 13, Paul and Barnabas were ordained and sent forth by an integrated group of Spirit-filled Christians. Among them was Niger (Latin Gentile name meaning black), fasting and praying with the others: "Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called NIGER, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away" (vs. 1-3).

I think it would be a nice thing if some black preachers and laymen would start reading the Bible. It might be well if some white preachers and laymen would start reading the Bible, also. Here in the scripture is the Apostle Paul being ordained by white and black hands being laid upon him, after the group had been fasting and praying.

It's time that God's people quit referring to others as whites and blacks, and start considering one another as God's children. In I Corinthians 12:13-14, the Word tells us, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles (black or white, or any color gradation between), whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many." With God there are no racial barriers, and there are no social barriers!

When God calls a person to preach, He doesn't look at their sex, their stature, or their features; neither does He look at their color. God looks at the heart. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him…" (II Chronicles 16:9). God only looks for the color of hearts. He does not look for the color of the skin. He sees the dirty heart that is full of sin and darkness (Matthew 6:23). And He sees the pure heart that has been washed as white as snow in the blood of Jesus (Isaiah 1:18). In God's sight, A WHITE MAN'S HEART MAY BE BLACK WITH SIN, AND A BLACK MAN'S HEART MAY BE PURE AND WHITE.

Heart transplants have become quite common in the world. Many people who cannot survive with their own heart, due to a fatal defect, are receiving a healthy, strong heart form other human beings in a very delicate operation. For some people, this exchange could present its problems.

What would happen if a heart transplant were to be done on one of these prejudiced colored pastors, and the only heart available was a white man's heart? I dare say the colored pastor would say, "Don't put that white man's heart in me. I would rather die first." Some people, especially in the Deep South, would rather die before they would ever let anyone transplant a black man's heart into them. But as far as the Lord is concerned, there is no racial difference. It is "whosoever will" with God!

When you get your heart right with God, you will have a white heart. My heart is not whitewashed, but washed, white. It takes the blood of Jesus to make a white heart. Ask the Lord to give you a white heart, washed and cleansed as white as the driven snow, like Jesus!

Recently on a radio broadcast while I was in Philadelphia, I heard a man preaching in his church. "We ain't got no need of no white man's gospel. Let all the Church say

'Amen'.' He had the congregation so trained in anti-Bible, anti-gospel, anti-God, anti-Christ, anti-Holy Ghost, that entire group of indoctrinated racists all shouted, "Amen!"

What did the people mean? The gospel is the "good news" to all men. How in the world are you going to be saved and get to heaven without a white man's gospel? I am referring to black and white in the same sense that this man from Philadelphia did. He was strictly talking about the color of skin. He was declaring that they had no need of the gospel being preached from a man with a light complexion.

Any preacher who will get behind the pulpit and say, "We ain't got no need for the white man's gospel" might as well toss his Bible in the junk pile. Unless we share the same spirit and attitude, and the same vision that God had when He gave us the Holy Bible, you can't share God's power and anointing and blessing! When you tightly hold to segregation and say, "I'll preach to nobody but my kind of folks", you are going to have to preach it to yourself. Jesus is not going to help you preach it. You can't depend on the Father, Son, or Holy Ghost to anoint you, to bless you, and make you a success in the ministry.

Most all-white congregations and most all-black congregations are dead for this very reason. No anointing from God! No supernatural power in the services to meet the needs of people. Anybody can yell and shake. Samson awoke out of his sleep, and Delilah said, "Samson, the Philistines are upon thee." He didn't know that the Spirit of God had departed from him. He said, "I'll go out and shake myself as before." And he did! He shook himself as always, but the Spirit of God had left him.

The Spirit of God can leave a man; He can depart from a congregation or a denomination, and most of the people will not know that God has departed. Those who do will say, "We'll just go out and continue in this work without God."

These all-white congregations and these all-black congregations can go through the motions as Samson did. He didn't know he was backslidden and God was no longer with him. He was still going through the motions – "Let all the church say 'Amen!'" And the people are going through the motions, "Amen!" They think that makes them spiritual, but saying "Amen" is no sign of spirituality. I can teach a parrot to say "Amen" and "Polly wants a cracker."

Some seemingly fine white preachers have been asleep in Delilah's lap so long they have been clipped of every bit of divine wisdom, knowledge, and anointing. They say, "Some of those preachers on Allen's platform are black. Are you going up there and sit with them?" Somebody answers, "No! I'll just sit back in the congregation." Well, I have news for you: sit where you like, but you can't sit on the platform or in the congregation without sitting with some black people, because members of every race are welcome to attend and participate in Miracle Revivals.

Some black preachers ask their fellow ministers, "Are you going up there and sit on Allen's platform with those white preachers?" Somebody says, "No, not me!" I say they will not receive anything from God through the Spirit; they may as well go home. They won't get a thing from God if there is racial prejudice in their hearts.

To be a success in the ministry, every preacher must be color-blind. There is no place in the kingdom of God for racial hatred or prejudice. Neither can you be a respecter of persons. Some preachers see only black. Others can see only white. Some see only yellow. Others see only brown or tan. In some cases, they just see red. Thank God, the moment He saved me, He made me color-blind. Ask God to make you spiritually and racially color-blind, too.

When God saved Paul and turned him around from persecuting the saints of the Lord, He made Paul color-blind. This apostle who was called out of due season tells us all through his writings that God made known to him the mystery of Christ and called him to preach the gospel to the Gentiles (See Galatians 2 and Ephesians 3). "For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision (Jews), the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles (Galatians 2:8). "For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles…That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: Wherefore I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power" (Ephesians 3:1, 6-7).

Paul was made a minister unto the Gentiles by the power of God. Gentiles were all the nations that were not Jews. Paul obeyed God, and preached to the BLACK MAN, too.

We would do well to take Paul's example in making the supreme effort to fulfill Christ's Great Commission to preach the gospel to every creature. Skin color, race and religion didn't stop Paul from preaching the gospel of Christ to those he met, both Jew and Gentile, white and black. In II Corinthians he gives a brief report on his ministry: "I speak as concerning reproach…in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; in journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by my own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city…in the wilderness…in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness" (II Corinthians 11:21-27).

Few of us have made the sacrifices or encountered the persecutions that Paul had. Nevertheless, we should have the same determination to preach the gospel in all the world. When God called me to preach, He didn't tell me to preach to white people. He commanded me to preach the gospel to every creature. I want you to know that is my determination today! Jesus declared, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven (Matthew 7:21). Are you doing God's will by reaching other races?

Sometime ago I was having coffee in a restaurant in a big city in the South while we were there in a campaign. A boisterous white man came in and sat down beside me. This was shortly after President Kennedy was assassinated, when President Johnson was making headlines. The man opened his newspaper and became angry. He found that Johnson was spread out across the front page. "Johnson, Johnson, Johnson!" he growled, "If they don't kick that man out of the White House, I am going to change my name." He wanted everyone to know he was there, and to know his name. He continued, "I hate Johnson, and I didn't like that Kennedy a bit better. He wasn't nothing but a "nigger lover!!"

He was wanting me to agree or disagree with him, but I didn't say a thing. He repeated it: "I said that Kennedy wasn't nothing but a nigger lover!" I ignored him completely.

Though I didn't say anything, I was thinking about "nigger lover." He was talking about me. He was talking about God. He so loved the world – and that included the black man, too. Jesus was a "nigger lover." He was a white lover, a red lover, a yellow lover, a brown lover. He so loved the world that He came and gave Himself for all.

If it were up to the coarse-talking, uncouth man sipping coffee at the stool beside me to have died for the sins of this world, would he have died for the black man? NO! He would have said, "I'll die for the white man, but nobody else."

If God called for some of these black preachers to die for the sins of the world, do you think they would have died for the white man? Some of those who are so proud and so prejudiced would say, "NO! I'll die for the black man, but I'll not die for the white man!"

Years ago in Columbus, Georgia, I was holding a revival in a church of my own denomination at that time. One night, as I was sitting on the platform beside the pastor during the preliminary part of the service, into the congregation slipped a little black woman. This was one of the first times that a black person had ever come to hear me. I felt complimented as I watched her take a seat. I thought surely I must be getting in the perfect will of God and in the Spirit.

The pastor did not share my view. He was very irritated, and quietly told the ushers, "Get that nigger out of here."

I could hardly believe what I heard. "Why do this? I asked, "She has come to hear me preach."

His answer was brief and to the point: "We don't let those black people come to this church."

This preacher and I both carried the same denominational credentials, but we didn't believe alike. In those days, I wasn't preaching to the colored people in my services, but I loved them. I had wished I could be able to minister to them.

Since that time, God has enabled us to reach people of all races. We have seen thousands of colored people saved, healed, delivered and set free from the bondage of sin and the devil. We have seen them called into the ministry, and we are rejoicing in having a part in bringing God's great Miracle Restoration Revival to members of their race.

That preacher didn't want that little black woman in his church because, "Them black people ain't got no soul." I thought, 'Oh my God! I can't have revival in this place! How can a man with a spirit like this expect the Spirit of God or the anointing and power of God to back his ministry?"

Why does that same minister take up a missionary offering to send missionaries to any country where black people live? If the black man didn't have any soul in America, what would make this wicked man think he would have a soul in Africa or the isles of the sea? Why would this man consider sending missionaries and wasting God's money to try to win the black man if he didn't have a soul?

We KNOW the black man has a soul, because we read the Word of God! And, we have seen him redeemed! Why else would the angel of the Lord speak to Philip in Acts 8? He said, "Arise, and go toward the south…" And Philip arose and went. "Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot." It was the chariot of an Ethiopian, a black man, who had been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip didn't argue with the Holy Spirit; he ran to obey and to preach the gospel to this black man. He not only preached the gospel to him, but he sat right down in the chariot (the pew) beside the black man.

There in the chariot sat a black man of great authority among his own people. He had been reading Isaiah's prophecy about the Lamb of God, but he did not know it was Jesus. The preacher who stepped up into his chariot was a little "White power" the Holy Spirit sent to help this sincere black man find God. In other words, "Do you understand this white man's gospel?" And he said, "How can I, except some man should guide me?

And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him" (See Acts 8:26-39). Then Philip "preached unto him Jesus."

Thank you, Jesus! The blacks and whites were having church together that day. And I believe Jesus came down and sat in the church pew right between the two of them. "For where two or three are gathered together in my name (Jesus), there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). Jesus was there, because He saved the black man right then and there in that chariot seat!

When they came to a certain water, the black man asked, "What doth hinder me to be baptized?" "And Philip said, if thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest…" The black man and the white man, with Jesus, went down into the water; Philip baptized the black man. Here was an integrated water-baptismal service. As the black man came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit caught away Philip. The black man saw him no more, but went his way rejoicing. Thus God stamped His approval upon an integrated salvation revival service and an integrated baptismal service.

We had better humble ourselves, cast aside the sins of pride that so easily beset us, open our hearts to God, and say, "Lord, I'll go where you want me to go. I'll preach to whomever you call me to preach, regardless of race or color." For Paul assured the Romans in chapter 2, that God would render "glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: For there is no respect of persons with God" (Romans 2:10-11).

So much of the misunderstanding and strife between races stems from pride. God tells us in His Word, "An high look, and a proud heart…is sin" (Proverbs 21:4). Most Christians deny they have pride, but many are guilty of some phase of it, and God's will is hindered in their lives.

Pride takes on five phases: Pride of FACE – PLACE – PACE – GRACE – and last but not by any means the least, price of RACE! Let us discuss this last phase:

Some people don't want God to get next to them. "For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed, lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Acts 28:27)

These people who are so filled with price of RACE don't attend the Allen Miracle Revivals to meet God. They come out to see me; they haven't come to hear the Word of the Lord or worship God. They have no intention of entering into the Spirit they find in the service. In fact, they get downright mad; some even get mad at me. They get mad because some of you red, black, and brown people have a front row seat. My advice to anyone who wants a front row seat is to make a greater effort, and get to the service a little earlier.

Some who come know that the doctor can't help them; they have spent every dollar they had to get help from professional men. Now that they have run out of money, as the last resort, they are going to come to the A. A. Allen Revival to see if they can get to that man they watch on TV every Sunday.

"I watch him heal the sick on television," they reason, "and I listen to him every day on radio. All I need to do is get to that revival."

You may be wrong! One woman got to Jesus' Crusade, but she discovered she couldn't get healed until she pressed her way through. She had to touch Him! (Matthew 9:20).

The impotent man in John 5:1-9, who lay by the pool of Bethesda for thirty-eight years, had to follow some instructions to receive his healing. The reason he had lain there

so long was because he had a misconception of what was required of him to be healed. When Jesus Himself, the Healer, said, "Wilt thou be made whole?", he let Jesus know he had no way of being made whole within himself. But at Jesus' command, he picked up his bed and walked!

There is far more to receiving healing than just coming into a Miracle Revival campaign. Generally by their first sentence, some people le t me know they are unhappy with certain things about the campaign. They ask, "Do you expect me to sit with these people?" And I don't mind telling them, "No, you don't have to sit at all. You can stand up!"

It may be wise to advise your friends that until we share the same attitude toward all races of people, and the same Spirit of Jesus, you can't expect Jesus to work in your behalf and heal you. Until you let Jesus make you spiritually and racially color-blind, you might as well forget about the miracle you need, and go on home to die with your incurable disease.

One thing that helps us become color-blind is getting saved. Another thing is to be covered, not with robes of self-righteousness, but with the blood of Jesus. You need your name written, not just on a church book here on earth, but in the Lamb's Book of Life in heaven. Then get filled with the Spirit, not with your devilish, hellish racial pride. When you get filled with the Holy Ghost, and get sanctified, and begin to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, He will not tell you to preach the gospel to the people of your own race only. Jesus will say to you, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." This means to people of every color.

We glory in Christ; we glory in the fact that God has given us a ministry for all people, everywhere, regardless of color, race, or creed!

Some so-called Christians should be ashamed. They seem to be so proud that they are sticking to segregation. They haven't gone as far to reach all races as the U.S. Government has gone. Most public places are integrated. Schools and colleges are integrated. Politics and government are integrated. Men who are "in the know" are making every effort to become color-blind to better serve ALL people. Most of these professional people don't even claim that their efforts toward integration are to God (they don't profess to be Christians.) It is just because they believe in Civil Rights.

Some people who claim to be Christians, including preachers of all races, are downright critical racists. It is all right for colored people to go to church – in their OWN church. It is all right for white people to go to church, but let them go to their own church. I feel an antagonistic, devilish, hellish spirit among these people. This is just plain pride. God does not approve of it. It is of the devil! It will cut you off from God quicker than anything else in the world. Someone has to talk plain to you. Jesus can't come into such an atmosphere and do any mighty works for the people. Colored and white people alike are going to have to get saved, sanctified, and color-blind.

I could give you hundreds of examples of what I mean, but I would like to pass along one. During a morning service, Brother Don Stewart announced, "The balcony is closed this morning until the main floor is filled." Four women who had been sitting on the front row of the balcony heard the announcement and stopped me.

"Hey!" called out one of them.

I said, "Hey yourself!"

She said, "I mean, can I talk to you?"

I said, "That's what you're doing." I did not like her spirit. Then she proceeded to let me know very plainly that if she had to take her mother down to the main floor that she would just take her home.

She didn't want to tell me it was because so many colored people were sitting on the main floor, she just said, "My mother is a little hard of hearing, and we can hear better in the balcony."

I said, "Oh, I will put a chair for her right down here, and she will hear better on the main floor."

She said, "I'll go home!" If she's so prejudiced that she won't sit near colored people, that woman is not even ready to go to heaven. That woman just got up and left, and took her mother who needed healing. What caused it? PRIDE! Pride of what? PRICE OF RACE!

It is just as big a sin for a man to be so proud he is white that he doesn't like colored folks and will have no association with them, as it is for the black man to be so glad that he is black, and doesn't want to have any association with the white man. Neither of them had anything to do with their color, and neither of them can make a change. "Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black" (Matthew 5:36). "The wicked through the pride of his COUNTENANCE will not seek after God; God is not in all his thoughts..." (Psalm 10:4).

"God resisteth the proud..." I can't minister healing to people without God's anointing and help. If God is going to resist these proud people, there is no need for me to try to get to them. If God resists you, because you allow pride in your life, God won't touch you, and I don't wan to either. God gives His grace to the humble!

As surely as God placed the scales under Belshazzar and weighed him, the time is coming when every person is going to stand before God and be weighed. "A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him; and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the judgment was set, and the books were opened" (Daniel 7:10). "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works" (Revelation 20:12-13).

The BIBLE is the scale, and every man will be weighed and judged according to what is recorded in the book. When that great day dawns, and the multitudes stand before God to be judged, untold multitudes will get no farther than Luke 10:27. They will be turned to the left into destruction, simply because they are racists; segregationists who have never got the victory over racial prejudice.

The second great commandment the Lord gave us is, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (Matthew 22:39). Jesus added further to the man inquiring the way to eternal life, 'Thou hast answered right: this do and thou shalt live" (Luke 10:25-28). Nothing could be more plain than this. One cannot inherit eternal life unless he loves his neighbor as himself. When one does this, he certainly does LOVE! This man, who was so anxious to get to heaven wanted to be sure that he didn't stretch his love too far or too much, asked the Lord, "Who is my neighbor?" (vs. 29). At this point, Jesus told the story known to millions as "The Good Samaritan." Read the story yourself in Luke 10:30-37).

A certain man fell among thieves, and was stripped, robbed, beaten, and left half dead. A priest and a Levite, who by chance saw him, PASSED BY ON THE OTHER SIDE!

"But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him." He even paid for his keep, and promised to bless him further. Jesus, speaking to the man who wanted to know how to get to heaven, said, "Go, and do thou likewise" (vs. 37).

The Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans. (See John 4:9). Jesus gave us this example of racial, social, and religious barriers that were broken, because the Good Samaritan had compassion on his neighbor who had a desperate need. This same story is being reenacted across the nation day after day. When we love one another, regardless of the color of the skin, the social background, or one's former religious teaching, we do not mind when that person comes to our church. We will sincerely do all we can to help him.

In one big city in Texas, a pastor and congregation had a beautiful church and educational building. It was one of the finest among the Full Gospel churches. Suddenly, even though it was not paid for at the time and was still large enough for their Sunday School and congregation, they decided to sell the church (even at great loss) and move across town and build a new church. Why? Because the colored people were moving closer to their church. It was evident that they felt they could NOT WORSHIP with the colored people getting closer to them. How could such a pastor and congregation ever expect God to give them revival again?

Another church of that same "Pentecostal" denomination abandoned their beautiful church, and moved farther out to build a new church. The cause? Colored people were moving closer to their church, and they wanted to get farther away!

Certainly it is not a sin to build a new church in a new area of town, if it actually is needed for the work of the Lord. But, when people sell out AT GREAT LOSS in order to get farther away from any race of people, I say they are also getting farther from God!

Just a few years ago in one city, a pastor built a church at a cost of a million dollars. No doubt, when he built it, he expected to stay there until Jesus came. However, now he is planning to sell it at a great loss of money, and build another church somewhere else. Why? Because HIS CONGREGATION DOES NOT WANT TO GO TO CHURCH CLOSE TO COLORED PEOPLE. In other words, these so-called Christians could not qualify as LOVING THEIR NEIGHBORS AS THEMSELVES!

One white preacher recently bought one of these churches. He said, "Those people sold their church at a loss and moved out because of the colored people. We bought the church and moved in because of the colored people!"

If we are ALL ONE IN CHRIST, and we love everyone as ourselves, we will absolutely not move away from ourselves! The very fact that a person or a congregation moves away to avoid colored people, or that colored people move away to avoid the white people is EVIDENCE THAT WE HAVE NOT YET LET GOD MAKE US ONE IN CHRIST!

I have scripture for my statement. One day, God put a curse on Miriam, Moses' sister, because she was bound by racial prejudice. The story is found in Numbers 12. God let an incurable disease called leprosy come upon her to let everyone know that He is displeased with such actions as Miriam's. She no doubt was a segregationist. She did not LOVE HER NEIGHBOR AS HERSELF, or she would never have opened her mouth and criticized her brother for marrying an Ethiopian (vs. 1). You can read the story for yourself. The anger of the Lord was kindled against Miriam and Aaron (vs. 9), and God asked, "Wherefore were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?" (vs. 8). God's presence departed, "And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and Miriam became

leprous…" (vs. 10). This scripture in itself is sufficient evidence to let us know that God will pronounce judgment upon racial discrimination. This is no doubt the reason why many all-white and all-black congregations are so spiritually cold, dead, and formal. God's glory has departed from off their tabernacle; they are just having church without God's presence and blessings.

Let us remember that after God struck Miriam with incurable leprosy, she had to depend upon the prayer of the very one she had criticized. Moses had to pray the prayer of faith for her before she could get healed (vs. 13).

Certainly it appears today that the real Bible revival that God promised for this later day is mainly among integrated congregations. Is the Spirit of God departed from off the tabernacle of those who are filled with PRIDE OF RACE, and coming upon the tabernacles of those who are more humble? God is using ministers today in this great revival who do not have racial pride or prejudice in their hearts – who are color-blind, and who consider ALL people, races, and tribes as ONE IN CHRIST!

I am amazed to find that just about the only place some white people resent the presence of black people is at church. They don't want to sit with them at church. Yet, in almost every other occasion, they are willing to associate with them amiably. They let a black man carry their bags into the hotel or motel and at the depot. At the bank, the post office, stores, and the restaurant, they don't turn around and leave when a black person waits on them and asks, "May I help you?"

They will let a black man drive their mule and their tractor, and pick their cotton. They will let a black man drive their automobile, and even open the doors of their homes to receive their guests.

Black hands put the linens on the table. Black hands pour their tea and coffee. Precious little white children are entrusted to the care of dependable black hands everyday. Black hands change the bed linens, clean the house, do the laundry, and wash the dishes.

WHY IS IT ONLY IN CHURCH that a prejudiced attitude against race is exhibited? I believe it is an evil spirit of pride or race, prejudice, and hatred from the devil!

I have shown you in the scripture both commandments and examples regarding price of race. The Word makes God's will very plain regarding races. Let me ask you, are you a genuine, blood-washed Christian who loves God with all your heart? Are you doing your part to preach the gospel to every creature? Have you let God make you ONE IN CHRIST?

Read the story of the Good Samaritan again; come to a decision regarding God's will in your life. What would you do?

If a Christian white person should suddenly discover a black man who has been beaten and robbed, would not a Christian do the right thing for the black man, regardless of the difference in the color of skin? Suppose then that the white church member discovered a black man who has fallen among thieves, and he is backslidden, down, and sick. Should not that church member be able to carry him to church on Sunday morning to pour in oil and wine? Should not the white man be able to take his family to church for help? Could he in turn bring a hundred of his colored friends to that church for healing, deliverance, and help?

When a Christian colored person suddenly discovers a white person who has been beaten and robbed, will not the example of the Good Samaritan that Jesus gave us cause this man to love the white man enough to get involved and help him? Should not the

black man be free to carry the injured white man to church for any spiritual need he might have? Shouldn't there be salvation for the white man in a church with colored members?

What would you do? You may as well pray through and lay aside your sins. You may as well come to the knowledge that if you have any kind of pride or racial prejudices, you are not going to make heaven your home. "…Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us…" Do it NOW! JESUS IS COMING SOON!

My prayer each day is, "O Lord, give every child of God arms of love long enough to reach around the entire world to every race and kindred of people. Make this love so color-blind that they cannot tell the black man from the white man, the yellow man from the red man or the brown man. Just give us the heart of God so that each of us will love everyone who is in the world.

"Let the Holy Ghost speak to us and send us forth wherever You will, into the world to reach the lost. Let not the black man say that You have not called him to preach to the white. Let not the white man say that You have not called him to preach to the black. May every person, regardless of skin color, nationality, or tongue, be of one heart and seek to do the will of God."

Our Miracle Restoration Revivals are the same as Jesus described His own campaigns: "The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached unto them."

To the victorious proclamation, Jesus added, "…blessed is he whosoever shall not be offended in me: (Matthew 11:5,6).

Jesus calls you "blessed" when you are not offended by integration and the many phases of the gospel of Christ! Jesus is the answer to all the unrest, sin, hatred, and rebellion in the world today. Will you share in spreading this gospel of deliverance? Be "blessed" of the Lord today!

CATCH UP!

(A.A. ALLEN – 1970)

I believe the Bible from cover to cover. Do you? And I believe everything between the covers. I believe Genesis, and I believe Revelation, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. If Christ is not the beginning, He is not the end. If He is not the end, then He couldn't be the beginning, and He is nothing in between the beginning and the end. But to me, He is the Alpha and the Omega. He is the beginning and the end; He is everything between. He is my Savior. He is my Miracle Worker!

If God ever performed miracles, He is still performing miracles. And if God is not performing miracles today (as some people say), He never performed miracles. If God is not healing the sick today, He is not saving the lost. If God ever quit healing the sick, He would stop saving the sinners. I know that God is healing the sick today, because He is still saving sinners. The psalmist sang, "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases" (Psalm 103:3).

As long as God is in the soul-saving business, He is going to be in the miracle-working business. He is a miracle worker for the body, soul, mind, and spirit. If God can't do something for your body, He can't do something for your soul. But, if God can do something for your body and your soul, He can do something for your spirit.

I have never seen the time when so many people need mental healing. America's number one sickness is mental sickness. Eight out of every ten people in America are reported to be sick enough to need the services of a physician. About ninety-five out of one hundred people who are church members need more than physical healing; they need to be resurrected. Spiritually they are dead. They need a miracle in their spirits.

I have never seen so many spiritually dead church people. Some of the greatest services in our revivals are when preachers get resurrected. Some people say that God is not raising the dead today. God is raising the spiritually dead by the hundreds and thousands. People come in to our meetings as dead as they can be. They leave resurrected, revived, shouting with the joy of the Lord and with the power of God in their lives.

In this day, God is doing more than just healing the sick. God is doing more than just performing miracles for the body. God is doing a mighty thing in His Church. But without a miracle, some of you will never catch up with God.

In Moses' day, Israel learned that when God moved, they had to move with Him or be left behind (See Exodus 13:20-22). God is not going to turn around and backtrack or wait for you. The Church is on the move! The Church has already broken up the camp, and she is moving forward. The Church can't wait for anyone to catch up.

"And the Lord said to Moses…speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward…" (Exodus 14:15). Our enemies are behind, and we need miracles ahead. God's Church is on a miracle move.

Some of you who claim to be members of God's Church are still camped. You made camp long ago, and you have camped so long in one spot, you are spiritually dead. The Spirit of God moved onward and left you long ago. Some of you who are waking up and getting spiritually revived had better get a move on and get into the mainstream of revival.

Paul said, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run…let us run…let us run…!" Oh, God. It's time to run! Start running and catch up with what God has been doing for His people for the past ten years. (See Hebrews 12:1).

I hear some people talking about being in the "way" for many years. Yes, some are parked in the way – already camped. I've heard some say, "It's a hard old way, Brother Allen. Pray for me. The devil is after me. He's on my trail." My Bible tells me the way of the transgressor is hard (Proverbs 13:15). If you are on God's highway of holiness, no unclean thing shall pass over it (Isaiah 35:8). The devil is not in the way. You are mistaken. He may already have you, not in the way, but in the place where you refused to move forward with God. God has moved onward and left you, because you failed to go forward with Him.

There are some who are still trudging on, still struggling to walk, but now is the time to run. You are behind in God's timetable for revival. Jonah, you remember, got behind. In order to catch up, he ran a three-day's journey in just one day. Some of you are going to have to do some Holy Ghost running to really catch up. I believe God is going to let you do some Holy Ghost anointed, miracle running so that you can catch up with the Church that is moving on for God today.

Ministers, don't drag your feet and try to slow down God's move. Laymen, don't drag your heels. This fine old gospel chariot is moving so fast it will burn your heels off if you drag them. Pick up your feet and run for God.

Are you a little behind? Do you want to catch up with what Jesus is doing? I am praying for you: "Oh God, in the name of Jesus, let this people catch up."

I want you to catch up with what God is doing for His Church physically, because He is healing the sick. I want you to catch up with what God is doing for His Church in a supernatural way, because He is performing signs, wonders, and miracles. I want you to catch up with what God is doing for His people spiritually, because God is giving the gifts of the Holy Ghost and the fruit of the Spirit to His people in abundance. And I want some of you to catch up with God is doing for His Church financially. God is setting men and women free from the curse of poverty and blessing the work of their hands with prosperity. God is restoring the wealth of the world back to His people and back to the Church.

The Church is just beginning to wake up to the fact that God said we are heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. He has said all the cattle on a thousand hills are His. All the gold and silver are His. He owns so much of it that He can pave the streets with gold. I see no reason why we shouldn't ask our Father for enough wealth to put some in the offering to preach the gospel. Why shouldn't we have some to give the minister a good offering to meet his needs, to support God's house, and to put the gospel on radio and on television?

Some of you need to catch up with what God is doing. God is moving for His people! You may be satisfied with the dunghill, but God says, "He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill; that he may set him with princes and with the princes of his people" (Psalm 113:7-8). As heirs of God, don't you believe God will give you a cow or two? You can be satisfied with an old goat, but I'm not satisfied with a goat.

Our heavenly Father is rich. "And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God." He said we would be blessed as we come in and blessed as we go out. Blessed will be our basket ad

our storehouse. He promised to bless the increase of our cattle, our kine, and our flocks and herds. (See Deuteronomy 28).

God has promised to make us the head and not the tail. Some of you have been the tail long enough. You don't like being the tail; it makes you mad. Get mad at the devil; he's the one that made you the tail. God wants to make you the head. "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" (III John 2). God wants to take away sickness, disease, and infirmity. He makes it plain in His Word. He wants His Church to be healthy and sound physically, and He wants you to prosper financially.

David said, "I have been young and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread" (Psalm 37:25). God is not only doing something for the Bride of Christ, He is doing something for her pocketbook. Claim something from God!

Are you a child of God who hearkens unto the voice of the Lord? Do you worship Him with joyfulness and keep His commandments? I'm going to pray that God will bless everything you set your hands to do for the glory of God. "Father, bless Your people in Jesus' name. Help those who have camped too long and failed to move forward with You. Give them supernatural strength to run and catch up with the mighty move of God. Help those who have never known Your ways. May they forsake their sins and their own willful way and catch up in this race with God's people. O God, I want the blessings of prosperity to come upon Thy people, to bless them as they go out and as they come in. My God, I claim your blessings upon their increase; fill their barns with plenty. Give them plenty of silver as You have said. I claim their prosperity for the sake of the preaching of the gospel into all the world, that Thy Word may be confirmed with signs following. In Jesus' name. Amen."

HOW BIG IS YOUR FAITH?

(A. A. ALLEN – 1970)

If it is at all possible, I want every one of you to be turned on for God. There are four simple steps that God has given us to follow in order to obtain all that He has for us. God wants His children to take hold of His promises and put them to work in their lives. God wants us to exercise faith!

These four steps are so simple that the most ignorant person can do them. God wants us simply to THINK, TALK, BELIEVE, and DO! Most everyone can talk and everyone believes something. The things that people do are motivated by what they think, say, and believe. God intends for us to use the faith He has given us by thinking BIG, talking BIG, believing BIG, and doing BIG!

We must base our thinking on the Bible. We are commanded to have the mind of Christ. "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5). "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report: if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

When we begin to do this kind of thinking, we'll be able to talk as Christ talked, believe as He believed, and to do as He did. Some people have such a little cramped-up, puny mind they can't think big in God. You're going to have to get your thinking right!

You say, "Well, Brother Allen, I know God said it, BUT…I know that the Bible declares it, BUT…you just don't know how many times I've been prayed for."

The reason you haven't been receiving anything may be that you haven't been thinking right – you haven't been thinking with the mind of Christ – thinking with big faith! As you begin to think with the mind of Christ, you will get your talking straightened out. You will begin to talk big. When we as God's people get enough of God in us, we will talk like Jesus. "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God…" (I Peter 4:11). Some of you need to learn how to talk the right way – talk faith!

I was told that when I was a little tot learning to talk, my daddy insisted that I was going to say "papa" first. My mother insisted that I was going to say "mama" first. My daddy would get me up on his knee and say, "Now, Asa, you say 'papa'." I'd say, "Ga, ga, ga, ga."

My mother would set me up on her knees and say, "Now, Asa, you talk for mama. Say 'mama'." I'd say, "Ga, ga, ga, ga." They thought this poor child was never going to learn how to talk.

I was in the sixth grade before I ever learned to say "feather." My teacher almost beat me to death. I mean it! She said, "You're either going to say 'feather', or I'm going to _____." She meant it. I was scared to death. She said, "Now, I want you to say 'feather'." I said "feadthur." She slapped me and said, "I told you you're going to say 'feather'!" Again I'd say, "feadthur." I was a great big kid, and couldn't say "feather", But she beat me until I did. I was surprised when I discovered how easy it was.

Listen, some of you have been in the world so long and have been living in doubt and fear, that you just can't talk like God wants you to talk. Ask God to teach you how to talk! Then you will discover how easy it is to BELIEVE BIG. Jesus once declared, "If

thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23). The man to whom He was speaking cried out, "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief" (vs. 24). How long has it been since you asked God to help your unbelief? How long has it been since you have really stood on God's Word and said, "Lord, I'm going to heaven BIG! I'm going to take the limit off you!"

The bigger you can believe, the bigger you can do in God. Why ask God for something little when God wants to do something BIG for you? If you need a million dollars, why ask Him for a thousand? If you need a big tent, why ask God to give you a little one? God is a BIG GOD! He's doing BIG things. If you are truly a born-again child of God, and have been cleansed by the blood of Christ, you can stand on His Word and take hold of His promises. "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 14:12). "He that BELIEVETH on me, the works that I do SHALL HE DO ALSO; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12).

Jesus thought big, talked big, believed big, and did big, and He still does. He wants you to do it too! After you've got His mind to think big, His boldness to talk big, His faith to believe big, and His humility to do big, you will find out that there is nothing impossible with God!

Jesus' words and actions produced results because He was thinking big. Once in Matthew 15:22, a Syrophenician woman came running to Jesus saying, "My daughter is grievously vexed with a devil." She began to think big and talk big when she said, "Lord, yet the dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table" (vs.27)

Jesus believed big, too. He knew that it wouldn't be necessary for Him to go to her house where her daughter was. He knew that if He just spoke the word into a heart of faith, the work would be done. He said, "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour" (vs.28). When that woman got home, she found the very thing that Christ had said would come to pass.

A centurion came running to Jesus in Matthew 8, and said, "Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented" (vs.6). When Jesus answered, "I will come and heal him" (vs.7), the centurion began to think and talk big. "The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed" (vs.9).

"When Jesus heard it, he marveled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no not in Israel…Go thy way, and AS THOU HAST BELIEVED, SO BE IT DONE UNTO THEE. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour" (vs.10-13).

Because the centurion thought big, talked big, and believed big, it was done unto him according to his faith!

Once, standing afar off, ten lepers saw Jesus. They must have begun to think big, because they lifted up their voices, and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us" (Luke 17:13). They believed big! Jesus, in turn, did big for them. In fact, all that He did was to speak the word, "GO…!" Jesus did big by talking and believing big.

Some people think it is sacrilegious to have great faith and expect God to do the impossible. But God said in His Word, "…concerning the work of my hands, command ye me" (Isaiah 45:11). "Thou shalt also decree a thing and it shall be established unto thee…" (Job 22:28). "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it" (John 14:14). "For with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37). "If thou canst believe all things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23).

Once, in talking with His disciples, Jesus said: "Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that these things which he said shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith" (Mark 11:23).

I've often said that I'm a "whosoever," which means that I'm eligible for "whatsoever." If you're a "whosoever," you can have whatsoever you say.

Friends, that is talking and believing big. Jesus didn't say, "Whosoever shall say to this molehill…" or, "whosoever shall say to this anthill..." He was referring to something gigantic. Something big! Jesus wants to take care of the big things in your life. Some of these little things will take care of themselves if we learn to let God take care of the big ones. Why take on a molehill to worry and fret over when God can take care of all of it! He wants you to think as He thought, speak as He spoke, and believe as He believed.

Many of you need to do something for yourselves. You say, "I wish God would move this mountain." But God wants you to move it with your faith. Tell the mountain that it is going to move!

What is your mountain? Disease, oppression, poverty, matrimonial problems, church trouble? There is no mountain too big for my God to shake down. Some of you have been trying to climb your mountain, and you can't get over it. You've been trying to get around it, and you can't do it. But God doesn't intend for you to climb some of the mountains that stand in your path: He doesn't even mean for you to tunnel through.

Didn't God say, "Behold, I give you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy…"(Luke 10:19)?

I delight in talking back to the devil. I delight in telling him how little he knows, and how little he is. I delight in telling him he lost all of his power at Calvary. He has no power – only his pride. He's just a big old bluff.

In our tent meeting in El Monte, California, a demon-possessed woman was present. One night when I began to pray for her, for thirty minutes, the fowl demons on the inside of her said, "We're not coming out. We're not coming out! There aren't enough preachers under this tent to drive us out. This woman loves us. You've cast us out again and again, but she opens the door, and we re-enter. We come back; she wants us. It won't do you any good to drive us out. We're not leaving this time."

I said, "Satan, I don't believe a word you say. You're coming out!"

They said, "Well, IF we come out…"

I said, "I thought you said you weren't coming out. Now you say 'IF we come out.' Satan, you know you have no power."

They talked right through that woman and said, "We didn't say we had any power. The one thing you'll have to confess, we're sure stubborn."

The devil may be stubborn, but God has all power in heaven and in earth. I believe that God is going to cause that stubborn mountain in your life to move! The devil is shaking and trembling, because he knows he's defeated. He knows he's going to have to leave!

The more real God is to you, the easier it will be to exercise big faith. Joshua had seen God work in his behalf so many times that it was not hard for him to point to the sun in the midst of battle and command it to stand still. (See Joshua 10:12-13) He was talking and believing big, because he knew a big victory had to be won. God saw the faith Joshua had and said, "I'm going to do something big for that man." He did it, too, because Joshua had "command ye me" faith.

The stripling, David, was thinking big when he stooped to pick up the five smooth stones out of the brook on his way to meet Goliath, the Philistine champion (See I Samuel 17:40-58). He talked big when he boldly declared, "I come to thee in the name of the Lord…whom thou has defied. This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee…for the battle is the Lord's…" David was believing big when he ran to meet the giant, in complete confidence of victory. Then he did something big for God. When he got close enough to the Philistine, he did something that brought big results: "And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine…and took his sword…and cut off his head therewith…and when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled."

Did you ever read the story in I Samuel 14 of a young warrior named Jonathan? He and his armourbearer went out against a multitude of Philistines, armed for battle. Jonathan said to his armourbearer, "Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the Lord will work for us: for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few" (I Samuel 14:6). This is what I call "experimental faith."

The armourbearer said unto Jonathon, "Do all that is in thine heart." He knew that Jonathan was inspired to do big. Jonathan exclaimed, "Come up after me: for the Lord hath delivered them unto the hand of Israel" (vs.12).

That was a time when Jonathan and his armourbearer did their thing for God! Two, plus God, can outnumber all the devils in hell!

God was real in the life of Daniel when he was thrown into the lions' den (Daniel 6). He believed big. He knew God was big enough to take the bite out of the lions' mouths, and God didn't fail.

Three Hebrew children in Daniel 3 had their faith in God challenged when they were about to be cast in to the fiery furnace. They thought big – they would not bow to the golden image. They talked big and believed big – their God was more than able to deliver them! They did big – they walked into the furnace unafraid. God did big for them! He came and stood beside them and took the burn out of the fire! When you start thinking, talking, believing and doing the way God wants you to, you'll find that God will stand with you and move in your behalf.

Are you ready to talk, think, believe, and do big for God? Are you willing to believe that in God you've got all power over Satan? When God says that you're bigger than the devil, you can walk on Him!

Some of you are afraid of the devil. You're afraid you are going to die without being healed. You say, "I've been waiting so long for someone to lay hands on me." Yes, some of you need to be shaken until you can loosen your tongue and start talking back to the devil that has bound your faith in God. If some of you would talk as rough to the devil as you do to your husbands or wives, you wouldn't be so sick and have one foot in the grave. Let's start growling at the devil! Let's start talking back to him! When you begin to realize that you are a child of God and have a right to His benefits, it won't be long before your faith will grow in such a way that you'll be able to THINK BIG, TALK BIG, BELIEVE BIG, AND DO BIG – All for the glory of God!

GOD'S WARNING SIGNALS

(A. A. Allen – 1970)

The Bible says to give thanks in everything! This is God's will concerning you. (See I Thessalonians 5:18). At times, God's commandments and His chastening may seem grievous, but still HE IS GOOD. God says, "My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. (See Hebrews 12:5-13)

Everyone has not learned to give thanks in everything. One needs to learn to praise the Lord for a flat tire. Don't lose the victory. It could be that God foresaw trouble further on down the road and had to slow you down fifteen minutes to save your life. That wreck you came upon could have involved you. That drunk could have hit you head-on. Don't stand on the freeway and murmur. Sinner, don't stand there and curse. It could be that God has tried to stop you in many others ways, but you would not let anything else slow you down or stop you. If you had gone on, it could have been worse.

Even though trouble may come, we ought to praise God for it, realizing that it could be the hand of God to cause us to consider our way.

From Genesis to Revelation, God has given people caution signals to slow them down. He wants them to put the brakes on. Ofttimes it is a read light or a red flare to let you know you had better do more than slow down. You had better stop! The bridge is out! A dangerous obstruction is just ahead! The way is impassable! The warnings are there to save you.

Ofttimes you turn off the main road onto a dead-end street. To let you know that you can't go through, there is a U-turn sign. If you refuse to obey the sign and to heed the red light, you are usually the one who sill suffer the consequences.

Sometimes loved ones have ignored God's warning signals. They have failed to heed the caution light; they have refused to obey the red light, and they have plunged through the U-turn sign. Today, sickness, poverty, or shame has overtaken them.

HAVE YOU LOST YOUR WHEELS? God turned the caution lights on for Pharaoh by taking the wheels off his chariots as he pursued Moses and the children of Israel. God was trying to slow him down in order to turn him around and send him back home. In a sense, God was a bad God for taking the wheels off that man's chariots. Yet, in a real sense, He was a good God for causing him to drag bottom for so far and so long. God was trying to save his life.

Why did Pharaoh not say, "Thank You, Lord"? Why did he not pull those reins and turn around? Instead, he said, "No, I'm leading my army on!" When the Lord would have saved his life, he wouldn't receive the trouble that came to his chariot as a caution sign or as a stop signal to slow him down. God then became a destroyer of his life.

If you are like Pharaoh, just go on – see how far you get. Trouble and destruction may not have hit you yet, but it is on the way. You are going without wheels, dragging bottom. God in all His love is trying to save you.

Are you broke? Have you lost your job? Have you had a reduction in salary? If you are a minister, have you lost your church? If you are an evangelist, is it hard for you to get a meeting in a fine church? Has everything gone wrong? You didn't get to go here, there, or yonder? "In all things give thanks." Why don't you start shouting and giving God praise? It may be the hand of the Lord to keep you in His perfect will.

It is difficult to praise God when trouble comes. According to the scriptures, God has used situations and conditions to help people – even armies, kings, rulers, and nations.

It is so difficult to praise God when you are standing beside a casket. Inside lies the most precious thing in the world to you. Life is now gone. Did it ever occur to you that perhaps God didn't want to take that little girl? That little boy? Even your mother or father, your husband or wife? God may have wanted YOU! He tried to draw you, to speak to you, to warn and to stop you, but you had rejected Him completely. The only way in the world He could get you was to take the most precious thing you had. You ought to thank Him for it. God lets these things come to get a better hold on you. He has a work for you to do.

Sometimes there are some things that God allows as a means of getting you into the perfect will of God. If you will begin to praise God for the troubles He has permitted to come your way, it won't be long until you will be praising Him for His perfect will.

HAS TROUBLE COME YOUR WAY? "But the spirit of the Lord departed from Saul and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him." In I Samuel 16:14, we have an account of a man who was having trouble. Since Saul had stiffened his neck, hardened his heart, and refused to obey God, God permitted an evil spirit to trouble him in an attempt to make him see the error of his ways.

No one likes trouble. No one wants an accident. People don't ask for sickness. No one expects mental trouble. Who wants a spirit to torment them? If Saul had begun to thank and praise God, to say, "God has permitted this to warn me and to slow me down," It could have been a blessing to him. Why did he not take that for a lesson?

God used Saul's servants to speak words of wisdom that brought deliverance from the evil spirit. God used the anointed music of a young man of God to play the devil out of Saul. "And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand; so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him" (I Samuel 16:23).

Instead of using this experience as a caution signal to slow down and get back to God, Saul refused to heed the warning. In the days to follow, the same troubling spirit came back and tormented him. "...and David played with his hand, as at other times: and there was a javelin in Saul's hand" (I Samuel 18:10). If you insist on having your own way by keeping jealousy, hatred, sin, and evil habits in your heart and life, all the trouble of the world will never stop you. It will never turn you around, because you do not have enough of what it takes to put on the brakes.

At a later time, the same evil spirit came upon Saul and he tried to kill David as the latter played anointed music on the harp. "I'm going on," Saul said. He went on to death and destruction. God stopped Saul upon his own sword.

Get off that new path and return to the old paths and find rest for your soul. (See Jeremiah 6:16). If you refuse and rebel, you may not die as did Saul, on his own sword. You may not die with tons of water upon you as died Pharaoh. But some of you are already dead – in trespasses and in sins. You will never return to God's will and make heaven your home.

YOU CAN PROFIT FROM ANOTHER'S MISTAKE! Sometimes you can save yourself from trouble, heartache, and suffering, if you will allow yourself to learn from the mistakes of others. You can learn by observing the mistakes of your pastor, or the last evangelist, your Sunday School teacher, a deacon or member of the ladies' aide society. Learn from your parents' experiences. Learn from the mistakes of others around you.

God wants us to learn from the mistake of others. He wanted Belshazzar to learn from his father's mistake. The caution light flashed for him for seven long years, but he went on in his own pride and self-will. At his great feast to a thousand lords, he ignored God's warning for the last time when he sent for the golden vessels. "Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and...they drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and silver, of brass, or iron, of wood, and of stone" (Daniel 5:3-4). In that same hour, the hand of God began to write a message of judgment on the wall. Belshazzar's soothsayers failed to interpret the meaning. Then he called for Daniel, the man of God, to give the interpretation.

Daniel preached to Belshazzar the last sermon he was to hear, and read the death sentence to him. He reminded Belshazzar of how his father, Nebuchadnezzar, had been given a great kingdom, so that all people, nations and languages trembled with fear because of him. "But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him" (Daniel 5:20). God permitted insane spirits to drive him from the sons of men, and his heart was made like the beasts. He dwelt with the wild asses and ate grass like the oxen until he recognized that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men. God permitted seven years of his life to be lost as a wild raving maniac.

The experience that happened to Nebuchadnezzar was a caution signal to his son. It was a turn-around signal, but Belshazzar said, "I will not turn around." Before that night was passed, Belshazzar was slain.

The yellow light is flashing in this sermon. Instead of slowing down and turning around, will you press the accelerator to the floorboard and head for doom and destruction? Recall the people you have known who thought they could get along without heeding the red light. They are examples to you.

In a recent campaign, I informed the congregation, "There is a woman here tonight who is losing her mind. She is on the brink of becoming a wild, raving maniac. She will soon be forgotten by everyone. Do you know why?

"This woman refuses to be reconciled to her husband. He has wept many tears over her, because he loves her. He comes to me every year and says, 'Brother Allen, pray for my wife and me. She will not have anything to do with me; she won't even talk to me anymore.'

"This woman declares that she doesn't need help. She won't even get into a prayer line. She is racing down the road of no return. In a short time, she will plunge past the dead-end sign."

Some of you are like this woman. God can't help you now. Rebellion is entrenched in your soul. You have too much pride to be reconciled to your wife or your husband. I am not saying in every case that reconciliation is the will of God. In order to do God's will and to preach the gospel, some have found it necessary to leave father, mother, wife, and children (See Mark 10:29-30). And those who have willingly made such sacrifices shall receive a hundredfold now in this world, and in the world to come eternal life.

During a meeting in Oakland, California, I was awakened early one Tuesday morning by horrible cursing and swearing. I looked out my trailer window, and there a man and woman were fighting on the ground between my trailer and the tent. My first thought was that they were a couple of drunks on their way home from a bar.

Suddenly, I recognized who they were. I thought, "Oh God, these people aren't alcoholics. They spent all last week under the revival tent." The previous Saturday

afternoon, I had interviewed the woman. She had been a Pentecostal saint, but was keeping secret sins covered. The reason she confided these sins to me was not because she really wanted deliverance. She wanted me, as a minister of God, to stamp my approval upon her wicked ways. She no longer loved her husband; she had begun to love only women. She wanted me to tell her that this wasn't so bad.

As I handed her the pink prayer card, I warned her, "Lady, if you are not demon possessed, you will be soon. You are on your way to insanity if you don't get complete victory over this thing. God is using me to warn you now. You have ignored His caution light, and the red light is on!"

I hoped she would come for prayer in the services, but she never came for deliverance. Now, here she was, on Tuesday morning, a raving, cursing maniac.

"What happened?" I asked the husband, as some of the tent men restrained the wife from trying to kill him.

He said, "We left your tent meeting Sunday afternoon, and arrived late Sunday night at our home in Los Angeles. Monday morning, when I left for work, everything was shipshape. My wife seemed to be fine. She has never been mentally ill. But when I came home from work Monday afternoon, the house was a shambles. Curtains were burning in the bathtub, pictures were torn off the wall, broken dishes were everywhere. The furniture was piled in the corner.

"I started looking for my wife, and I met her in the kitchen. She had a big butcher knife in her hand and an evil look in her eyes. She was cursing loudly. Her mind was completely gone. If it had not been for the grace of God, she would have cut me to shreds. God helped me to subdue her and tie her up. I waited until dark, and then carried her to my car. I drove all night to get back to your tent for help. Brother Allen, why did this happen?"

I said, "God turned the caution light on Saturday. He turned the red light on Sunday afternoon. Instead of your wife stopping and turning around, instead of her receiving deliverance in the prayer line, she left the revival and rushed on down the road of no return."

Take God's warning today. If there is something troubling you, it may be that the Lord has permitted an evil spirit to cause you trouble – mentally, physically, financially. It may be a red light signal to STOP! Take heed to yourself. God is being good to you. He is trying to slow you down and to stop you before you kill yourself or before He has to kill you.

Why don't you heed this sermon as a warning signal? Stop and proclaim a time of fasting and prayer, and say, "I am going to open my Bible and find out the cause for all this trouble in my life." If you do not, you may die in your troubles.

The red light flashed its warning to the prophet Balaam. But he went stubbornly on his way. At the end of his road he died when Israel spoiled the Midianites as the Lord commanded.

It isn't that people don't see God's caution lights, the red lights, or the U-turn signals. Stubbornness, hard heartedness, self-will, and rebellion cause men, women, and young people to disregard the warnings. Instead of applying the brakes, they step on the accelerator to see how fast they can go on their way to destruction.

God has never allowed destruction to come upon a person, a city, a group, a preacher, a world leader, or even a church, unless He first gave them a warning.

The Bible says that God opened the eyes of Balaam. It does little good for God to open the eyes of some people. When you harden your heart, stiffen your neck and insist

you are going to have your own way, you can be certain that God's judgment is ahead for you.

One woman confessed to me, "Brother Allen, I put a fleece before the Lord. If He did not want me to marry this particular man, to let the marriage not take place. But, I did not have any trouble getting the divorce from my husband. My wedding to the other man was a very lovely wedding. I felt it must be the will of God, because God did not block the path. What will I do now?"

This woman had been on her knees at the altar every night in my revival. The pastor explained to me that she had come to him before she remarried. He opened the Bible and pointed to scripture after scripture, saying, "Thus saith the Lord…" She knew better, but she hardened her heart to the truth and insisted on having her own way.

"What will I do now?" she asked me. "I can not get through to God. Do you think that God has left me? When I hardened my heart to the Word, God allowed that lying spirit to tell me it was all right, since God did not block the way or stop it."

That is the very reason Ahab was turned over to a lying spirit. (See I Kings 22:20-23). Micaiah, the prophet, prophesied to him a warning message. In essence he said, "If you go, you will never return. I saw all Israel scattered as sheep that have no shepherd."

"He says if I go, I will die." Ahab said, "I will go anyway, but I will disguise myself. No one will know that I am the king."

Instead of thanking God for a prophet who told him the truth and warned him how he could avoid death, Ahab was determined to do as he pleased.

All the other prophets spoke words the king wanted to hear. Their mouths had been filled with a lying spirit. God permitted it, because He wanted Ahab to go forth and to die in battle. To the lying spirit, God said, "Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so."

Do you know what happened to Ahab? He received the prophecy of all his lying prophets; he rejected the warning message of God's true prophet. He hardened his heart and stiffened his neck for the last time. He ignored the red light. In his chariot, dressed in disguise, he died a violent death.

The people in the antediluvian age knew better, but they mocked the message that warned them of God's wrath to come. Noah warned them by his preaching; it was a blinking caution light. As he and his sons constructed the ark, according to God's specifications, the people refused to heed the caution signal. At the end of 120 years, for one last week, the siren screamed God's last warning, but not one of those outside Noah's family would heed it. That great multitude did not go down in to watery grave until first God warned them. (See Genesis 6).

Whether some of you know it or not, the Spirit of the Lord is ofttimes on a child while it is still in his mother's womb. I believe with all my heart that God called David Davis before he was born – even with an alcoholic father. It could be that God called that daddy to do what Gene is doing today, but he would not do it, and the Lord has placed the call upon his son or his daughter – YOU.

If God ever called you, you are still called (Romans 11:29). Don't get mad at God because He takes the wheels off your chariot, or because He allows troubles to come your way.

If God calls you, and you refuse to obey, He can take away that beautiful home, strip you of your children, or your companion. When you stand stripped before God and alone, you will be ready to say, "God, I will go now."

In Louisiana, I happened to be the first car that came upon a terrible accident. The car, driven by a woman with her little girl sitting by her side, crossed the center line and hit head-on with another car. The impact threw the little girl through the windshield. The mother who was not seriously injured got out of the car and picked up her little girl. I was there by the time she placed the child on the grass on the shoulder of the highway. That little girl's throat was cut from ear to ear. Blood spurted from the jugular vein. I tried to pray, but there was something in the way. I soon found out what it was. The mother began to pray, "Oh God, don't let my baby die. Oh God, if You just won't let my little baby bleed to death, I will do what I promised to do years ago. I will preach the gospel."

The patrolman who had driven up tapped the mother on the shoulder, and said, "It is too late now, your little girl is gone."

Tell God you will go where He wants you to go. Say you will do what God wants you to do. Do it now. Do not wait until it is too late!

Michal, King Saul's daughter, knew the way of the Lord. Samuel, God's mightily anointed prophet, was her minister. She had seen signs and wonders and miracles wrought for God's people. God had great things in store for her as the wife of David the king. No doubt, she ignored warning signals from the Lord to slow down and get God's anointing and blessing again in her life. God wanted her coldness and indifference to be replaced with joy and praise.

The day the Ark of the Lord was returned to the city of David, there was a great rejoicing, shouting, and the sound of trumpets. As Michal watched David dance before the Lord with all his might, she allowed the spirit of hatred to enter her heart. She despised David for his worship in such an undignified manner. She ignored God's warning signals. "Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death" (II Samuel 7:23).

Everything that happened in the Old Testament has a spiritual application in the New Testament. I believe that much of the barrenness in churches today is conclusive evidence that God has turned the red light on. No souls are being born again. No old-fashioned altar calls. No signs or revival. For the same reason that God smote Michal with barrenness, many in some churches today despise in their hearts the sound of praise and the sound of music unto the Lord. God's red light is warning you to get out of such a church. It is a sign that God's Spirit and anointing have departed, and His judgment is upon that church or upon its individuals.

IS SICKNESS YOUR WARNING SIGNAL? Did God warn you, and you failed to heed the warning signals? If you insist on being self-willed and stubborn, you are going to have some rough going. Your sickness or your infirmity could be the very thing that God has permitted to come your way as in the case of Miriam. (See Numbers 12:1-10). Leprosy came upon her in a moment's time. It was God's warning signal that said, "Get that pride and your covetous spirit out of your heart and life. Let it have no part in your ministry. Change your attitude concerning the Ethiopian woman."

It is little wonder that so many white people are having trouble. You fight it out with the blacks. You have allowed pride and an evil attitude enter your heart against people of the dark race. It is little wonder that some of you blacks are having trouble. All you want to do is fight it out with the whites. You believe you are a superior people. The whites believe they are a superior people. Listen to me, "Miriams," you had better stop on God's red light signal. God will strike you with an incurable disease to let you know you have disregarded His warning. If you continue on in your pride, self-will, and hatred of

people of another race, watch out! You may go so far you cannot turn around and get back into God's will and His blessing upon your life.

In California, under the big white tent, night after night, a lady came for prayer. She was blind in one eye. It had not bothered her as long as she still had the other eye. She began to get desperate when the one good eye began to fail. I spoke to her one night: "I notice you are back in the prayer line again for prayer. Did I not pray for you last night? In fact, if I remember correctly, I prayed for you the night before."

She said, "Yes, you did, but I am just going to keep coming back until I get healed."

"Did you hear what I told you when I prayed for you last night? You did not do it, did you?"

She said, "I have come back for prayer again."

"You did not obey the voice of the Lord. God wants you to know that you are going to have to do something. The first night you came for prayer, God spoke through me and warned you. I told you that just as Jesus said to the blind man, 'Go and wash,' when he obeyed, he came seeing. To Naaman, the prophet said, 'Go and dip.' When he obeyed, he was cleansed of his leprosy. To the ten lepers, Jesus said, "Go show yourselves unto the priests.' As they went, they were cleansed. I told you what to do and you did not do it."

She said, "Well, pray for me again."

I said, "I have already prayed. You need to go back to the place where you rebelled, refused, and left the will of God."

She got very angry. I thought she was going to hit me. When she got down to the very edge of the ramp, every eye under the tent was upon her. She put both hands up, and shouted so loud that everyone under the tent heard her, "Oh Lord, I will!" Then she started shouting! Instantly, God healed an eye that had been blind for fourteen years and restored sight to the eye that was almost blind!

Some people do not understand how God moves and operates. I did not lay hands on her nor did I pray for her again. Prayer had already been offered. When she did what God required of her, He healed her.

I am not at all sure that the devil has put some of you on stretchers and in wheelchairs. If the devil has done it, certainly, he has only been able to do it with God's permission. (See Job 1:12 & 2:6). If you can take your sickness, your trouble, and your sorrow as a means of drawing you close to God and His will, God can bless the latter end of your life as He did Job. The Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. (See Job 42:10).

During the Billion Souls Crusade in Pittsburgh, a woman came down the aisle with a one hundred dollar check in her hand. I had preached on giving, and had received pledges for the Billion Souls Crusade, an effort being made by a group of evangelists who were crossing the nation back in the 50s raising funds for missions. God was blessing. Hundreds of people noticed as she came down the aisle, because on her cheek was a horrible cancer. It looked like a big piece of calf liver.

As she handed me the check, she said, "God has been telling me to do this, but I have refused to give it. Last night, after I was in bed, God spoke to me, 'You want to get healed of that cancer. Do what I have told you.' Brother Allen, I know this cancer is God's warning to me. This offering is what God said for me to give."

Some of you have been hearing God speak to you, not just for days or weeks, but for years. You are going to have to go back more than a week to backtrack. Some of you are going to have to make a U-turn and return to another city or another state.

To show you that it was God who had spoken to the woman, the moment the check hit the bottom of the offering bucket, that horrible thing on her face disintegrated! Her face was so smooth, I could hardly see a scar. God performed a miracle.

Had that woman failed to heed the warning sign, she would have died in a short time. She had to turn all the way around and go back to where she had been saying "no" to God. Thank God, she heeded the U-turn sign in her Christian experience.

The blinking yellow light tells you to slow down before you get into trouble. The red light tells you to stop, because danger is just ahead. But, when you crash into the U-turn or the dead-end sign, you may have already gone too far. ARE YOU TEACHABLE? God has promised some troubles to people who refuse to learn His Word. "Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honored." In other words, poverty and shame can be a warning signal from God. The reason you are scraping the bottom of the barrel all the time, and the reason you are having so much trouble is because God is trying to help you out of trouble and into His perfect will.

The fact that you have no job and cannot pay your bills could be a sign that God has turned on the warning signals for you. It could be a sign that you have not listened to God's instruction. You have disregarded His reproof. It is a shame for God's people to be so poor, when God has promised so much to His children. It is a shame that you would disregard His instruction and His warning.

While God is giving prosperity to thousands of others, you have to join the poverty march or the poor people's march to Washington to see what Uncle Sam will do about your condition. Why not join the march on heaven? Why not join a faith march on God?

Read the Word of God and see where you have failed – not where Uncle Same, the Social Security, the State Welfare, or the Veteran's Administration has failed. Most people are blaming someone else for their poverty. What they ought to do is put on their brakes at God's red light and stop! Open the Bible and say, "God, show me, according to Your Word, where I have failed. Surely I cannot blame You. Why should I blame the government? Why should I blame my neighbors? I am the one who is to blame."

Some people doubt that God has anything to do with poverty. The Bible says, "So shall thy poverty come as one who travails…"(Proverbs 6:11). "Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction…"(Proverbs 13:18). "…thou shalt not prosper in thy ways…" (Deuteronomy 28:29). "The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich…" (I Samuel 2:7). The penniless condition of your pocketbook or the smallness of your income could be a signal from God that you need to stop, and listen, and mend your ways.

"The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich…" Why is it He is making other people rich, and He is keeping you poor? There is a reason. In the next verse (I Samuel 2:8), God's Word declares, "He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes…" If you are poor and always in need for someone to help you financially, don't get offended at me if I try to place your hand into the hand of God. He said He would lift you from the dunghill.

Why is that you do not have suitable clothes to wear? God promised in Job 27:16 that the wicked might make the raiment, but the just shall put it on. I do not reprimand you because you dress in rags, or because your shoes are worn out. I am trying to help

you get hold of God's strong arm, so He can lift you from the dunghill as He has promised.

You may have disregarded God's caution signal; rushed past His red light; crashed through the U-turn sign and landed in the dunghill. But you do not have to live there. Everyone knows where you live. You cannot pour on enough cologne to cover up that smell. Why should you be so oppressed and have so much trouble? Ask God to lift you up. He wants to do something about your condition.

IS THIS YOUR CONDITION? "Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes" (Haggai 1:5-6). "Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it...Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house" (vs.9).

I have shown you that God uses other kinds of troubles to slow you down, stop you, and turn you around to get you back into His will. Now, I want to discuss your financial troubles.

God told His people by the mouth of Haggai to consider their ways. Then He told them to get lumber and to build the house of the Lord. If they refused to do it, their money would not go far enough to meet their need – because they considered their own houses instead of the house of God.

Do you take too much of what God gives or blesses you to earn for yourself, and fail to devote enough to the house of God? This is what God is talking about. You live in fine homes, but you have forgotten the house of God.

I do not have a big church in each city where we minister. I have a tent that is the house of God, like the tabernacle of old. Our present tent was dedicated in Philadelphia four years ago. It will be replaced this year, the Lord willing, in time for the first scheduled tent meeting of 1970 in Mobile, Alabama. The old one, patched and worn, is falling apart. Like Solomon, "I am going to build Him a house." It is almost completed. If our partners and friends will send an offering and will pay their pledges, all the necessary funds will be available when the manufacturer completes the work on the new tent.

Why are you never blessed and why do you never prosper? God says it is because you have not put enough into His house. I am talking about this kind of miracle ministry.

In South Dakota, many years ago, an entire family was saved at the altar one night in my little church campaign. (I preached then to 25 or 30 just as hard as I do now when the great "Big Top" is jammed with thousands of people.) I learned later that the father was the richest and most influential man in the community. He owned one of the finest dairy herds in South Dakota. He made all of his money selling fine Guernsey milk and other dairy products.

When I returned a year later for revival, I found that all the family was still going on with God, except the father. I asked the pastor about the man, and he said, "He came with the family for quite a while, but every time I would preach on tithing and offerings he would get angry. Finally, he stayed away from church and refused to obey God."

The night before the revival closed, there was a stir outside the church. When we went out, there stood the dairyman, wringing his hands and crying.

"What has happened?" I asked.

He explained, "While I was away this afternoon, all my cows were out to pasture. Somehow, the wire fence got down, and all my fine dairy herd got out into the young cane field that had been sprayed with white arsenic. If a cow ever gets one bite of that, she is dead in a short time. When I came home, I found them all lying on their backs – dead! Everything I earned through the years is gone. What will I do?"

I said, "God told you what to do a year ago. Why did you not do it?"

He said, "If I could do it over again, I would pay my tithes, but now it is too late!"

What are you going to do if you work a lifetime and find that it has been like putting your money in a bag with holes? "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty" (Proverbs 11:24).

Consider your ways. Consider the Lord's house. Give your tithes and your offerings.

A man parked his fine automobile on the main street of a small city on the West Coast. He gave each of his two beautiful, golden haired daughters a dime for an ice cream cone. As they cautiously crossed the street, a high school boy in a "souped up" car turned the corner on two wheels and struck both of them. The father ran after the car. When he reached it, he had to pull both of his little girls from the bumper and grillwork. Kneeling there on the black-topped pavement, he looked up and God spoke to him.

He was a deacon in a church in which I had held a revival a few weeks before. It had been a marvelous revival. The crowds were great, and we were turning many people away night after night. I asked the pastor why they did not enlarge the church. I said, "I understand you own the property in the rear. Knock out the back wall and add fifty feet to your church auditorium. Why turn all these new people away?"

He said, "Brother Allen, the people are financially able to build a larger church. But each time the subject of enlarging the church is presented during a business meeting, there is one man who vetoes the idea. This man has so much money, he does not know his worth. He owns sawmills and much of the Redwood forest along the Oregon coast, but he is very stingy and tight. He contends that we have fulfilled our objective when the church is full. 'Let other people go somewhere else to church,' he says, 'all we want is a full house. Why build something bigger?'"

God definitely dealt with that man during my revival and let him know that if he continued to fight and oppose the enlarging of that house of God, a catastrophe would happen to him. As I closed the meeting I told the pastor, "In ninety days, that man will come to you begging to furnish all the money to build a new church."

He had refused to give toward building a house of God, but he had just completed building himself a beautiful, air-conditioned home. Invitations for a house warming were sent out; everything was set. That night, people were to look at all the lovely carpeted halls and rooms and the luxurious furnishings. But that afternoon, sitting on a downtown street with a little corpse on each knee, God spoke, "You would not build a church for Me, but you built a high-ceilinged house for yourself and your daughters. They will never go through the door. They will never walk on the carpets nor sleep in the queen-sized beds. They will never swim in the pool."

He looked up and said, "God, I will turn around. I will build for you that house." It stands today. A million dollar building – and one of the most beautiful churches on the West Coast. He built it himself in order to again see his little golden haired daughters, who are now in heaven.

God may be weighing you in His balance right now. You have not given to God and His ministry what God has asked, desired, and even commanded. You had better turn

around while you can, with your whole family. One of these days, you are going to turn around by yourself.

This sermon today is God's warning signal. Slow down. Stop. Turn around and get into God's perfect will.

I WILL RESTORE ALL

(A. A. ALLEN – 1970)

The Word of the Lord came to the Prophet Joel, and in the Book of Joel we are given a picture of a beautiful tree loaded with fruit that was being eaten away.

"That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten…He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree; he hath made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white…The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men." (Joel 1:4, 7, 12) This is the picture of the so-called church that was once gifted with the supernatural power of God.

The beautiful trees of the early church withered and languished. When the leaves and fruit were eaten away, destruction came to the limbs, the trunk, and finally the roots. Soon the world became so dark, it looked as if another Bible would never be found. Christians were martyred: "They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword…" (Hebrews 11:37). Would God leave His Church in that condition? No!

God said, "And I will restore the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed." (Joel 21:25-26)

How can we understand God's work of restoration of all that had been eaten away? The answer can be found in Isaiah 28:10-11: "For precept must be upon precept…line upon line…here a little, and there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people."

On the day of Pentecost, God did speak to His people with "other tongues" as the Holy Spirit gave the utterance. Great power and boldness to witness were a part of this great outpouring. Thousands were saved and added to the Early Church daily. The fruit of the Spirit was manifested in the lives of men and women, and the gifts of the Holy Ghost operated in the Church. There were signs, wonders, and miracle. It was Miracle Revival throughout the Book of Acts. The writer ended this book with a sad note for some as he wrote: "And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not. For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Acts 28:24-27).

This was almost prophetic for the great span of dark years that were ahead. The fire of God seemingly died out after the Early Church Age. God didn't force salvation, the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and His supernatural gifts upon the organized Roman Catholic Church. It was all that was left in the religious limelight. God had to start again with the roots.

In the early 1500s a man named Martin Luther received a revelation from God's Word, "The just shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17). He left the Roman Church at the risk of his own life and spearheaded a movement back to God and old-time salvation. The Lutherans were of God, but He never meant for them to denominationalize and harness

themselves. When they did they were left behind. God meant for them to take another step, but they said, "We're the body; you have to belong to us or you won't make it." That is what you call the "pride of grace."

The move of God didn't stop with the Lutherans. They were just the beginning of God's restoration. In 1600, God raised up others to go on. He said, "I've got to restore the trunk of the tree." He raised up Knox, Calvin, Smyth – the Presbyterians and Baptists. That's all some people want. "This is it!" they said. And they are still saying, "We're satisfied with the trunk." But God wants to restore ALL the tree!

Then in the 1700s God sought to bring forth limbs on His tree. He raised up the Calvinists, the Wesley brothers, and John Fletcher. God used these Methodist and gave them the assurance of salvation and a shout of victory. But God didn't stop with them! Though the limbs were restored, He still needed leaves and fruit.

Some people are saying today, "I'm going back to just the limbs and take revival with me." No you won't. They will take all the revival out of you. It's either you go on with God or die! Every group that has refused to go on with God has been left behind.

God wasn't through. He raised up Booth in the late 1800s, causing a mighty move of God to take place throughout Britain. Thousands of people were saved in the streets. Though it was one of the greatest revivals of all time, today the organization that resulted is a social club. Why go back when there is nothing to go back to? Jesus is going to present to Himself a glorious church that will have all the fruits that the Early Church had. It will be without spot or wrinkle.

What would you do with a tree that you irrigate and fertilize year after year, and it never produces? Cut it down! We can't afford to keep up our orchards in Miracle Valley if all the trees are just roots, trunks, limbs, and leaves. We expect them to bear figs, peaches, apples, pears, and pomegranates.

Spiritually speaking, we can't afford to be satisfied with the trunk, limbs, or even leaves. We can't depend on what took place in the 1500s, the 1600s, or even in the early part of this century. IT'S TIME FOR THE TREE TO BEAR FRUIT! God won't accept anything less! (See John 15)

Can you imagine a boy, after sitting down at his father's table and eating of the fatted calf, going back to the pigpen and the husks? (See Luke 15:11-32) Far more absurd than that, can you imagine anyone, after being a partaker of the Holy Ghost, and the good things of God, falling away and going back to dead religious form, ceremony, and ritual? It is hard to believe, but it is happening.

In a dream, Jacob saw a ladder and the top of it reached to heaven. Each of us is climbing a spiritual ladder, trying to reach heaven. The man who invented the ladder was pretty smart to start the rungs close to the bottom. It would be almost impossible to reach the top rung unless we started at the bottom. We have to start at the bottom and keep climbing. It takes effort to reach the top. Therefore, I can't imagine a man, who is supposed to be a leader of people, reaching the top of the ladder, and then saying, "I'm going to back down. Since they won't follow me up the ladder, I'm going back down where they are."

You mean, after God has led us so far and has done so much for us, and has shed so much light on our pathway that we're going to come down? Do you mean that after working hard, praying, fasting, and believing God for years to get up the ladder, that now we're going to move back down? Why back down at the very time when God is trying to restore everything to the church? He said, "I will restore…"

If you're going to back down the church ladder, why don't you consider going back to the old ways in the natural as well? Go back to the old sail ship. Replace the jets and fine automobiles with donkeys and the oxcart. Dispose of your pushbutton kitchen, electronic equipment, electric typewriters, calculators, the printing press, your television and radio. This doesn't make sense, does it?

Some have withered and gone all the way back to the 1500s with Luther. Others haven't gone back quite that far; they just backed down one or two rungs. Though it was glorious at the time of their beginning, when sinners were swept off their feet by the power of God like wheat before a sickle, and they had visions of heaven and hell and got up shouting the victory, that's just enough to make you want to go on! Since every forward step of God has been greater than the previous, God must have much greater things to come!

One man said, "But God has called me down to this other step after being up here. I can get to heaven by staying on this rung." No, you can't. Not when heaven is at the top, and there are more steps to climb.

There are many people today who don't know God's objective and plan for the Church. You ask, "Well, isn't the main thing getting people saved?" I ask, "Are they still doing that? They used to. What happened?"

Solomon got a glimpse of the Church (the bride of Christ) when he said, "Thou art all fair, my love; there is no spot in thee" (Song of Solomon 4:7). But some people don't read the Bible. They've never let God lead them into the truth. They're not growing. They are not producing what it takes to be pleasing to Christ.

Recently, I saw a church bulletin of a so-called Pentecostal preacher who now has "The Baptist Church of the Good Shepherd." On the front cover of the bulletin was the cartoon of a donkey sitting on his haunches with a pipe hanging out of his mouth. The man who printed the bulletin was one of the main sponsors of one of our campaigns back east a few years ago. He was Pentecostal from head to toe. But today he calls himself a Baptist. He must have made up his mind that he couldn't get the people to climb higher, so he said, "I'll go down."

A few years ago another man who received a marvelous miracle from God in one of my campaigns seemingly was getting close to the top of God's ladder. But it doesn't appear that he's there anymore. He, too, couldn't get enough people to come up where he was. Today, in his advertisements, he says, "Come and hear this Presbyterian layman."

On the other hand, there is another strange happening today of which you may not be aware. People who have been in bondage so long to one rung on the ladder are now waking up to the reality. Thousands are climbing higher.

Are YOU on YOUR way up or down? God hasn't called you to step down when there is more to be obtained in Him. God hasn't called me to go back. He has called us to go forward! Woe unto us if we do not obey Him. "FOR IT IS IMPOSSIBLE for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame: (Hebrews 6:4-5).

As the Israelites journeyed up from Egypt on their way to the Promised Land, God led them by a miracle. Everything good that happened to them was because of God's mercy and miracle-working power. However, because they constantly murmured and

limited God and were unthankful, God had to punish them. On one occasion, He slew the fattest of them because of their selfishness and murmurings. (See Psalm 78:31-32)

The Israelites kept looking back. When the twelve spies came back from seeking out the Promised Land, the Israelites became afraid and drew back from the challenge before them. They were worried about anticipated trials and tribulations more than they were concerned about obtaining God's blessings that were in store.

Numbers 14:4 declares, "They said to one another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt." In other words, they said, "We're not going forward; we're going back." God said, "No you won't. I'll kill you first. I never called you out of Egypt to go back!" Therefore, God let them wander in the wilderness for years until the backsliders died. (See Numbers 14:33-35). They weren't worthy of entering the Promised Land.

God may not be literally and visibly killing people today. He's just letting them die spiritually, and they're not getting anywhere with Him!

Some are like Samson who allowed Delilah to clip his hair and rob him of all his anointing and power. He shook himself thinking he could go out in power as before. (See Judges 16:17). But when he shook himself, he found that God's glory had departed from him. Many today have refused to walk closely after the commandments of God, and have begun to compromise and slip back down the ladder. What a sad, rude awakening they'll have one day when they shake themselves and find out that God is not with them!

Come up a little higher with me. I'm not coming down. I'm not going to backtrack. I don't rejoice in the fact that preachers are backing down; it breaks my heart. There has never been anyone who has gone back down to a lower step on the spiritual ladder who has led God's people up. God is going to have a church out of a church, a people out of a people.

The only way a minister can get God's people to take another step forward is to climb a step higher, then reach down to them and say, "Come on up!" But remember this, when you start climbing and asking them to come up higher, they may just say, "No, you come down here!" Then you've got to be determined and steadfast enough to say, "NO! Come on up! And if you don't I'm still going to climb up higher for God!"

Can you imagine me or anyone else, after learning how to eat steak, throwing all the steak away, then calling the milkman and saying, "Give me a good supply milk, bottles, and nipples. I've decided to go back to the baby stage"?

I'm going to eat steak. I've got good teeth and I know how to chew! It gives me strength; God wants to wean His people from milk. I feel sorry for people who don't know this. If God's people don't grow up and lead the people out of their bondage and up higher, who will? We can't go back! We're not going back!

On my way to the East St. Louis Campaign a while back, I drove my car instead of flying. We don't always have time to drive between campaigns, but this time I drove. I found it a good time to pray. Just a little ways off the big interstate near Springfield, Missouri, I detoured. I almost had to stop to find the road I was looking for. It used to be one of the main roads in that area years ago. When I turned onto that side road that it is now, I thought, "They haven't even paved it. It's still full of flint rock just like it was back in the thirties when I got saved." I drove a mile down the road, and there on the corner was the old house where they used to have those old-fashioned, shouting, shaking Pentecostal revivals. People by the hundreds came and flocked around that old farmhouse and couldn't get inside. That's where my mother was saved, and it was where I received the Holy Ghost.

I parked outside the house and cried like a baby. I said, "Oh, Lord, this is the place!" I turned my car around and went further back into the hills to the old house where I used to live – my mother's old ranch and farm in Missouri. The old farm is all grown up in white oak sprouts now. I pulled my car into the place I used to park my little old Model T Roadster. There's where I lived when I got saved. When I knocked at the door, a woman answered, and said, "You're preacher Allen; I get your magazine. You used to live here when we were little." As children we had grown up together.

I went way back down into the woods, trying to find the old white oak stump where I used to pray every morning, noon, and night. But the stump had rotted away. Thank God, you can make an altar anywhere.

Just a couple of miles down that old flint rock road was an old spring from which we hauled water when our wells went dry. Just across from the spring is that little white "Onward Methodist Church." I was amazed to find that same familiar piano is on the inside with the same ivories missing from the keyboard. The same Sunday School board is hanging on the wall with no change on the attendance record.

I noticed one marked change – the altar where I knelt to be saved was gone! I went out the back and tried to find it; I don't know what they did with it. The church still has the same name. There was a time when they meant to move forward. They were going on! That's why they named it "Onward." But they haven't gone one step forward for God in thirty years.

I drove on down the road to the house of an old friend. The last time I saw him he was only twelve or thirteen years old. I knocked on the door and asked, "Is Leo here?" I hadn't seen him in twenty-five years.

The lady who answered the door said, "He can't walk; he's in a wheelchair." He had a stroke and it left him helpless. She let me in to see him. There he sat – one of my childhood playmates. His wife said, "He can talk just a little." I patted the man on the back. He is younger than I, but today he's old, gray, and crippled. I said, "Leo, we used to hunt squirrels together. We used to climb over these flint hills in search of rabbits in the wintertime. What happened to you?"

I said a short prayer, and told him I'd see that he got my magazine. He said, "I know who you are."

I thought, "My God, if You hadn't saved me, I'd probably still be back in these hills as poor and dejected, lost and undone, and afflicted as the rest of them."

My Lord has brought me a mighty long way! I could never go back. Do you mean I could say goodbye to you folks, close up Miracle Valley, drop my gospel telecasts and broadcasts? Do you mean I should take the tent down, dispose of the chairs, sound, organ and piano? Do you mean I should go back to denominationalism, and not print Miracle Magazine anymore? I should take all of the books I've written and burn them up and never publish another one? Can I park my car, get an old "Model A", and go chugging back to that hill country, and crawl into a wheelchair? Do you mean I've got to go back to "Onward" now? That's where I got saved. My God, if I ever went back, I'd never make heaven my home! I must go forward with God!

Listen, you may get saved in some of these places, but you may not be able to remain there. God has called all of us to go forward in Him. If the church where you were saved refuses to move forward with God, you may have to go on without them. When you step out, don't look back. God has never called any of us to go back!

My heart is broken for the world and for the church. I live for only one thing: to get people off that first rung on the ladder and to help them not to turn back. Will you help me? This is my vision. I live for it.

God wants to restore all to the Church, and He is doing it! When we know Jesus is coming back for ripe fruit, how can we offer Him anything less? He has called us to be laborers in His vineyard, to produce fruit, and help Him in this mighty restoration! There is no time to waste in backing down the ladder. God help us to keep climbing that one day we may see Jesus! My determination is expressed in the words of an old song:

"I will never turn back;
He's my light every day.
I will never turn back,
For Jesus is leading the way."

JESUS IS YOUR MIRACLE WORKER!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1970)

When you finish this sermon, I believe you are going to be able to reach out beyond yourself and get hold of something from God; something you have been looking at and desiring for a long time. You have not been able to get hold of it, because your arms are too short. But the hand of the Lord is not shortened (Isaiah 59:1). The Lord can help you get hold of anything with the mind of Christ, with His faith and with the Holy Ghost. Everyone should have the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5) and exercise the faith that God gives (Romans 12:3). You ought to have the power of the Holy Ghost because "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8).

If Christ is living, walking, and working in you, why do you limit Him? Why should you draw the line, and say, "Well, I know God can, but will He?" Why not turn God loose? Let Him have His will and way in your heart (Colossians 1:27). According to the Apostle Paul, God said, "I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (I Corinthians 6:16). I feel Him moving inside of me. He is inside me, walking around according to the Word of God. Why would anyone want to put a ball and chain on Him?

"I will dwell in them and walk in them." I believe we can have the mind of God – we can have the heart of God – we can have the faith of God, because faith is the condition of the heart. We can think as God wants us to think. We can believe as He wants us to believe. We can be led by His Spirit to do His work.

This wonderful experience of Christ within the heart is for the "whosoever will." This is not just for the Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, or Catholics. It is not for the Pentecostals or independents. It is not for the Lutherans. It is for God's children everywhere. The thing that makes you a child of God is having Jesus Christ inn your heart.

One man jumped up from his seat in the Atlanta campaign and shouted, "Oh God, how can these people be so quiet and still? How can I help but shout when that One on the inside of me starts walking around? I have to DO something!" And he did! He shouted and praised and worshipped the Lord with all his might.

Oh, I feel the Son of God now! He is making footsteps in my heart. He is walking around!

The reason Jesus wants to move into your heart is to bring every bit of Himself, everything holy that He stands for, and with zeal for doing everything that He wants to do when He moves in. He will not move in with unbelief, doubt, and skepticism. He comes in with the fruit of the Spirit. He moves in with faith, encouragement, strength, power, and anointing. This is why Jesus said, "Have faith in God" (Mark 11:22). Have the faith of God. Have the faith which God gives.

Open up your heart and ask Jesus to move in, but do not ask Him to come in and sit down. Let Him have His way; let Him walk around inside. If you have Jesus on the inside you are going to feel Him move.

One lady came to our meeting in Charlotte very much disturbed; she was overdue to have a child, but for a number of weeks she had felt no movement. The doctor had examined her thoroughly, and said, "There is no sign of heartbeat. I believe the baby you

are carrying may have been dead for quite some time. We will have to perform an operation."

The reason the lady suspected it was dead was that she felt no movement. She realized it was time to become disturbed.

It is about time to get a little disturbed about your spiritual condition. Some of you have not felt any sign of spiritual life; you have not felt any movement – not only for weeks, but for years. If you are in this condition, and you claim you have Jesus in you, then He must be dead. I do not believe you. When Jesus is on the inside, He is going to move, and you will know it!

Let Jesus move around. You will feel encouragement when you feel Him move. No wonder some people feel so down and out and discouraged, so dejected, alone, depressed, or disappointed. You do not feel any life within you. When you begin to feel the Lord moving inside, you will not feel so dejected and alone. He will even raise His hands if you let Him. He will ever speak if you let Him, but He speaks in a language you will never learn in school. Why not let Him speak?

He will make you want to run. David expressed it like this: "He making my feet like hinds' feet…" (Psalm 18:33). Let Jesus within you make you do something to show forth His praise.

Are you spiritually bound, tied, and fettered and proud of it? Are your spiritual feet fastened to the concrete? You might as well be in a casket, buried in the grave. I want to break that concrete off your feet and set you free. I want to raise you up, and take the grave clothes off you, and let you go to serve the Lord. Jesus will cause you to leap for joy if you will let Him. He will shed a few tears when the time comes for shedding tears. There is a time to shout and there is a time to weep. He will even shout if you will let Him.

It is Christ in you…He doeth the works. Let Him do something in you today. He can do many things if you will let Him. He does even more than heal the sick. He does more than cast out devils. If you will get enough of Him on the inside, you will find you have enough of His faith to do greater things for Him.

"Oh Jesus, come today and give us Your faith, Your power and Your anointing. Give us Your wisdom, Your knowledge, Your mind, Your heart and Your works!"

I know that Christ lives within me, because the One inside of me is laughing now; it is that holy laughter…just spilling over. Like David said, "My cup runneth over." I can feel it running down into the saucer, and now the saucer is running over. Oh, why not get some of this?

You may not know what I am talking about, because Christ has never moved into your heart. No wonder so many theologians today declare God is dead; they have no life within them.

The lady who was carrying the dead baby said: "Brother Allen, I believe if you pray, God will put life back into this dead, unborn child of mine."

We brought her up on the ramp for prayer. She came with tears running down her face. Everybody in that auditorium stood with us to pray. I laid my hands on her and prayed, "Lord, let this woman feel life." Tears ran down the faces of almost everyone, because a woman had felt no sign of life. There was something in her that could and would move under certain conditions.

I tried to encourage her, "What do you feel?"

She answered, "Nothing. It feels just like it has been."

We all got desperate and prayed again. I never heard such praying in my life. "Now, what do you feel?" She stood there a few minutes waiting to feel life, then she said, "Nothing. All I feel is the weight of this unborn, dead child."

I said, "We're going to pray again. That baby is going to come to life. You're going to feel it."

We will never forget that night. Everyone in the auditorium got hold of God. Before we stopped praying, that woman had begun jumping and screaming, "It's moving! It's turning! Oh, glory to God!"

I'm going to pray that God will give you some life and some movement. If you have Jesus within you, I'm going to ask Him to move. If He is there, you will know it. You need to feel some movement. You need some signs of spiritual life.

Some people become afraid when there is a sign of life within them. They are afraid of what they may say or what they may do. They do not want to display any sign of emotion in their religious services. I like to see some real signs of life. I can tell if you feel Him by looking at your face. I want to try to turn you on for God. If He is not there, I am going to ask Him to move in and take possession.

You do not get this experience with the Lord by shaking the preacher's hand. You do not get this by joining the church and receiving the right hand of fellowship. You do not get this when somebody sprinkles water on your head. You get this experience of life within you when Jesus comes into your life. He is life! Pray it through for yourself. Ask Him to come in. Say, "Come in, Jesus. Move and work in me."

When Christ comes to life and moves into your heart, He moves in with everything He has; you can have everything God has for you. Every gift that He has, He makes available to His children. In I Corinthians 12, the gifts of the Spirit are listed and explained. Christ exercised no gift that is not available to God's children today. You can use the same faith He exercised. The sick He healed, you can heal. The miracles He did, you can do. The demons He cast out, you can cast out. Everything that God made available to Him, He has made available to us through the gifts of the Spirit. But in order to have the ministry Christ wants us to have, you have to have Him. Him! Jesus!

I have Jesus. I just want more of Jesus. More faith, more power and anointing.

Paul confessed, "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God…" (Galatians 2:20). The works that Paul did for God were the result of Christ living in him. And Paul added, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). All things – whatever the task, the anointing of Christ will strengthen you to do the work God has for you to do. When Christ moves in, He brings everything He has – not just a portion. He brings His faith, His power, His anointing, His wisdom, His knowledge.

If you have Jesus' faith within you, God has a miracle for you. When you have His faith, you can put it to work and perform the miraculous for others as He did. You will remember that in many cases where Jesus ministered to the people, He said, "Thy faith hath made thee whole…According to your faith, be it unto you… Thy faith hath saved thee…" If Christ is in you, then you have a measure of faith to exercise for a miracle.

When you build a home, you wire it to obtain sufficient electricity for all your requirements. You install a switch in each room to turn on your lights. When you put a piece of bread in the toaster, you expect that toast to pop up hot and brown. But, if you have not plugged it in the electrical outlet, that bread will stay there until it dries up. If the electrician did his work properly, and the connection with the main power supply is

completed, you have the power available in each room to operate your appliances. However, unless you make the proper connection with the power source and turn that power on, you might as well not have an electric iron, a toaster, a radio or television, an electric sweeper, or a dishwasher.

I have a dishwasher in my home; my employees gave it to me. You can load it up with dirty dishes and put in the "finish" that is supposed to take off all the streaks. But, if I do not push the button, those dishes will stay dirty forever.

Some people have the dishes in the washer, but that is as far as they have gone. Are your dishes waiting for you to make the next move? Why not push the button and put some power to work for you?

I want to help you push the button, and when you do, God is going to perform your miracle. We have a direct connection with the powerhouse, or the dynamo. When the power of God goes to work for you, you will see the same things happen today that happened in the ministry of the Lord Jesus and the ministry of the Apostles. We are still living in the dispensation of the Church.

Can God spread a table in the wilderness? Can He put food on your table where there is no supermarket, no meat or fish market? Can He put bread on your table without a bakery? Can He put a cake on your table without Betty Crocker or General Mills?

Could God give you money if you have no job? Could He give you support if you did not have a husband? Could He give you income without social security or old age pensions? Could God give you income without…what do they call that place where people go and beg? Oh yes…"welfare." If I had been to that welfare bureau as many times as some people, I would not have any trouble thinking of the name. "Welfare" is just not in my vocabulary. "Prosperity" is my favorite work – the blessings of God! 'Welfare." I will have to write that word down or I am going to forget it. I do not use "welfare." I use the word "prosperity."

Could God give you water without being connected to a hydrant? Even without a river? Without a lake? Without rainfall? He certainly gave the children of Israel some water without wells, and He gave it to them by a miracle. He gave them food to eat without a supermarket or a meat market or a quail hatchery. The Bible tells how a wind from the Lord miraculously brought quails from the sea and let them fall from heaven near the camp. He gave them shoes without a shoe store. He gave them clothes without a clothier. He gave them light every night without oil or electricity – the pillar of cloud above them caught fire. I am talking about the miraculous, the miracle-working power of God.

In I Kings 17:5, God fed a man twice a day without any catering service, without any dependence upon man. The ravens came twice a day and dropped Elijah meat and bread. But God did not depend on man with cafeterias, restaurants, supermarkets, bakeries or meat markets to feed Elijah. He did it supernaturally!

There are times when God says, "I will do this without man." He will do something miraculous for you without man, if you will get your eyes off man and lift up your eyes to Him from whence cometh your help. (See Psalm 121:1-2)

Too many widows today say, "Well, I know that God can, but I have no husband." A widow who has her eyes on man to meet her need will never make a pledge or give in the church offerings. Widow, you might have more to give to God without a man. Some of these men are what I call "preventatives" – they prevent their wives from giving or doing anything for God. Thus they prevent their wives, and themselves as well, from receiving those extra, additional blessings from God to supplement their meager fare.

Some women are as bad; they prevent their husbands from obeying the voice of the Lord in their giving: "How are you going to pay a pledge? You don't have anything but an old-age pension."

If that is all you have, and you don't look up to the Lord for anything more, then you are leaning solely upon the arm of flesh. You have your trust and your confidence in man – not God. If that little monthly check is all you have, you are in bad circumstances. That will hardly buy chitterlings.

I know some of you white folks do not know what I am talking about. You do not eat chitterlings, you just eat the pig's feet, his ears, snout, and jowls, and the cow's stomach…tripe.

Recently, I walked into a big market and saw some of those things. They are high priced. I have never seen them so high priced in all my life. "Soul food" some people call them. Well, it is not. If you would put the power of God and your faith to work, God would give you something besides the parts that are disliked and rejected by most people.

When the children of Israel got hungry for meat, God gave them breast of quail. There is nothing more delectable or delicious than quail. It is the very best.

A while back, when I was at home at Miracle Valley for a few days, the quail season was open. We bought two boxes of shells and our hunting license and drove out into the pasture. We had our limit before breakfast. That night, I filled that big skillet of mine with quail breasts. Brother Gray, dean of our Bible College, happened by as they were cooking. He had never tasted quail in all his life. Some of you have never tasted quail, either. You never will. All you will ever know is chitterlings. God did not give them to you. He said He would give you the riches of the Gentiles when you meet His conditions. Put God first in your life.

Brother Gray left my house with quail for his supper. I wanted him to have the privilege of tasting such a marvelous meat. When asked how he liked the quail, he exclaimed, "I found it to be most delightful and most delicious."

When I come to your house to eat, do not feed me chitterlings. Do not let anybody tell you that is soul food. That is hog guts. God has something better for His children. If you like to eat those things, go ahead and eat them. That is, if you have the time to pick the little tidbits of meat off the bones of those feet. It is mostly gristle, fat and skin. No wonder some of you are so fat. But the reason some of you put so much pepper and hot sauce on it is because you cannot stand the taste by itself. The reason you put so much onions and garlic in it when you cook it is because you cannot stand the smell without it. The smell will run you out of the kitchen.

I slipped into a large convenience market recently to purchase some grapefruit juice. It happened to be located in an area where mostly colored folks shop. I thought, "I ought to be able to find some grapefruit juice in this market. Everybody ought to eat about the same as I eat, because God is no respecter of persons to any color or any race. The promises of God are "yea and amen to all that believe."

I was amazed when I passed the meat counter. I never saw so many buckets of frozen chitterlings in my life. I never saw so many plain bones – soup bones. Bones are good. I buy them sometimes when I want a delicious pot of soup. At first I wondered why one store should have all that cheap junk, just because colored people go there to shop. It is an evident sign to me that the colored people in that area do not have much of an income, and they do not exercise much faith in God as the supplier of their needs.

It is not a sin to have little or no income. It is a sin when you do not have faith to believe God can bypass your adverse financial condition and perform something

supernatural for you to bless you financially even if you do not have a good job, even if you are a widow.

God can supply your needs by a miracle. He fed the children of Israel by a miracle. He gave them water by a miracle. He fed Elijah by a miracle. One morning when Elijah woke up, there was an angel cooking food for him on a fire. The angel punched him and said, "Wake up! The journey ahead is too great for thee." (I Kings 19:7) Elijah found a cake baking on the fire, baked by a supernatural being – a miracle.

When I get to heaven, I am not going to bother to ask the angel, "Where did you get that cake you baked for Elijah? And why after eating that cake was he able to run forty days in the strength of it without eating anything else?" If I were to ask the angel, he would say, "That was a miracle cake I baked for Elijah."

Why do you not believe God to send you something from heaven? God just speaks the word, and by the time it gets to you, it is a miracle.

Can God? All things are possible to him that believeth. What God wants to show you is that He can bypass natural resources. God is not limited to pensions, to social security, budgets, or salaries. He is not restricted to allowances, bank accounts, unemployment compensation, or welfare. God can give you money without the help or the assistance of a man. If God cannot, why did He put all the marvelous promises in the Bible?

In the second Chapter of John when Jesus provided wine at the wedding feast, where did he get the wine? He did not go to the winery. He did not go to a market. "His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it" (vs. 5). Jesus said, "Fill the waterpots with water."

"Whatsoever he saith"...in other words, it is not your business to turn the water into wine. It is your business to obey the Lord, and leave the miracle up to Him! Raise your hands and say, "Lord, give me grace to obey the Lord and allow Him to work my miracle."

In Matthew 14, when Peter jumped out of the boat and started walking on the water, he knew it would take a supernatural miracle, because it was against all the laws of nature for a man to walk on the sea. Peter did not look to the sea to provide the miracle He looked to Jesus for his miracle. As long as his eyes were on Jesus, God caused the water under his feet to coagulate as if it were concrete.

One preacher told me, "You know, I decided that if Peter could walk on the water, I could do it. I went out into the country and found a pond where the cows drink. I was sure to get away from everybody so nobody could see me." He confessed, "I didn't believe it would work, and it didn't either."

God's Word says, "According to your faith, bit it unto you." (Matthew 9:29)

God can heal you without medicine and without a doctor. God can perform an operation on you without surgery. He can fill your teeth without a dentist. Yes, He can! What I am trying to tell you is to get your eyes off the natural, and get your eyes on the supernatural. Depend entirely on God, and God will do it.

That is what a miracle is. Healing or a miracle is expecting something beyond your reach, and beyond the reach of mortal man. It is expecting something that is beyond yourself that has no connection with medicine, drugs, surgery, hospitals, dentists, old age pensions, income, salary, or markets. God can put food on your table without a market.

God multiplied my money one time, and turned all my one-dollar bills into twenties, so I could pay a printing bill. Do you believe He could do it again? I know He can. He has done it!

You and I can only go so far, but there is no limit to what God can do. You have to look beyond the natural means and tell Him, "God, I'm not counting on man to meet my needs. I'm counting on YOU." A miracle is something you receive from God beyond all that you can do, because there is a point beyond which you and I cannot go. There is that circumstance when we need the help and the power and the gifts of God to perform the miraculous.

I am often reminded of the miracle experienced by Brother Jordon, a pastor in Kansas City. He received a miracle offering one night, when he told the people that the church had to have fifty dollars to pay the rent the next day. There was only a small amount of offering in the basket. When it was all counted, everyone was disappointed. Someone else counted it again to be sure for the record, and the total was exactly one dollar more. He asked someone else to count it again for the record. Every time they counted the offering, it multiplied. Nobody was adding to the money on that table where they were counting it, but they kept counting it again and again. It increased until finally they shouted, "Glory! There is the fifty dollars!"

Skeptics do not believe it, but then they doubt everything they hear about God's blessings. They doubt the promises in God's Word.

A woman in my meeting in San Diego came down the aisle with twelve dollars. She said, "Brother Allen, God told me that if I put this money in the offering and get my eyes off the dentist, He would fill my tooth. In my mouth is a big, black cavity, and I was saving this money to have my tooth filled." She dropped that money in the offering and instantly, her tooth became filled with the most beautiful gold.

Early one morning, as Jesus stood on the seashore, the disciples came in from a night of fishing. They had cast out their nets all night but had caught nothing. Jesus said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find..." (John 21:6). Anyone knows that it does not make sense to put forth nets in the shallow water on either side of a ship and expect a multitude of fishes. Under those circumstances, they could not look to the sea to give them a miracle.

Some people rely solely on old age pensions, on social security, unemployment compensation, and on...what was that word I have trouble remembering? Oh, yes...welfare. That is for the beggars.

The Bible says in I Samuel 2:8, "He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill to set him among princes..." I say He will deliver the beggar from the welfare department – He will take the beggar and set him among respectable people. God delivers His people from welfare and provides a miracle for them financially. They will not be beggars because God does not want His children to be beggars. David declared in Psalm 37:25, "I have been young and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." In fact, God promises that we shall lend and not borrow (Deuteronomy 28:12).

Peter obediently put his nets down on the right side in the shallow waters, but he knew he could not look to the sea to provide a catch that day. He looked to God, and when the nets were pulled up, they were filled with great fish. They had to cry for help to bring them all in. It was a mighty miracle!

It was a miracle provision when God filled Peter's nets with fish. It was something that man cannot do when he caught that fish with money in its mouth (Matthew 17:27), so their taxes could be paid. If you can believe, God can let you "fishers of men" catch some men with money, too, and their offerings and tithes will help meet your church's needs.

One night, a lady said to me, "Brother Allen, let me testify. God has just given me a miracle. My husband who deserted me thirteen years ago has never given me one penny of child support. I have had a financial struggle. Last night, when I filled out a one-hundred-dollar pledge, I believed that God could miraculously provide the money to pay the pledge in faith. I also believed God could change my whole financial situation.

This morning, my husband called on the phone. He said, "I want to apologize, because I have not given you a penny of child support for all these years. I know I have been a mean one, but this morning I am mailing $16,000 to you for back child support."

Now that was a miracle. When she got her eyes off natural resources and got her eyes on God, He got hold of the man who was responsible for her problem and used him to give her a small fortune. God did it overnight!

God can use a man, a job, even welfare…but I would hate to bring God down to welfare. God can use social security, and He can meet your needs without ordinary means of support.

Recently, a newspaper reporter came into our Greensboro meeting and wrote a marvelous article about Miracle Revival: "THE ALLEN REVIVAL FAITHFUL DO THEIR THING FOR GOD." Let the devil's crowd do their thing…we have something to do, too, but we are doing our thing for God. In Habakkuk 1:5, God said, "Behold…I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you." By the mouth of Isaiah God said, "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it?" (Isaiah 43:19) "Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee; and the light shall shine upon thy ways." (Job 22:28) Throughout the books of Kings, Elijah did his thing for God; and signs, wonders, and miracles followed his ministry.

The reporter responsible for the newspaper article I referred to, before publishing the article, consulted with Dr. Moore, an authority on theology, who is the professor of religion at Guilford College in Greensboro, about our tent meeting. He told the reporter, "The Old Testament prophets had their ecstatic prophecy in which they sang and got excited in the very same way. I am very much for emotion in religion because people want release from humdrum reality, but it must be guided by experience and reason." In other words, the tent meeting is all right. They are just doing their thing for God.

The Holy Ghost will not make you jump out the window like LSD does. Why not get full of the Holy Ghost? You will not go to hell on a Holy Ghost trip. It will be a heavenly trip. It is too bad that some theology professors don't take a little Holy Ghost trip.

Philip took a Holy Ghost trip in Acts 8:39. He didn't go on a Greyhound Bus, he didn't go on a jet, but the Holy Ghost took him on a trip.

Elijah took a trip and was caught away alive up into heaven. (II Kings 2:11) Are you ready for a trip? We must have enough of the Spirit of God in our hearts if we are going to be changed in a moment. We will be doing our thing for God for the last time. You had better get filled with the Holy Ghost and keep in touch with God, or you are going to have nothing to do when Christ returns for His own. (I Corinthians 15:52)

These are momentous days – God is working miracles. One man said to me as he placed a check in the offering basket, "Brother Allen, this check is from an insurance company. I was not even aware that I had a policy with this company, but they sent me this check. I am giving it to God." Another exclaimed to his wife upon receiving the current bank statement, "Momma, I know you wrote the check for the last of our money in the bank (they always had to watch the balance before writing a check), but look at the

bank statement!" When they checked with the bookkeeper, the amount had been deposited! When Brother Jordan's offering increased every time someone counted it, he looked up to heaven and asked, "Lord, what are you doing?"

The Lord said, "Son, I am letting you see a miracle on this table. If I can multiply loaves and fishes to provide for My children, can't I multiply money?"

When God feeds you by a miracle of provision, that is what I call "Soul Food." In the last tent meeting in Philadelphia, we have such huge crowds that one catering company sends out four concession trucks each day to provide food and light refreshments. It was handy, because restaurants are too far away from the campaign location. On one of the big trucks the sign says, "Soul Food – Fried Chicken."

Anybody knows that fried chicken is not soul food. You can buy it from the devil. When you get food for your soul, it has got to come from God. That catering company was commercializing on "Soul." I pray each day that from this ministry with its many different phases that you will find the food for your soul that God wants you to have. I am asking God to turn you on, to turn your meal barrel on, to turn the oil cruise on, so that you can start doing your thing for God. I am asking God to turn your pocketbook on. I want God to show you that He can take care of His children without a husband, without a guaranteed income, without a good, steady job, without social security, without welfare. He blessed the children of Israel with miracle after miracle. Aren't you His child? I am going to ask God to give you faith to believe that God not only can or will, but that He is going to do it for YOU!

"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:6). God tells us to acknowledge Him if we want Him to direct us in His will.

When I sit down in my automobile, before I ever turn the key, I say, 'Thank You, Jesus, for this automobile." I feel His presence in the seat beside me. When I sit down to the table, if it is just a hamburger or a bowl of soup, or a plain piece of cheese on a cracker with a slice of onion, I thank Him. When I sit down in a restaurant and the waitress serves my food, I say, "Thank You, Jesus." When I go shopping, as I push that little cart through the market, and start taking things off the shelf, I remember the scripture, "Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store. Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out…and the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail..." (Deuteronomy 28:5-6, 13). You have been the tail long enough.

Look out and beyond your past limitations. Get your eyes off the natural. Do not tell God what He can use. Do not tell Him that you are limited, or you will limit God. God is not limited when you give Him a free hand in your life. Take the limit off Him, and see what God will do for you.

"Now, Lord, I pray in the mighty name of Jesus, by faith, that you will turn these people on for God. We pray that they can do their thing for God in this day and hour when time is so short. We can do our thing for missions, for the ministry, for the evangelist, the pastor, the apostle, the prophet, the teacher, and the thing in this world that You have called each of us to do. Let us do that holy, godly, divine, scriptural thing that we have been called and ordained to do before Jesus returns. We know that it is You doing the work through a human instrument – in us, for us, and by us. Amen"

SAUL'S JAVELIN OF SELF DESTRUCTION

(A. A. ALLEN – 1970)

"And there was a javelin in Saul's hand. And Saul cast the javelin." – I Samuel 18:10-11.

Have you a javelin of which you are unaware? According to Webster, a javelin is a "light spear thrown as a weapon of war or in hunting...akin in origin to the forked stick…when not in action, carried on the back of the warrior." Thus, a javelin is an instrument used to accomplish an objective – that being most commonly to kill or injure an opponent or enemy. Javelins can consist of almost anything: lies, gossip, talking about things you know nothing about or don't understand – even speaking the truth when it is not spoken in love. A javelin is that thing which separates you from God.

Consider Saul. "Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his (Saul's) head, and kissed him, and said, 'Is it not because the Lord hath anointed thee to be captain over His inheritance?'" (See I Samuel 10:1) "…and it shall come to pass…that thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man." (I Samuel 10:5-6)

"…See ye him whom the Lord hath chosen." (I Samuel 10:24)

We have in Saul a man called of God, anointed of God and chosen of God; a man who had the privilege of climbing the hill of God; one who was changed into another man for the purpose of leading and being captain over the multitudes. Yet, even blessed thus by God, Saul failed to obey the Lord's commandments, and "the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him." (I Samuel 16:14) Note that the evil spirit was not from the devil – it came to Saul with God's permission, ordained and chosen by God to drive him to his knees in prayer and repentance; but Saul would not.

"And Saul's servants said unto him, 'Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee. Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand and thou shalt be well'.

"And Saul said unto his servants, 'Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me.'" (I Samuel 16:15-17)

"And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand; so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him." (I Samuel 16:23) Here Saul is well – here he is free. God has used David to deliver him, but, jealousy entered and Saul is more bound than ever.

"And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine (Goliath), that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of music. And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands." (I Samuel 18:6-7) That very second, Saul was on his way to hell!

"And Saul was very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands and what can he have more but the kingdom? And Saul eyed David from that day forward." (I Samuel 18:8-9) This is where Saul picks up his javelin. "I'll kill that David! He can't do

anything more to me than take my church, take my following, get all my saints, no more than take the kingdom. I'll kill him. He's not going to have my kingdom." Preachers, watch out!

Ministers everywhere are fighting for their little kingdoms – denominations fighting for their own little kingdoms. They'd rather kill a man with lies and gossip than to allow some other preacher to get five dollars of the tithes of their saints. They'd say nasty things about Jesus Himself if He were here and it looked like some of their members might go to hear Him and put a dollar in His offering. They do not really care if they go to hell! Most of them know that they are going there anyway – they're only in the ministry for what they can get out of it. Do you think one of those preachers would want one of his congregation to come in and say that they had been healed at one of Brother Allen's revivals? That pastor in all likelihood would set that member down and say in no uncertain terms, "I don't want any of that in MY church. Don't mention that name in MY church. Don't you know he isn't one of US?" Try it and see if it is not true.

This is why some of these Sauls don't like me. "Why, half of the people in my church are sending pledges to Brother Allen. What is that man trying to do – take my church?" I know how the devil talks, but I'm not out to win popularity contests – I'm out to win souls for Jesus and to carry His Word!

I happened to be on the telephone some time ago (while I was in charge of the 6:00 AM service in one of our campaigns) when the preacher to whom I was speaking said, "Allen, I hear you got $100,000 before breakfast this morning."

"How did you hear that?" I asked. "It is not even noon."

"We preachers have ways of finding things out," he told me.

"You have ways of finding things out that aren't true, too," I said. "Don't believe everything you hear."

He said, "Oh, but one of my saints called me and told me that."

I personally would hesitate to call anyone a saint who could make up a whopper like that. If that preacher repeats it as the truth, he's lying, too. Don't think for a minute that this world is not full of lying preachers. Some of them have me doing everything from riding a Honda to wearing a full-length mink! Or, if they want to make it appear that I don't have anything, then I'm "just a poor preacher preaching prosperity." Of course, there is no truth in it because if there were, wouldn't God bless me? Well, God IS blessing us with souls, and that is what we are trying to win.

Really, it is not so much what people say – it is their reason for saying the things they do.

Jesus had a lot of javelins thrown at Him, too. One of them killed Him, but He died willingly that we might live. Note, too, that the religious leaders of His day were the very ones who wielded the javelins.

"...And Saul had a javelin in his hand..."

"And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house; and David played with his hand, as at other times; and there was a javelin in Saul's hand." (I Samuel 18:10)

Notice that the only man who could deliver Saul and set him free from this demon that tormented him at this particular time was the same man who had ministered unto him in the past. David tried now to use the same method he had previously used to help Saul – **it would not work.** You can pray the same prayer today for some person that once brought healing and deliverance, and it may not bring deliverance to them now – if they have a javelin in their hand.

Our biggest problem today isn't praying for the sick and helping them claim their healing – it is getting the javelins out of people's hands that prevent them from receiving God's blessings. Whether it is for the body physically, the mind mentally, the soul spiritually, or the purse financially. God will not bless you when you're toting a javelin!

I've seen too many people come in wheelchairs only to be rolled away in wheelchairs because they refused to relinquish their javelins. They come in on crutches and hobble away on crutches. Even while praying, I can sometimes see the javelin in their hands.

One man came for a prayer card in Dallas who had all sorts of things wrong with him – he couldn't breathe, he had emphysema in both lungs, a bad heart, liver, and kidney trouble – you name it, and this man had it. I immediately saw what his trouble was in the pocket of his shirt – a pack of twenty. I reached for it, intending to relieve him of his problems, but he grabbed those cigarettes and said, "Oh, no you don't!"

"Man," I said, "what you need to do is get saved. You need to be born again. Your trouble – all this emphysema, this shortness of breath, and all the trouble in your body – could be, and most likely is, these cigarettes. Give them to me."

"I've been smoking too long to give up now," he told me. "I'm not about to quit." In other words, "I've had this javelin in my hand for forty years, and you can't make me put it down now."

"I said, "You're getting no prayer card. There will be no place for you in my prayer line. God has no healing, no help, no heaven for you until you get that javelin out of your hand."

A person's javelin may be his love of money or it may be his disobedience to the voice of God. Under our tent in Los Angeles came a woman who had been blind in one eye for many years and who was losing the vision of the other eye. She came to us terrified – a little more and she would be totally blind. The first night when I began to pray for her, God said that I should tell her that if she would obey Him, he would heal her. If she failed to obey Him, she would never be healed. After I had prayed for her and there was no apparent result, I whispered, so no one could hear me, and said to her, "Lady, God told me to tell you that He has been dealing with you concerning obedience.

You go and do what God is telling you to do – it's on your mind – you hear His voice – now do it! If you don't you'll never be healed."

The next night the same woman was in the prayer line again. I said, "I prayed for you last night."

"I know," she said, "but I want you to pray for me again."

I did – to avoid confusion and quarreling with her – but nothing happened. "You didn't do what God said for you to do last night," I told her. She walked off, only to return the third night for prayer again.

I asked her, "Didn't I pray for you last night and the night before?"

"Yes, but I want you to pray again," she declared.

"I'm not going to do it," I said. "I've prayed all I intend to pray. God told me to tell you that there was something you had to do, and if you do not do it, you will not be healed. Until you start obeying the Lord, I'm just wasting my time praying for you."

"Do you mean to tell me you are not going to pray for me?" she said angrily.

I thought, "Lord, it would be easier to pray for her again than to have her mad at me." We often do that. I don't want those women pulling my hair out. It's easier to lay your hand on them, offer a little prayer, and let them go home – then they will write you nasty little letters.

That woman had a javelin in her hand – disobedience, sin, self-will. I said, "Lady, you don't need another prayer – all you need is to say 'yes' to God."

She walked down the ramp, and when she got to the end of it, she threw up both hands, and everybody heard her – she threw that javelin aside! The moment she discarded her javelin, her vision was restored. She shouted, "My God, I'm healed! I have two good eyes, two good eyes!"

Do you know what had been keeping her from God's blessing? Everybody there knew what it was; she didn't try to hide it or keep it a secret. She lifted her face to heaven and cried, "God, I WILL pay my tithes!" That quickly, healing came.

One man heard a voice saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord." (Jonah 1:2-3) Jonah went down to Joppa, a bustling seaport, and when he bought a ticket for Tarshish, he picked up the javelin. "I'll not go to Nineveh. I'm going to Tarshish. Give me a ticket to Tarshish." He bought his ticket and got on a ship headed in the wrong direction – but he didn't get very far. Just like old Saul, he said, "I'm having trouble. My God, I'm having trouble. This thing has swallowed me up. I'm in the belly of hell!" There he was – struggling and still at war with God.

"The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped around my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: my soul fainted within me."

(See Jonah 2:5-7)

"My God," he cried, "I can't die like this. I can't die with the call of God on my life. God called me to Nineveh. Here I am on my way to Tarshish – I'm not even on my way to Tarshish now – I'm on my way to hell!" Jonah might have thought he was going to Tarshish, but God threw up a roadblock.

"Then I remembered the Lord." People always remember God when they hit the bottom. "Then I remembered the God." He said, "Lord, I will pay that which I have vowed" (See Jonah 2:9), and immediately the fish vomited Jonah out on dry ground. Do you know why the fish vomited him out? In the belly of hell, Jonah ditched that javelin!

He said, "God, I'll go. I'll go, Lord. Whatever you say, I'll do." Then and there, he threw that javelin down. The moment he turned loose of it, God told the fish to head for shore. Jonah found himself on dry ground, running…running to do his thing for God. Running to do the will of the Lord.

There are many of you who have heard the voice of God and haven't obeyed it. It is no wonder some of you are sick; no wonder so many of you are diseased, afflicted and crippled. You are so troubled, so distressed, so burdened. If you will just say three words to the Lord – say, "Lord, I will!" That is what Jonah said. "Lord, I will!" Get that javelin out of your hand. I don't care what some person has done to you; I could care less what that person has said – get that javelin out of your hand! No matter how badly that woman has treated you, no matter how mean that man has been to you, no matter what they have done to hurt you or to try to destroy you – get that javelin out of your hand. If you don't, you're going to fall on it. When you do, you're gone.

God has said that you women, too, should preach His Word. You've countered with, "I can't. The bishop doesn't approve of women in the pulpit." It is no wonder that

you're having troubles! No wonder trouble has swallowed you up, taken you to the bottom! No wonder your soul has fainted within you!

It appears that javelin-throwing might well become the national pastime. Everybody is getting in on the act. So-called saints are constantly throwing javelins at people they don't like in the next pew. Wives throw them at husbands and vice versa.

Boys and girls, children, teenagers, are always throwing them at each other. Everyone throws them at the President (I don't know how the man stands up under the mental strain, the pressure). I can't recall a time when one political party was not throwing javelins at the other – Democrats at Republicans, Republicans at Democrats. Whites are forever throwing them at blacks, and blacks are at war with whites. There is little wonder that we have so much trouble in the nation – little wonder that there is so much unrest.

You don't have to go to the ghetto to see people throwing their javelins, either. There is more of it in the churches than you'll find on skid row! The church is divided; the preacher is leaving – looking for a new pulpit because he's tired of dodging javelins. That divorcee who has been remarried so many times is always throwing javelins at him – that is why he is generally afraid to preach on Bible causes for divorce or on remarriage. He has so many mini-skirted Jezebels with all their war-paint and jewelry that he is scared to preach on worldliness and "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world; any man that loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him." (I John 2:15) He knows Jezebel has a javelin after him! He'd better not preach too much about money, either. He has that rich young ruler down there who has already rejected the message, rejected Christ, because he doesn't mean to give a dime of his wealth away as Jesus has asked him to do. The preacher is also afraid that the deacon who has all that money is going to push him out of the pulpit, and he will have to find another place to preach. He dares not preach too much about holiness because there is too much sin sitting in the pulpits of his denomination. If he dwells on the subject of holiness, somebody is going to stick a javelin in him – and you know who that somebody is!

Anytime you preach on why some people do not get healed, why some people are not delivered, or why some people can never be saved, someone is going to throw a javelin at you. I can take it – I'm used to it. Because I preach this way, I presume that I get more javelins thrown at me day after day than any other preacher in the country.

It does not surprise me that preachers are throwing javelins at each other now. Denominational preachers are being provided with javelins from their headquarters in order that they might more quickly do away with other preachers who are not members of their organization and who might steal some of THEIR sheep. Preachers on the radio are throwing them at one another. Even preachers who hold credentials with the same denomination are at each other's throats – throwing javelins from the pulpit every Sunday morning. Some preachers keep a stack of them behind their pulpits to throw out one at a time whenever the mood strikes them. Of course, they don't believe in the ruthless abuse of people, but when curses are in the heart, "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." (Matthew 12:34) You don't have to kill somebody to be guilty of murder - if you hate them in your heart. You don't actually have to commit adultery to go to hell for that sin if your heart is full of lust. You don't need to curse or swear at the preacher behind the pulpit – just throw a javelin at him!

Nothing will destroy a man more quickly than gossip and lies. If there is any one thing that preachers and churches are guilty of more than any other, it is having their mouths in gear while their brains are disengaged! Some people will talk up a storm about

things of which they are absolutely ignorant…"well, I heard it…somebody wrote it in a letter…I just happened to overhear it on the bus...a friend phoned me…"

A man who was dying of cancer called me from Oregon recently. He was so weak he could hardly speak, and his wife had to help him talk on the phone. "Brother Allen," he said, " I can't die like this, but I must die. The doctors tell me I have lung cancer in its terminal stage, and there is no help for me. I have to talk to you before I die, because if I don't get this javelin out of my hand, I'll go to hell." Then he began to address some of the things that he had been telling about me. He said, "Brother Allen, I had no way of knowing at the time whether any of the things I said about you were true, but I said them anyway. Please forgive me. Mail me a prayer cloth. Maybe since I've gotten the javelin out of my hand there is a possibility God could even use you to bring healing to my body."

In Orlando, Florida, before the first service started at 10:30 a.m., I met a preacher back in the vestibule. "Brother Allen," he began, "I have had a javelin in my hand for four years. May I talk to you?"

I assured him that he might.

He said, "I must get rid of this javelin. I'm going to pieces. My church is going to pieces. I am failure as a minister. People are leaving my church by the score, and I have only a handful left in attendance. I've had to seek outside employment because the church lacks the finances necessary to support itself. I get up behind the pulpit to preach, and the 'Preacher' won't come. The 'Preacher' left me a long time ago – when I picked up the javelin."

The javelin he referred to happened to be a **pledge he made four years before**.

Somebody had come to him and said, "You don't have to pay that pledge because Allen is not even saved – he isn't even a Christian."

"But Brother Allen," he said, "God told me that if I didn't pay this pledge I made to your ministry, not only would I be trying to preach to an empty church, but I'd go to hell and never know the blessing and the anointing touch of God in my life or my ministry again. I don't have much money, but I want you to take what I have. I need to get this javelin out of my hand. Forgive me, will you, for listening to those other preachers gossip about you and your party? Down deep in my heart I knew that some of those things weren't true, yet I repeated them to others."

"…And Saul had a javelin in his hand…"

A man who had at one time been among the world's greatest preachers came into our Camp Meeting. He had been one of my greatest friends for years, but something had happened – and I know when and where it occurred. He grabbed up a javelin and held fast to it. I invited him over to my house after church for sandwiches and coffee just so I could talk to him and see for myself whether or not he still carried that javelin. Once he'd had an intelligent mind, a photographic memory. At one time he had one of the largest cities in the nation in the palm of his hand. He could have done anything he wished with that city – it was gift outright from God. God had just given it to him.

Seated in my home, he told me that he had just about completed a big church building (he sincerely believed this), yet I knew that he had not even poured the foundation. When I asked him about it, he said, "We're just putting the finishing touches on it now. It's one of the tallest and biggest churches in the world. Brother Allen, I'd like for you to come out next month and dedicate it."

What did he expect me to dedicate...nothing? I knew he didn't have any new church building. I knew him – I read his ads every Sunday morning and I am aware of all he is doing.

Some of the main speakers at the meeting were sitting around the table with us when I asked, "Do you mean to tell me that you have finished that already?" When he assured me that he had, I thought, "This man is mad; he is as crazy as a loon!" Yet I have seen the time when thousands of people flocked to hear him. I said, "Brother, you let me know when it is completely finished, and then we'll talk about that dedicatory sermon for your church." Needless to say, I haven't seen him since.

There was a time when I would have jumped into my automobile and driven a thousand miles just to hear that man preach one sermon. He was one of the greatest preachers I have ever heard in my life, yet somewhere along the line he, too, had picked up a javelin.

"...Saul had a javelin in his hand..."

I've been preaching long enough to know that some of the most dangerous javelin throwers in the world are preachers – because some of the most backslidden people in the world are preachers who have learned to go through the motions. A preacher's javelin might be a word, a few sentences, a statement...but he knows it's true because he heard it from a very authentic source. Oh, he doesn't really know – he wasn't' there, he neither heard it nor saw it, he has no evidence, he cannot prove it is true. If he were taken to court, he would be made a laughingstock, but...! He can get up behind the pulpit and say anything that pleases him, regardless of whom it injures, regardless of the amount of truth in it. When a man doesn't know the truth by first-hand experience, there is every possibility that he is repeating a lie. He lets go with his javelin! This is what is wrong with some of our churches today. There is no anointing of God, no blessing, no joy, no victory, no shout of triumph. Why? God has departed from them and has become their enemy! Oh, they have learned to do it without God, but a preacher is in a mighty dangerous position when he can learn HOW to have church – without God, without the Holy Ghost – just going through the motions.

Samson went through the motions, unaware that the Spirit of the Lord had deserted him when he'd gone to sleep in Delilah's lap one time too many. When told that his enemies were at hand, he shook himself as before and, not knowing that God had departed from him, went out to his doom. He'd been throwing javelins at God – and when you throw them at Him, it doesn't take His Spirit long to lift and depart from you.

Often preachers go through the motions because they don't know how to do anything but preach, even though God is no longer with them. He's afraid a cow will kick him, so he's can't get a job in a dairy – he doesn't want to get his hands dirty as a mechanic – so he keeps on going through the motions of serving God in a deserted temple. I know these people don't have Him because: if God were there, He would talk once in a while; if God were in their midst, He would work now and then; if God were among them, He'd move occasionally; if God were there, He'd bless His people!

It would surprise you how many people there are who have javelins after God – they are at war with Him! You'd be amazed at the number of people who get mad at God because He doesn't give them special permission to sin, to have their own way, live their own lives, and do as they please.

We had what we believe to be the world's greatest tent center in Phoenix, Arizona, where we had erected four large tents. God was blessing the meetings, and the crowds were consistently large.

One night as we ministered to those who came for deliverance, we were casting a demon out of a teenage girl. When I discerned that the demon was coming out, I asked everyone under the tent to bow their heads. Standing in the back of the bookstand with two of his cronies was a six-foot tall athlete who declared, "I'll bow my head for no preacher."

That quickly, the demon that had been cast from the girl entered the big football player. He sank to the ground totally paralyzed. His two buddies didn't know exactly what had happened, but they carried him to his car and drove him home. When they brought him back the next night, he was on a stretcher paralyzed form head to toe and capable only of speaking. He never got to throw the javelin in his hand. "...and there was a javelin in Saul's hand. And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice. And Saul was afraid of David because the Lord was with him, and was departed from Saul." (I Samuel 18:10-12)

Here is a backslidden leader of God's people, a man once anointed of God, chosen of God, and called of God, a man who had had a supernatural experience with God. He is alone now – God has left him. He is afraid of David, whom the Lord is with, because he himself is without God now.

Don't feel so badly when some of these people start throwing javelins at you who are in His will. Generally, they throw them because they are afraid – the Lord is with you and He has departed from them. When you walk in the paths of righteousness, the Lord will surely go with you, but mark my word: you are going to meet some Sauls! The very reason that Saul will try to pin you to the wall is that he is afraid of you. The preachers in your city will be afraid of you because the Lord is with you. This is the greatest battle we will have with preachers. They fear us for the same reason that Saul feared David. "And Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with him, and was departed from Saul." (I Samuel 18:12) When the Lord departs from a preacher, beware! He'll throw a javelin at you every chance he gets.

When a preacher becomes fearful of another preacher because God is with him, the first thing he will do is say, "That's the devil with that man – that's not God." When one preacher becomes jealous of another's success, he is compelled to resort to carnal methods such as character assassination if he would attain his ends.

It is my firm conviction, based upon scripture, that when preachers backslide, they're not just afraid of that other preacher. Saul wasn't just afraid of David, he was afraid of the God inside of David, he was afraid of the God inside the man. Saul feared David because the Lord was with him. Preachers across the nation who would destroy our ministry with their lying gossip know down deep in their hearts that God's Spirit has departed from them. Really, they are afraid of God, and they are just taking it out on us because they know God is on our side.

I'm letting God take care of these fellows. I couldn't kill them all if I tried, and if I were to try, I'd go to hell along with them. I have only one assurance of a successful ministry, and that is that I don't pick up a javelin. I have learned to ignore those who would throw them at me. While others are busy with their petty little wars, we'll just keep on having Holy Ghost Revivals! Don't you think that is a pretty good policy?

It would be wise for such persons, preachers, or saints, to remember the words of the Pharisee Gamaliel: "You cannot fight against this work (throw javelins at certain ministries and ministers) lest haply you find yourself fighting against God (throwing javelins at God)." (See Acts 5:39)

There have been times when I have been guilty of throwing javelins. I threw them in retaliation for some that had been thrown at me. I was the target of hundreds, and I only threw one – but it was the best one I had. After I had thrown my javelin over the radio in one of our broadcasts, I received a sweet little letter from one of my sisters in Christ, rebuking me in the Lord for what I had said. It said, "Brother Allen, if you are wise you won't spend the time throwing javelins at other preachers and denominations when you could be preaching the gospel. The men who threw them at you only do so in the hope that you will start fighting back. This is a trick of the devil to keep you from the blessings of God by causing you to waste time and energy you could be using for His glory. If you leave these men alone, they will eventually fall on the javelins intended for you." I took this dear lady's advice. Don't throw javelins back! This is like the dog that wanted to fight the skunk, because he knew he could whip it. He could, indeed, but he did so to his own detriment.

In a very similar passage in the next chapter, I Samuel 19:9-10, the evil spirit is back for the third time. "The evil spirit from the Lord was upon Saul as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand; and David played with his hand. And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night."

Saul couldn't get rid of the devil that was troubling him because he wouldn't lay that javelin down. David saw Saul waiting for him with it – he had dodged that javelin once before. "And David played with his hand…" But Saul wasn't loosed or liberated as he had been before. David had healed him previously with his music. Why didn't it work now?

Saul had a javelin in his hand. As long as you have a javelin in your hand as Saul had in his, David could play for you; I could have the choir sing their miracle prophetic music for you; I could pray for you until I'm blue in the face; you would, in spite of all this, never receive your healing.

Just the fact that someone is a faithful church member or an active worker in a denomination does not mean that person is an anointed child of God. You don't always throw these things down when you join the church. Some people get baptized with one in each hand.

A preacher with a questionable reputation came to one of the campaigns on the opening night, determined to sit on the platform with the sponsoring and cooperating pastors. My men came to me and said, "What are we going to do? We can't have that man sitting on the platform."

"I don't know," I told them, "but he's not going to sit up there. He is not going to sponsor one of my meetings. He has too many javelins in his hand." At one time he had been a truly great man of God. But worldliness crept in.

He wanted to connect himself with our tent meeting, because he wanted to convince people that he, too, was a part of something that was moving. On his radio broadcast the next morning, he told the people what a great service he had attended the night before – what a wonderful time he had under the Allen tent. He might have had, but he didn't have it on the platform. He thought that he could build a crowd for himself when our meeting was over if he made people believe that he was associated with this ministry. He made every reference that he was one of our sponsoring ministers. He said, "I have never attended a meeting in which the Holy Ghost was more evident. I've never seen such a crowd of people – there were at least twenty thousand under the tent, and thousands more outside."

In truth, I couldn't even get ten thousand people under that tent – he knew when he said it that it was not true – a javelin in his hand. When a preacher packs a javelin, you never know what he'll do next. He'll lie, he'll exaggerate, he'll steal, he'll take an offering for a missionary or an evangelist and pocket half of it before he turns it over to them.

We slip down a row of stretchers and wheelchairs. Here lies a poor man or woman dying. We try to talk to them and encourage and help them. Off times these people are brought in so late that you haven't time to deal with them properly. That is why we have Sister Lewis to help us in the invalid section of the tent or auditorium campaigns. Many times she's successful in removing the javelins from the hands of those who come to us for help. Many times she says, "That man is not ready, Brother Allen. That woman over in the wheelchair isn't ready for prayer – don't pray for her. Don't pray for that man over there – he has a javelin in his hand." She has been trying to get him saved, and he has let her know very plainly that he didn't come to the meeting for anyone to preach to him – he just came to be healed. In other words, he didn't come to be relieved of his javelin, and he will leave with that same hatred, ill will, jealousy, and sin in his heart. He is intent upon keeping it. There is nothing more heartbreaking than to have somebody come into the meetings from miles and miles away needing help, and you cannot help them anymore than David could help Saul.

In all my years as a minister I have never seen so much jealousy or a time when pride was more prevalent among the people and among the churches. PRIDE is one of the biggest javelins anyone could carry. God resists the proud – and some of the proudest people on earth go to some of our Pentecostal churches.

They are so bound by denominational doctrine that they can't even have revival anymore – but they are proud of the fact that they are so spiritual. If they're so super-spiritual, why don't they heal the sick, perform the miraculous, and cast out devils? They're afraid of devils, they heal no sick, they perform no miracles, but if you ask them, they are THE church…they are the most spiritual group in the world.

I asked a man in one of my services what his problem was. He told me he was not saved, and gave me a reason why he knew he was not a Christian. He was a member of one of these so-called Pentecostal denominations, and everyone at his church kept telling him that he was saved. He KNEW he was not. Here is one of the largest Pentecostal denominations in the world, and they don't even know when a man is saved and when he isn't! If they don't have enough spirituality to recognize the difference between the saved and the lost, they certainly don't have enough of the power of God to heal the sick and cast out demons! Be sure you never open the door of your heart to pride. Pride will tell you that you're too super-spiritual to go to church anywhere but to your own church, but should you go to another church, it certainly shouldn't be outside your own denomination! This is THE church – you KNOW it is.

It doesn't make a bit of difference what your religious affiliation is. You'll go to hell unless you get that javelin out of your hand, your purse, your heart. If you are not careful, you will fall on your own sword or javelin. Saul did.

You say, "We like the colored people, but…"

Bing! There goes that javelin.

You colored people say, "Well, we like the white people, but…"

Bing! There goes that javelin.

"We love Brother Allen, but…"

Bing! There goes that javelin.

"We like these Latin people, but let them go to their own church. Their compatriots are too dark to mix with our white people."

I want to tell you that if you don't get these javelins out of your hand, you're going to wind up as Saul – no man can help you – no gift of healing, no gift of miracles, no deliverance ministry can bring help or deliverance to you. When you stand before a man of God, even with a prayer card in your hand, you'd better make sure you don't have a javelin after someone. Some of you think you've done a pretty good job of covering up. Even the pastor doesn't know about the javelin you're carrying. You wouldn't want your best friend to know what kind of javelin you've been carrying around. It isn't always just in your heart. Sometimes your javelin is in your purse. Sometimes you stick in the bank under your name when it doesn't belong to you – it belongs to someone else. You think you have your javelin safely stored away. You're apt to fall on it. Saul did.

"And David played with his hands, as at other times, and there was a javelin in Saul's hand." Since Saul had that javelin, he never received the help from the anointed man of God he could have received – because he refused to lay that javelin down. Here is a man in deep trouble – the Spirit of the Lord has departed from him. "I pray, but God won't hear me anymore – God has departed from me and will hear me no more!" This is the reason he went to the witch at Endor. He consulted his men, and said, "What can I do? Whom can I talk to?" When God won't talk to you, that is when you start talking to the devil!

"Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And the servants said unto him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor. And Saul disguised himself and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night, and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring him up, whom I shall name unto thee." (I Samuel 18:7-8)

It is night. It's dark. Saul has disguised himself. He is afraid to go to the witch alone, so he has taken a couple of servants along. He doesn't want the witch to know who he is because, should she recognize him, she would think, "They're coming to kill me!" You see, up to this time Saul had killed every witch in the land because Moses had ordered: "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live." (Exodus 22:18)

Witchcraft is of the devil and as such is condemned by the Word. The Bible declares talking to the dead to be of Satan – all occultism is. So here is this man, formerly anointed of God to lead His people, delving into spiritism, occultism, witches, wizards, fortune tellers. It is no wonder some people go to soothsayers and spiritualist churches. Witchcraft is a religion. In all my campaigns almost every person who says that they are under the curse of witchcraft, say they got it in church. It is devil-worship!

This time Saul wasn't coming to kill the witch – he was coming to have his fortune told, to have a séance. He called for Samuel.

"And Samuel came and said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the Lord is departed from thee, and is BECOME THINE ENEMY?' (I Samuel 28:15-16)

A man called of God, anointed of God, and chosen of God, a man who'd had a supernatural experience with God – yet the Spirit of the Lord has departed from him now. Read on in your Bible.

"And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded by the archers. Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me…" – begging to die, pleading for death; God is gone. God will not answer him, there is nothing to live for. "But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword and fell upon it." (I Samuel 31:3-4)

There he is – there is the man God helped. There is the man God called, anointed, and chose to lead his people. Thousands had cheered him, and cried, "Long live the king! Long live King Saul! Look ye on him whom the lord hath anointed!" Look at him now.

Not because he didn't try; not because he hadn't received help before; not because he couldn't have been helped now had he thrown his javelin down – but he would not turn loose of it! Old Saul died with that javelin still in his hand. He that diggeth a pit for another man's feet, he that maketh a noose for another man's neck, shall hang on his own gallows, shall fall into his own pit. The very thing that Saul had tried to destroy another man with had become his own downfall. There he lay on the battlefield – no crown waiting, no eternity with Christ – already in hell.

My God, deliver the Sauls of today! Set them free from the jealousy, hatred, and criticism in their hearts. Save them before it is too late.

Now is the time to get that javelin out of your hand. Ask God to help you throw it aside. It is either get rid of the javelin or die with your sickness, disease, or infirmity, and eventually wind up with the doomed, the lost, and the damned!

YOU CAN BE CHANGED INTO
A NEW MAN!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1970)

All day long I have felt something wonderful in store for God's people. I believe the scripture that I am about to share with you is the beginning of something new that God desires to do for His people. In I Samuel 10, the Bible relates how Samuel poured the vial of oil upon Saul whom the Lord had appointed captain over His inheritance. Everyone knew that Saul had been chosen and anointed of God to be a leader.

Many of you have begun following the Lord and have experienced a touch of the anointing of the Holy Ghost upon your lives, and declare that you've been filled with the Holy Ghost and spoke with other tongues. However, a great many of you have never taken a step farther than that, and have never done the thing that God has called you to do.

Samuel discerned Saul's need for a special anointing for the task he was going to undertake. He spoke in prophecy to Saul in I Samuel 10:5-6, "After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they shall prophesy: and the Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man." I like the ninth verse. "And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart…" What some of you need to do is turn your back on Samuel. He can't do anything for you. Some of you have been living under Samuel's horn too long.

I want every one of you to get your eyes off of me. Look up! I'm not going to change your heart and turn you into a new man. God is going to do that. God is the only One who can lead you on. Too many people get their eyes on the preacher or the individual who prayed them through to salvation, who prayed the prayer of faith for them, or who helped stabilize them in the Word of God. Instead of going forth and doing what they have been called to do, they feel obligated to stay behind, and be "faithful" to the ones who founded them in God.

The minister or person who brought you into the knowledge of God and of salvation was merely fulfilling his obligation and the call of God upon his life. Now that you have freely received, you are to freely give! (See Matthew 10:8). Go forward with God, looking only unto Jesus, the author and the finisher of your faith! (See Hebrews 12:2). If I felt that I was obligated to always stay with the ones who brought me into the glorious light of salvation, I'd still be in the little Onward Methodist Church back in Missouri today. But I had to go a step further and find out that God had the Holy Ghost Baptism and all of His fullness for me.

God may use Miracle Revival to stir your soul and inspire you to believe God as never before! Remember, you must keep your eyes on Jesus, then go forth and do what God has called YOU to do.

The passage of scripture in I Samuel 10 can be paraphrased: "Thou shalt find a company that has come down off the mountain with a Steinway piano, a Hammond organ, and Rogers cymbals. And while they shall play, the Spirit of the Lord shall come on thee, and thou shalt prophesy, and you shall be turned into a new man." In a very real

sense, these skillful musicians that minister to us upon the musical instruments are prophets. God has been using the music of our anointed musicians in our campaigns to bring deliverance to many. Whatever channel God chooses to use, I believe God is going to change hearts. Preachers, we're going to be different people. We're going to believe Him for greater things in our ministry than ever before.

You who are bound by fear and unbelief are going to respond to the moving of the Spirit of God on your life, and He's going to change your heart! Those of you who have been enslaved by the works of the flesh are going to find freedom as you completely yield to the Spirit of God. God has healing for you who have been afflicted. God is going to turn your night into day and make you walk, talk, and live differently.

God is about to turn men into other men, and women into other women. He wants our hearts to be filled with His love, His power, His glory, and His blessings. If you have the call of God on your life, He wants to equip you to go forth ministering to the people, preaching a new message with a fresh anointing and a double portion of His power! God is going to have singers who will sing a new song of victory, and musicians who will play a new note of praise.

Everyone knew that Saul had been chosen and anointed of God to be a leader, because people recognized the Spirit of God on his life after he came back down the mountain. God had changed Saul into a new man; God had given him another heart. (See I Samuel 10:9-13).

Moses had a similar experience with God on Mount Sinai. He was changed into a new man. When he came down from the mount after talking with God, his face shone with the glory of God so that no man was able to look upon him. (See Exodus 34:35).

I am reminded of the time when Jesus went up into a mountain and was transfigured – He was changed into another man. The word "transfigured" comes from the word "metamorphosis" which means a change of physical form, structure or substance, especially by supernatural means. It means to be transformed as a caterpillar is changed into a butterfly. When Jesus came down from off the mountain, He had such a glow of the glory of God upon Him that "...his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as light" (Matthew 16:2). He was glorified!

God wants to change us into new people that we might be prepared to meet the challenge before us. When Moses was changed into a new man on Mount Sinai, God was preparing him for the great job he had before him in leading that great host of people through the wilderness. God prepared Saul to rule over Israel when He changed him into a new man. Jesus was prepared to face His week of sufferings and death after He was glorified on the Mount of Transfiguration.

I believe God wants to change YOU into a new man or a new woman that your life and ministry will have a greater anointing. The ninth verse of I Samuel 10 declares, "...and all those signs came to pass that day." Some of you may wonder why signs aren't following your ministry when Jesus said, "These signs shall follow them that believe" (Mark 16:17). God wants to give you another heart. He wants to give you a double portion of His Spirit. He wants to transform you into a man or woman of faith!

Down through the years, Pentecostal churches have preached, "these signs shall follow them that believe." However, many have never seen it come to pass and have quit preaching it. They haven't had an experience with God that produces this kind of a ministry.

We are seeing the "signs following" today. We are experiencing it! God is helping His people fulfill the Great Commission today, because He is finding men and women who are willing to have faith in Him.

Friends, let God finish in your life what He has begun. Ask Him to turn you into a new man – a new woman – a new creature in Christ. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Corinthians 5:17). When you get in contact with God, you'll find your whole life will be changed. Your faith will be greater, your ministry more anointed, and your goals higher in God. You'll be changed into a new person!

ONE HELPLESS YOUNG MAN in the service that night had been brought in a wheelchair by his mother. His face was tense because he suffered constant pain. Doctors declared that his stomach was being eaten away with ulcers. His mother testified that he had been in and out of the hospital for two years. The doctors had been unable to help him get well. Just before Brother Allen called the ushers to bring him to the platform during this outstanding service, he had surrendered his heart to God. Sister Lewis, the campaign nurse, had helped him get saved.

"How many believe God will do something for this young man?" Brother Allen asked. "God said, 'Behold I will do a new thing…' and I believe God is doing a new thing now!

"Our musicians are going to play; Gene is going to sing; while they minister to us in miracle music, God is going to perform a miracle. I decree it! I declare that God will do it, and by faith, I believe that God will bring it to pass now!

"Father, for this boy in this wheelchair tonight, I decree that the Spirit of God is going to come upon him and he is going to be turned into another man."

Everyone had noticed that the young man had a drawn, deathly look on his face. As the musicians played, suddenly, the life returned into his face. For the first time since he arrived at the campaign, a big smile appeared on his face.

Brother Allen declared, "I believe he has been changed and turned into another man. Let's see what happened. What did you feel?" Brother Allen asked him.

"A little of everything. God raised me up. I've got plenty of strength."

"You never had felt like that before? What did you think about it"?

"I'll tell you like it is. I see a great light. Beautiful! Wonderful! No one feels better than I feel tonight. I feel good! Yes sir! I feel good!

"Don't anybody tell me there is no God around here. When I came here, my stomach was hurting me. I don't have any pain at all. I feel like I've got a million dollars, and I don't have a cent. I'm going to be all right from this night on."

To demonstrate just how good the young man did feel, he began to sing, "I'll Overcome Some Day." The musicians picked up the key and joined in as the congregation stood and sang as one.

THIS IS THE DAY, saith the Lord, and lo and behold, I take even thee to the hill of the Lord. Thou shalt not tunnel through, but thou shalt climb this mountain. Thou shalt find those who have come down the mountain to meet thee. Lo and behold, these be those whom I have sent unto thee to turn thee into another man, to turn even thee into another woman, and to turn the child into another child. For the Lord hath heard the bleatings of His wandering sheep that are lost. Thou hast looked to shepherds, and they have not fed thee. They have beaten thee and driven thee away. But, lo and behold, the pastures are turning green with the rain the Lord hath sent from heaven. Thou hast come into this

place not by chance, but I have brought thee here. Thou has said, "Oh, that God would meet with me; oh, that I could find God in a new way!

"The Lord hath heard thee. Lo and behold, it is not by chance that thou hast come, for the Lord hath chosen this place, this day and hour, to make thee into another person. I have anointed thee, but thou knowest that thou hast not done that which I have called and chosen thee to do. Verily thou shalt go forth, but it shall not be the old man that shall go forth from this place. I have chosen this time to make thee another person, and thou shalt know that this has come to pass.

"Thy heart hath been empty, thy hands have been empty. Yea, thy speech has not been the right speech, for thou hast said things that even in thine heart, thou hast not fully believed. Even my ministers have stood and preached that which is not in their heart, because they have not believed all which they preach.

"Lo and behold, from this day forward, they shall preach a new message from a new man, and the shall believe that which they preach. The Spirit of the Lord shall come upon thee in a new way. Thou shalt prophesy, and it shall not be thee who speaketh, but the new man into which thou shalt be changed in this very hour.

"Hands have brought forth unto thee beautiful tools of music, and even new hands this day shall play, for I shall make new men out of men, and new women out of women, and shall give new hands to play from this day forward, and it shall be a sign unto thee and unto others.

"This is the Lord's doings. Though many have doubted and said this cannot be, it shall not come to pass in this manner, lo and behold, can a man's hands keep the floodgates of heaven from pouring upon thee? The Lord hath opened the gates this day. Though the hands of unbelievers shall reach to the sky, and they shall say, 'We shall forestall this and stop it,' behold the floods shall sweep them aside, and thou shalt see the glory of the Lord."

Following the sermon on this memorable night, a great number desired to be transformed into a new person for the glory of God. Among those who came forward were those who desired salvation, healing and deliverance, and a new anointing for greater service.

WHAT THE CHURCH SHOULD HAVE DONE YEARS AGO!

(A. A. ALLEN – 1970)

The time has come when people whose church will not allow the Holy Spirit of God to manifest Himself through the gifts of the Holy Spirit in their sanctuary, may be seeing God's signs, wonders, and miracles on their local TV network stations. Signs, wonders, healing, and miracles are news! These people want the world to have the privilege of knowing what God is doing today!

A few months ago, I was invited to appear on the Dennis Wholey Show. Rev. Ross Collette flew with me to Cincinnati for the occasion. Most of the day I had prayed. I said, "Lord, millions of people will view this show. Give me an answer for every question Dennis Wholey asks me." I did not know what the questions would be, but by the time we arrived at the studio, I felt I was ready for any question I might be asked.

Shortly after we arrived backstage, we watched the technicians start the show. I did not see Dennis Wholey. The first thing that appeared on that network show was a run of film made in an A. A. Allen Miracle Revival. I thought, "Lord, are they starting this show with a miracle/"

What a startling opening! On the film, the revival attendants were leading a totally blind woman up to me on the platform. I laid hands on her in the name of the Lord, and asked God to let blind eyes see. As I took my hands from that woman's eyes, she started jumping and screaming, "My God, I can see! I can see!" There was a cutaway of the crowd showing their reaction to the miracle that had just occurred under the gospel "Big Top." The people were shouting praises unto the Lord. They were jumping and dancing in the aisles. Miracle Music was booming, and the people were having a time! There was a sudden break, and the title of the show appeared, "This is the Dennis Wholey Show." The cameras zoomed in on Dennis Wholey at this point, and he declared, "Folks, I dare say that many of you have never witnessed anything like you have just seen. I have never witnessed it before either. This is the first time I have ever seen anything like this." He explained to the people that they would see more of it on the show that night, because one of the guests was an evangelist, A. A. Allen, who would be telling them that in a very real sense God is alive – still healing the sick – still moving for His people.

What a wonderful way for a show to start! With a miracle! Millions of church members saw their first miracle on the Dennis Wholey Show. If your preacher is ashamed of healing and miracles, and you have never seen Christ's Great Commission fulfilled in your church, you may see faith-inspiring miracles on your favorite TV show or as a network news report. I believe this is God's time!

We had been asked to provide a film clip of some miracles that occurred during some of our campaigns. We chose some of the greatest miracles we had ever filmed. Just before they introduced me, they showed two more marvelous, miraculous healings that had taken place at Miracle Valley Camp Meeting – a woman who was helpless, dying of cancer. When they rolled her stretcher up to me for prayer, I asked the organist, "David, what are you going to play?"

He answered, "I am going to play, 'I've Got A Made-Up Mind.'"

I said to the congregation, "God is going to raise this woman up, and He is going to heal her while the music is played."

I am talking about the Dennis Wholey Show. Whoever heard or saw anything like that on a network show? I believe this is just the beginning of what God is going to do in this day and in this hour. All things are possible to them that believe!

The auditorium where the show took place is built like a theater with an improvised stage, and a large seating capacity. Those being interviewed are able to watch the show as it takes place, because there is a huge screen right above the stage. Everybody in that auditorium was stretching their neck for a better look at the screen to see what was going to happen to that woman on the stretcher who was helpless and dying of cancer.

As the film turned, you could sense the crowd's expectancy. All of a sudden, something caused the woman to begin to shake until the stretcher shook too. Then her feet began to inch the sheet off her limbs, and she made an effort to get her feet on the floor. She arose upon her feet, and began shouting, "I'm healed! I'm healed!"

As the Miracle Revival film continued, the ushers under the tent rolled up a wheelchair with a woman who had suffered nine strokes. She was paralyzed and had not been able to take a step. With emotion she declared, "I'm going to walk! I'm going to run!"

When I laid my hands on that woman, the power of God began to shake her. We took her by the hands, and in the name of Jesus assisted her to her feet. As she felt God's healing touch and new strength return, she said again, "I'm going to run!"

"Well, run then!" we encouraged her.

She was running by the power of God as the last frame of the film was projected, and Dennis Wholey turned to interview me.

We talked about the present-day Miracle Revival, about the thousands of people who run down the aisles to answer the altar call to get saved. I told how they fill the prayer tent to capacity, and kneel and pray fervently until they have a personal experience with God. We discussed how alcoholics and dope addicts are being saved and delivered instantly of their addiction, and genuinely born again. We spoke of people who are being healed by the power of God, and of old-time revival. We talked about Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever! (Hebrews 13:8).

MIRACLES ARE NEWSWORTHY!

God said through the prophet Habakkuk, "Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you" (Habakkuk 1:4). The Word declares, "Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways" (Job 22:28). And it is written, "Thus saith the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me" (Isaiah 45:11). I believe it is about time to take God and His Son, Jesus, out of the basement, and put them in the showcase so the world can know them.

In May, a LOOK Magazine reporter and photographer spent almost two weeks at Miracle Valley and at the Atlanta campaign taking notes and on-the-scene photographs. The October 7, 1969, edition of LOOK Magazine gave Miracle Revival a vivid, detailed, nine page write up.

During the Columbus, Ohio, campaign in September, ABC TV News flew cameramen into our tent campaign. They filmed our services for one solid hour on a Saturday night. The tent, which had been badly storm damaged in June, was packed to capacity. They captured on film, for release later, all the shouting, all the rejoicing, all the dancing, and all the singing. They recorded the organ music, the preaching, the altar call,

and prayer for the sick. I dare say that news release will be the first time that ABC Network Television News ever put such a story on a network. It is like God said, He will do a work in our day that we can hardly believe when we are told.

It seems that what these newsmen are trying to do is to find someone, somewhere, whom they can present on TV nationwide to prove to cold, dead preachers and their cold, dead churches that God is not dead. That Jesus Christ is yet alive! They have heard about Miracle Revivals and have chosen this ministry and these services to present to the people of the nation on network TV. God is going to let the nation know He is still alive.

WITH WHOM WILL YOU IDENTIFY?

Recently, at Miracle Valley, I was handed a newspaper clipping by Sister Butler, the managing editor of Miracle Magazine. She asked me, "Brother Allen, are you aware that some Assembly of God preachers are now beginning to wear the Roman collar?" Actually, I was amazed as I read the article, entitled, "PROTESTANT CLERGY DON 'ROMAN COLLARS' AS CATHOLIC PRIESTS TURN TO NECKTIES." It explained that many Catholic priests and theologians today are taking off their round Roman collars and are wearing neckties. In fact, regular dress has now become a custom for many of them. These men are breaking away from the Roman collar that dates back almost a century and leaving off the long black clerical garments that identify them as priests.

At the same time, the article reported that clergymen of prominent protestant churches, including many of full gospel Pentecostal groups, have now decided they should wear the distinguished-looking Roman collar and even the clerical garb that Catholic priests have been wearing for years.

Now, this is hard to believe, but the article explained that the pastor of San Francisco Calvary Temple began wearing a round collar one year ago, and now a number of his fellow Assembly clergymen have since begun to do the same thing. When one of the board members of the San Francisco church was asked what his reaction was to the Roman collar, he said, "It is good – it identifies him as a minister." Another board member commented, "It gives more of a reverent feeling."

"It identifies him as a minister." Is this the only way some Pentecostal preachers have to identify themselves as men of God? When Paul and Silas met that woman who had a spirit of divination, she did not have to look for a Roman collar to know that they were anointed men of God, full of the Holy Ghost. The Word says, "The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which show unto us the way of salvation" (Acts 16:17). Se did not identify them by the clothing they wore. She sensed the power of God. She recognized that power to cast out devils and to heal the sick. And, right then and there, Paul turned around and commanded the devil to come out of her.

Jesus did not have to wear a Roman collar and a long black robe so that people would recognize that He was anointed of God. In fact, Jesus warned the people, "Beware of the scribes (the learned religious leaders of His day) which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at the feasts." Jesus let the people know He was anointed of God by healing the sick, opening the eyes of the blind, casting out devils, and raising the dead.

They said, "Surely thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God, " because they saw His works. He told them, "If I do not the works of My Father, believe me not. But if I do…believe the works; that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in Me, and I in Him" (John 10:37-38). They knew He was the Son of God by what they saw.

The Bible does not tell us that the disciples wore their collars backwards so that they would be identified with the ministry. Acts 4:13 tells us that when the people saw the boldness of the disciples, "and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled, and they took knowledge of them, that they have been with Jesus."

How did they know? They knew that Peter and John had been with the Lord because they had the same power of God working through them. But when the power of God fails to work through preachers whereby the people would know and recognize God's anointing upon them, then they begin to feel the need of an outward adorning that will identify them as a minister.

I suggest that God's people pray through and return to that place of consecration where God can give a double portion of the Holy Ghost. They will take off that collar and that long robe and prove to the world by the works they do for Jesus that they have been with God. People will sense God's mighty anointing and their needs will be met through the anointed ministry for the glory of God.

APOSTASY VERSUS MIRACLE REVIVAL

This could be God's time to let the world know that the true Church is not dead. A New York City newspaper recently printed an Associated Press release in a Saturday night edition. The article by a noted theologian stated that today's church is dead, outmoded, out-paced, outdistanced, and that the time of Christianity is over. Some church denominations are dead, the Spirit of the Lord has long since departed. But, God will always have a people.

One great theologian said there might emerge a new image of a certain church that is engaged in just social activity instead of preaching the gospel, and it will work for the social good of men rather than exercising deliverance power over the devil that seeks to destroy mankind spiritually and physically. (I say that the members of this socialized church will emerge as a church in diapers, powerless for God – nothing more than babes – a scattered minority.) He predicted that by the year 2000, only 9% of the nation's population will be church members.

Theologians, men who have been considered religious leaders down through the years, including officials in a world-recognized religious organization, in just so man words declared that the church is dead and they intend to bury it. The idea of the church's influencing culture or society or government, they declare, is gone. Its loss of leadership in the world, they believe, is complete and final; it no longer has any power to influence anybody toward anything. How can a theologian who knows the scripture contend that the church has no power to dominate culture, government, or even influence history in this age? I believe that is the biggest lie the devil ever told!

I believe this is God's time to reveal to the world that His True Church is alive and victorious. Jesus is coming to catch away His Bride, THE Church. She will not be so infantile that she is still on a diet of milk and still wearing diapers. The Bride of Christ will be a glorious church that has made herself ready (Revelation 19:7). She will have no spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; she will be holy and without blemish (Ephesians 5:27).

It is thrilling to me to know that the personalities who produce some of the nation's top TV shows want something they consider worthwhile on their show that they believe might convince the nation that in this generation there is still something real in the hearts of God's people. It seems to me that some of them are using a portion of their network time to do what churches ought to be doing. If the church will not do it, I dare say that God can give his ministers prime time every night on network stations. Do not

tell me that I would not have the attention of the whole audience, if God were putting on the show as I prayed for the sick; I would have nearly every TV viewer in the nation. They would never watch some TV celebrity on another channel if they could see what God is doing for His people today.

I believe we are on the verge of something marvelous. I believe this is the beginning of something mighty that could sweep the whole nation into Miracle Revival.

Television is the medium that God will use. At present, some local stations refuse to make time available for religious programs, and others charge evangelists an inflated commercial rate for time to preach the gospel, while, at the same time, they donate free time to religious groups who present religious dramas instead of the preaching or ministering God's Word to the people.

Our nation is swept with immorality and every kind of sin and vice. We need a sweeping, genuine revival. God says He will deliver His sheep from evil shepherds, "...for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them" (Ezekiel 34:10). I believe that time is at hand! God intends for His sheep to be loved and fed.

IF IN YOUR CHURCH you never see sinners repent, and pray through to a born-again experience with God – if you never hear joyous music, the shouting and praising of God in worship services – if you never see a sign, a wonder, or a miracle, YOU MAY SEE IT ON TV! Open your heart to what God is doing today!

YE SHALL EAT THE RICHES OF THE GENTILES..."

"But ye shall be named the Priests of the Lord: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of he Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves"
– Isaiah 61:6

A mighty new thing is taking place. God is fulfilling His prophecy to restore to the Church all its former anointing and power. AND MORE! HE IS ALSO RESTORING PROSPERITY to His believing children, the Church, and fulfilling His promise, *"Ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles."*

We know what God will do for His children today and in the days ahead, by looking in the Word of God and seeing what He did in the past. He has brought His Word through blood, fire, through imprisonment, persecution and even death so that we might have these words of life and examples of faith.

When God brought His people out of Egypt's bondage, He made provision for them so they would not have to start their journey broke. They had been slaves...long hours of toil under Pharaoh's whiplash. God instructed them, *"...borrow...and ye shall spoil the Egyptians"* (Exodus 3:22). *"And the children...borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver and jewels of gold, and raiment...and they spoiled the Egyptians"* (Exodus 12:35-36). *"He brought them forth also with silver and with gold"* (Psalm 105:37).

God instructed Moses to tell the children of Israel, *"The Lord shall fight for you and ye shall hold your peace"* (Exodus 14:14). All along their journey, time and again, God fought their battles.

On one occasion God reminded them, *"And I sent the hornet before you, which drove them out from before you...And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat"* (Joshua 24:12-13).

Another time the enemy fled, leaving everything: *"For the Lord had made the host of the Syrians to hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, even the noise of a great host: wherefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses and their asses, even the camp as it was and fled for their life...lepers came to the uttermost part of the camp...they did eat and drink and carried thence silver and gold and raiment...and the people went out and spoiled the tents of the Syrians, so a measure of fine flour was sold for a shekel, and two measures or barley for a shekel, according to the word of the Lord"* (II Kings 7:6-16).

Too many of God's children have been eating pigs' feet, kidneys, chicken necks, and chitterlings! They have scraped the bottom of the barrel too long already. Preachers and missionaries and their wives and families have sacrificed, and still had to curtail their efforts for winning the lost because of lack of funds. God has said it's enough! He is going to do a new thing. His workers and ministers must have this "new thing" to do a quick work for God.

God wants to bring you out of bondage and give you all that you have faith to claim of His great riches and provisions. Has Jesus not redeemed us with His own precious blood and called us heirs of God? *"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our*

spirit that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together" (Romans 8:16-17). God is your FATHER! You are a son and an heir! And God says, *"Every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine...for the world is mine, and the fullness thereof"* (Psalm 50:10-12). He has willed it to YOU, and has promised to share it with you NOW!

God brought His people out of Egypt with silver and gold. He knew there would be no place for them to spend or use the gold out there in the wilderness, but He looked ahead and knew there would be the time and place to give that gold and silver for the work and worship of God when they came into the Promised Land. How much more will He NOW provide for His children today, as we endeavor to point a lost and dying world to the Christ who takes away the sins and sicknesses of the whole world. God knows our needs and He also sees the heavy expense burden of preaching the gospel. Will you be one of God's children who will claim His promise for His blessings and prosperity? Will men to able to call you "Minister of our God?" Will you let God bless you for His glory?

When we stop to consider the scripture, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts, " then really all the gold and silver the children of God gathered in the spoils of the enemy was really theirs as children of God. God was just giving back to His children something that had been "confiscated," as it were, by those to whom it really DID NOT BELONG.

God caused such confusion on one occasion upon the enemies of the children of God that they destroyed one another. When the last was dead, God told them to gather up the riches of their defeated enemies. *"And when they (Judah) began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir...and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy the other...and none escaped...And when Jehoshophat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found...both riches...and precious jewels...more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering the spoil, it was so much"* (II Chronicles 20:22-25).

In our great Washington, D.C. campaign, or first U.S. tent campaign this year, THIS WAS MADE REAL night after night as God spoke through the preaching of the Word, and as He spoke through prophecy, the supernatural gift of utterance. Claim the promise in this verse of scripture, *"Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper"* (II Chronicles 20:20). Believe the message God has for you, it is a real ministry TO YOU for your blessing.

TO PROVE TO YOU that God is interested in YOU PERSONALLY as an individual, listen to this account of one of the greatest miracles of prosperity of our time that actually happened during our Washington, D.C. campaign. It can happen to you! "According to your faith, so be it unto you."

One evening during the campaign in the Nation's Capitol, a sponsoring pastor, Brother R. G. Hardy, told me of his burden he had had for two years to build a church in the Capitol. He said, "Brother Allen, I'm going to make a hundred dollar pledge and believe God for this miracle. I make a pledge every time I need something from God. I believe God is going to give me the property."

I preached that night, THOU SHALT DECREE A THING AND IT SHALL BE ESTABLISHED UNTO THEE! At the close of my sermon, immediately a young man began to prophesy. God was speaking through a gift: "Into this wicked, adulterous city

that needs God, I shall give this tabernacle. For thou shalt decree it this night. Thou hast searched for a building and has not found, but yea I say unto thee, the Lord has a place for thee, a building that shall seat thousands, which shall be equipped with air conditioning, and I shall give thee a building that is filled. I shall give thee people that shall help support this tabernacle. For I say unto thee, thou shalt claim this city! I have raised up a prophet in the land, and I the Lord thy God, through him, shall get thee this tabernacle!"

I nodded to Brother Hardy. We knew that this was God speaking to him about the church he was believing God for. Brother Hardy testified, "After Brother Allen preached on DECREE A MIRACLE, I felt faith for a miracle in my heart." I reminded Brother Hardy how Joshua pointed his spear toward the great city of Ai and God put that city in his hands. Then I took him by the hand. I did not have a spear, so I put my Bible, a sword of the Spirit, into Brother Hardy's hands, and told him to point it toward the Nation's Capitol.

A few nights later, Brother Hardy grabbed my hand in front of the tent and told me, "For almost two years we have been praying and looking for a building in Washington. God has led me to the building! This property is valued at over a million dollars...goes from one block to another block. It's got over one hundred thousand dollars of air conditioning in it...parking lots, and I'VE GOT THE KEYS RIGHT HERE! He held them up to show me!

What a beautiful illustration of God's ministering to His people through His servant. To me, this is a ministry. Enemies of this great revival are always quick to condemn anything that is not approved by their man-made customs and traditions. Nevertheless, God has a ministry and ministries today TO MINISTER TO YOUR NEEDS! *"...believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper"* (II Chronicles 20:20).

Elijah was ministering to the needs of a starving child of God when he asked the widow of Zarephath, "Bring me a little cake first." Her obedience and believing the prophet of God brought deliverance from an empty meal barrel in a land where there was no more corn. With only one handful of meal in the barrel, SHE BELIEVED in God's prophet and his ministry of deliverance. Because she believed and obeyed, she was delivered from eminent death by starvation.

Elisha enjoyed a similar ministry when a widow who was in bondage to the demon of poverty came to him. Her two sons were being taken by the creditor for payment of their debts. She was spiritual enough to know the man of God was not after her last little pot of oil. She recognized it as a ministry, and she trusted God's prophet. Under his ministry, God started a gusher in the little pot of oil. In a few moments time, God gave her prosperity! She paid all her debts. She and her sons began to eat. So can you! "Ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles!"

Christ was not after the rich young ruler's wealth when He instructed him, *"...go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor..."* Everything Jesus did was His ministry to the people. He was really after the young man's soul. It was a ministry! The man's salvation was bound up in his great possessions. Jesus knew He could never get the MAN until he got his money out of the way. *"...lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also"* (Matthew 6:20-21).

God says your money is the real you. It represents your ability, your talent, your strength, all your wisdom, knowledge, health and effort. It represents your time and ability to make money, and your accomplishments. In a great sense, your money is YOU!

In the same sense, one who is unwilling to give his money to God's work is unwilling to give himself. God states that He has no pleasure in them who draw back unto perdition. Jesus gave His all in this life to be our example, and gave His life for our salvation. To all of us is the commandment, "Bring ye all the tithes..." (Malachi 3:10). And to those whom Jesus cannot reach because of possessions, He says, "Go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give...!"

You may come face to face with a similar ministry. Would you resent being asked by the preacher for your last cake? Will you accuse God's prophet of being after your last little pot of oil? Will you go away very sorrowful because God instructs you to sell your great possessions and follow Jesus in to the ministry? When the moment comes for the man of God to receive your offering, what is your reaction? Do you react like the natural man? Or do you realize the spiritual significance? Your giving, and your attitude when you give, is the KEY TO HEAVEN AND YOUR PRESENT PROSPERITY! IT IS YOUR WAY OUT OF TROUBLE! "God loveth a cheerful giver!"

Much trouble comes because people fail to obey God completely. Most of us know how Jonah did not obey God and soon found himself being thrown overboard into a tempestuous sea. Few of us realize that Jonah had also vowed unto the Lord and had not paid. From the belly of the great fish, Jonah cried out, *"But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving: I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord. And the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land"* (Jonah 2:9-10).

Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me" (Psalm50: 14-15). When Jonah promised to pay those vows, God immediately answered prayer. This is the key to deliverance. Jonah would have perished in the belly of the fish if he had not renewed his promise to ay his vow. Many people will die because they will not obey God. They will not PAY! They will never be healed of their afflictions or delivered from their troubles. God said to PAY, then CALL when trouble comes. After you PAY, CALL on God. He will DELIVER YOU. Your obedience to God's command will give you that faith and confidence that moves God.

When in the natural it seems there is no way out, whether it be Jonah or you today, make everything right between you and God. Then, every promise in the Word of God is yours. God will answer prayer. *"When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him"* (Proverbs 16:7). *"Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain. Vow, and pay unto the Lord your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared. He shall cut off the spirit of princes; he is terrible to the kings of the earth"* (Psalm 76:10-12).

Sacrifice always has and always will move God to action. And so will a willingness to sacrifice. You will remember how Christ sat at the treasury, unmoved as the rich brought their vast amounts of money and cast it in. They were not sacrificing. They were giving out of their abundance. Then the poor widow gave everything she had. Her sacrifice moved Christ. It's not the amount you give to God that counts. He doesn't keep books like man does. Figures don't necessarily count with Him. God looks at what you have left after you give. He records the amount of sacrifice involved in your giving.

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Readiness to give moves God. When Jacob made a vow to God on that lonely hillside, he had nothing to give. He just promised God that one tenth, the tithe, of

everything that he earned he would give to God. God was moved by this willingness, and made Jacob one of the richest, most prosperous men in the entire world.

One day a memorial came up before God. It reminded God continually of a man named Cornelius. His prayers and his alms moved God to send an angel to minister personally to him (Acts 10). God also sent Peter to minister to his household and bring the gift of the Holy Ghost. Because of the prayers and sacrificial giving of Cornelius, God was moved to action on his behalf.

Aren't you anxious to decree that NOW is the time for God's blessing of prosperity to come upon you and overtake you? WHAT DO YOU DECREE? Decreeing faith comes from God only. It can never come to a heart that is filled with condemnation. *"If our hearts condemn us not, THEN...THEN HAVE WE CONFIDENCE TOWARD GOD. AND WHATSOEVER WE ASK, WE RECEIVE OF HIM, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight"* (I John 3:21). The secret of faith is OBEDIENCE to God's words, commands, and desires. We must have that confidence that God is pleased with us and ready to answer our prayers. It is then and only then that God gives you faith to decree a miracle. It's impossible to believe God when you know you haven't done all you should do.

Have you noticed that all God's promises are conditional? When you do the "IF'S" you can have the "THEN'S!" *"IF thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up...THEN shalt thou lay up gold as dust...the Almighty Shall be they defense, and thou shalt have plenty of silver...Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt PAY THY VOWS. Thou shalt also DECREE A THING, and it shall be established unto thee..."* (Job 22:23-28).

It has been prophesied that this new Restoration Revival is God's last move in the earth before the coming of the Lord. God spoke, "My people will move with this move, or they will move with nothing." This means, "This is God's work in the earth today. His people will be supporting His work or THEY WILL BE SUPPORTING (practically) NOTHING!"

God says, *"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come"* (Matthew 24:14). What a tremendous task. God knows the evangelizing of the world is going to require the combined efforts of all of us together, in every manner of communication possible. He knows the expense in money alone for this great undertaking will be a high cost...for gospel literature, campaigns, workers' training, missionary support, radio and TV, and not overlooking the necessary postage, traveling expenses and shipping costs as well.

God's people need a financial miracle. We must believe God's Word and listen to His prophets. He will have to fight the battles against our enemies for us, and we will have to gather the spoils. He will surely bless those of us whom He can trust to use prosperity for the work of the gospel.

Can God talk to you? I have been led of the Lord to believe God to speak to multiplied thousands of you to make a new 'EAT THE RICHES OF THE GENTILES" prosperity pledge NOW! I believe He can and will speak to YOU NOW! God has revealed to me how I can agree and decree with you. "Decree" means to decide...to make up your mind. Webster says it means, "One of the eternal purposes of God whereby events are foreordained." Another definition is, "foretell by faith."

If you have not made a vow, then recall what God said: "VOW AND PAY!" Make one now, and if you have nothing to give at this time, vow and hand in your pledge form. If you have already made a pledge, and you have not paid your vow, make a payment

now to show your renewed faithfulness. And *"...see if the Lord will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it"* (Malachi 3:10). *"...men shall call you the Ministers of our God. YE SHALL EAT THE RICHES OF THE GENTILES..."* (Isaiah 61:6).