

QUESTIONS ASKED OF JESUS
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1. ...recorded in the Word. And I have found and made a study of them, or I wouldn't be giving you the Truth that I do unless I had made a more or less thorough study along the line. I have concerned with QUESTIONS which are recorded in the Word of God, and sometimes there are ANSWERS. And so last night, we were dealing with four questions which are asked when the answers are ALREADY known. But we found that there was a reason WHY the question was asked. It was to bring forth an answer which consists of a CONFESSION. And when that answer is given in the form of a CONFESSION, the confession becomes the BASIS on which the BLESSING may fall. So we found a little LAW in this REALM OF SPIRITUAL REALITY where we're living and moving. That as we said before, this REALM OF THE SPIRIT have laws, regulations, principles, just as REAL as the realm of flesh and nature where we are with our NATURAL laws. The NATURAL laws are based upon visible, tangible phenomena. We can see, sense, feel, because we have five senses that report to us, and we believe these laws and we work under them. Now, in realm of the Spirit, where we are BORN; if you are a BORN Christian. I dealing from the standpoint that you are all BORN CHRISTIANS, with a witness in your heart that you are a child of God. That Jesus Christ is your personal saviour. I'm not an evangelist, getting souls saved. He GIVES them to me. People are quickened, and brought into a consciousness of God to a place where they will make a choice thru the message that's given. Primarily that is not my objective. I want to deal with people who are already familiar with the things of God, and have moved, more or less, in this realm for a time, to get acquainted with it. So that, in the realm of the Spirit into which you have been born by the Spirit, you have also become acquainted with the fact that God is a God of ORDER. He works with METHOD, with SCHEME, with TECHNIQUE. And finding that so, it makes teaching intensely interesting. As a teacher, I have discovered, in the realm of Spirit where we are now living as Christians, we make discoveries of laws and principles by which our lives are regulated. Now, if we are careful to DISCERN that, and see the law, know how it operates, how many know, life in the Spirit will become intelligent? It will become to your advantage. You will GROW under it, because you are INTELLIGENTLY COOPERATING WITH GOD AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD to bring you OUT OF an OLD ORDER of life into a NEW ORDER OF SPIRITUAL REALITY. And that's where I live. That's my philosophy, and that's what I teach. So in this REALM OF THE SPIRIT, if I will work long enough at it, and I've been in the field for some time, you make these DISCOVERIES. I was making a study of just these simple questions. And we found for basic questions asked last night. Fundamental questions. Everyone of them was ASKED, when the person was already acquainted with the ANSWER. But we found the reason for it being presented, why did he ask? Because it called forth from the person, when He asked, a CONFESSION of the situation. And then when that situation has been laid down as a platform, God comes down with a BLESSING and rests upon it. Very simple. Question...answer. Answer is the platform....down comes your blessing. We found four of them last evening.
2. Now for a little while tonite, I want to deal with 3 questions. I don't have four. 3 questions which are asked, and the answers are given. It isn't always asked because they don't know, they are asked, but instead of being precisely in definite order, so that the man, if we say, "what time is it." And he says, "Four o'clock," it won't be as definite as that. But it will be somewhere in the radius, so that as your situation speaks and calls, the answer will come TO it. We're all CURIOUS people. That's the way we're born. They say some people have it more than others. Well, I think curiosity is all right, if it's guided and directed. Because it's our "feeling" out for light and revelation and help and teaching. I want to deal with 3 general questions which we, as Christians ask. They are not questions that people in the world are usually asking, however they DO. But I'm not going to deal with it from that angle. I'm going to deal with it in the realm of our Spiritual living. In the realm of our Spiritual living as CHRISTIANS, there are 3 questions which we often ASK. Then we'll see how God DEALS with it.
3. Sometimes we ask the Lord, "WHEN will You do so and so?" Now, that's a question in relative to TIME. Another time we will say, "HOW in the world will You do this? That's

the question of METHOD or TECHNIQUE. When...time...technique...so on. We'll have at least 3 of them. And so, I want to begin with one which is used so very much. When the question is asked, if it is NOT in the WILL and purpose of God to give you the answer which you feel in your makeup and nature is the thing to HAVE, God will give you a DIVINE SUBSTITUTE in PLACE OF the thing which He sees is NOT wise for you to have. How many of you have, so far in your Christian experience, thought you desired something from the Lord and the Lord evidently had a DEAF EAR to your prayer? And He didn't answer, and yet you couldn't see why in the world you couldn't! How many have ever had that "lovely" experience? Well, that's quite normal. It's not to phenamenal. It's quite a normal thing for us to ASK. Well sometimes it isn't possible for Him to tell us DIRECTLY, because our ASKING may be involved in two to three LEVELS of our living. It's like the little girl who was learning the scheme of time. She was learning all the months of the years, and all the days of the week, and she was just having a terrific time getting this time element straightened, and she wanted them ALL answered at once! So she says, "Ma! Now which comes first! June or Tuesday?" Well...yeah, now which comes first? "Well tell me! Just tell me!" "Well dear, now there's a calendar..." "Now I don't want to hear anything about a calendar! June or Tuesday?!" How many have had that VERY ATTITUDE? Yes we have, because we are very HUMAN. I preach out of my own experience and life, and I'm extremely, horribly human. However, the Lord loves me, and I love Him. We get along real well. But I have not lost a sense of humanity. I'm Spiritually minded, and He has done some very remarkable things for me in the realm of the Spirit. But that does not mean that I don't know the language of the human heart. I hope I shall never forget it. I always wanted to help people, because we are all more or less STAMPED. So this little girl had great difficulty. She wanted it answered--IMMEDIATELY. How many know, you can't ANSWER that in one or two words? Well...you've done that. So have I. "Lord, why don't You talk to me! Why can't You DO this! Why don't You deliver!?" Why can't you see?" He says, "I CAN'T, dear. You're approaching on THIS Level, I'm talking on THAT one, and now THIS, and you've gone over to THIS one. Now where are we?" Well, that's very, very COMMON. So, in relation to the question of TIME, WHEN--it is not always expedient in the will of God to give us too specific an answer. Oh, the time we have prayed, and had such an agony in our spirit, in prayer, thinking, "If He doesn't answer, I can't take another day of it!" Have you ever been in such a crisis? Well, that's all right. That's very normal. That's all right. How many know you've lived through it, or you wouldn't be here? Here we all sit, as STUPID as ever, and "brilliant" as ever! No, we're horribly human. So I'm glad. No, we learned that we didn't DIE. No. It was because we were in such a terrific nervous state, and...I have a set of nerves, too. I am highly strung. I know that; I'm that type. But you have to take me anyway. So I don't think I'd want to be so prosaic, would you? I don't think they get anything. I often feel like putting a fire cracker under half of them, saying, "Come on!" I really do. I can't help it! My temperament is ALIVE, I'm an artist, and a poet, and how many know, a temperament like that is almost IMPOSSIBLE? Well, God knows that too, but He takes up with me. He never quarrels with me and says, "Follette, why under heavens did you get made that way?" I say, "Lord, I don't know, but here is I!" Then He takes me up. Why not? I don't say, "Oh, Lord! I'm sorry I'm like this..." He says, "Are you? Really?" Oh, no. No. I just say, "Just as I am, without one plea!" That's the way it is.

4. So, when we come back to this asking the questions, sometimes He can't tell us DIRECTLY, because it INVOLVES TOO MUCH and we are NOT CONDITIONED to RECEIVE it. So many times I've asked the Lord, and He would say, "You are not CONDITIONED to receive it." Can you...you sense that in your experience? In the Spirit, I mean, sometimes when you've been lifted into the things of God, taken by the Spirit, He has let you get a LITTLE SENSE of something like this, way over here? And you wanted it right away. How many know, you are not able to take it at all? How many know, it's a kind of a "teasing" thing? It's good for us though. Well why? Because we are not SCHOOLED to it. We have to be SCHOOLED to it, building up what I call, RECEIPTIVITY. And with some it takes a long time, but He does build up receiptivity in them. So sometimes we ask the Lord, "Will You do it, NOW?! Will You do it NOW? Will You do it...can't You...Oh, Lord!"

He says, "No..." Then we're just tormented and distressed because we're like spoiled children. "I don't know...so and so got blessed, and I can't..." Oh, now don't begin that childish caper. Don't do that, it's childish. Don't do that way. He likes us child-like, but not child-ish. How many know there's a difference between child-like and child-ish? Well, don't get the "ish." Get child-LIKE. And God will take us. So, I was reading, and I came across my first one by this group of disciples to whom He has ministered for these three years, faithfully. He has called them, blessed them, ministered to them. And He's continually talked about His kingdom, and the kingdom, and the kingdom. Now, get the BACKGROUND of these Jewish people. Their background. I've spoken of it before. They had psychologically...they had developed what I call a "kingdom complex," in their dealings with God. Because they had hoped that when this Messiah had come, He would inaugurate a KINGDOM. You see, they had been in the "doldrums" long enough. They had nothing left now of that noble, tremendous, lovely nation, Israel. Hardly a thing left of them, just bedraggled, and here they are, up in Jerusalem. They have a temple. And they have a little service, but they're under the power of Rome. Their national life is GONE. They've lost their flag. They haven't anything! They are servile. They're under Rome! And Rome is reaping the taxes out of them. Now, that's the political set-up. And they have been ravished by Syria, Assyria, Egypt, Greece, Rome. That's the last of the tyrants that have walked over poor Israel. Walked over her back and forth, and back and forth, till she's wearied and tired of it! Now, how does she encourage her heart? She encourages her heart thru the Word of God, which is a NORMAL thing to do. It's great, it's wonderful, to have the Word of God as a nourishing, sustaining element for us. Something to carry us when the trouble gets too severe. And so, they have BUILT UP in their philosophy and in their teaching, they have built up this strange idea that when the KINGDOM COMES, it's going to come with such political and physical, and NATURAL phenomena, that it will just DELIVER Israel out of the doldrums, and they'll tell the other nations where to get off! That's what she wanted. And that is BUILT in them. And so all the time that Jesus is teaching, and He talks about His kingdom, and "the kingdom is at hand," and here are the principles of the kingdom, "the kingdom of God is likened unto," and "the kingdom of God..." It's all "kingdom, kingdom." His message is a KINGDOM message. Has to be. What is the trouble? Everytime He talks about a KINGDOM, they are reducing it to a physical, material kingdom which they hope that He would soon inaugurate. And HE'S talking about a SPIRITUAL KINGDOM! How many can see a difficulty right away, or can't you see that? Now, that brings FRICTION! It brings TROUBLE! Because they have developed, psychologically, they have developed what I would call a COMPLEX! And now it will take heaven and earth, and God, and everything else to deliver them! Some complexes are terrifying, I have to do alot of work in that field. And sometimes I find one. I say, "Oh Lord, this is a hopeless one, isn't it?" He says, "No." How many know you develop these strange things? Phobias and all sorts of things you have.

5. Well, as a nation, they are very patient to listen to Him. But INSIDE, all the time, they are wondering WHEN on earth will He get this kingdom going! "He's talking about it! And He's doing marvelous miracles that shows that He has tremendous power! If He could get it CHANNELED correctly...so that, having it CHANNELED correctly, we can BRING IN THE KINGDOM!" Well now, you see, when they do that, they are working at cross purposes with Him, and that makes FRICTION. We see that cropping up in everyone of them. You remember the ambitious mother with her two sons? She was POLITICALLY minded. She was a very NOBLE citizen. And she loved her country, but she was, you know, kind of "pulling wires," a little. So she heard about Him having a kingdom, and she wanted to get in on the ground floor, so she goes with her two sons, and He says, "What would you have?" "Well, yeah...this is what I want, I'll be out with it, I have my two sons, now when You get your kingdom going, I want one on the right hand and one on the left..." Well, she was ambitious. God bless her, but she was very STUPID. She was ambitious...how many know you can be ambitious and lovely, and be DUMB? So, here she was a stupid thing. She hadn't yet caught the vision. She was under this MATERIALISTIC concept in all of her reasoning, all of her living, all of her choosing, all of her listening; all that she's doing is under that strange shadow of a MATERIAL kingdom. She is DOOMED to disappoint-

ment. Why, you can't help her. She's just DOOMED to it! She is making her OWN disappointment! Some people that I've had to deal with come into it and I say, "Well you started cooking this disappointment about ten years ago." "Huh?????" I said, "Sure did!" I said, "This isn't a SUDDEN REVELATION." I said, "This thing has been cooking in your system about five to six years, only you don't handle it. You won't FACE it. You won't DEAL with it, and so we have trouble." That was with them all. Even, as I said the other night, with poor Peter. And here was Jesus going to the cross to consummate the wonderful work of redemption so that there could be the possibility of a kingdom coming, laying the foundations and the principles thereof, ready to go...and as He says, "I must go up to Jerusalem and DIE." Ooooh! Peter thought, "We don't want a DEAD Messiah! What's the matter with Him?" And he GRABS ahold of the Lord! And in your Greek when it say, "rebuke," it means to SHAKE, like that! I suppose he was so agitated that he just turned to the Lord like that, "Oh! Be it far from Thee!! Be it FAR from Thee!!" The Lord turned around and called him the Devil. He did! Yes He did! How many know He did? Yes He did. Well, He had a right to. Not that HE is the Devil, but how many see that he becomes an instrument through which the enemy may work? An INSTRUMENT. That's why, in that wonderful word in LUKE, about...I'd like to get in there, but I can't. I'd like an evening with it. DISCIPLESHIP and it's COST. As laid out in Luke. And He says, "Except a man hate his father and mother, he cannot be my disciple." Do you remember that terrific passage? Well, that terrifies some! Now listen. He didn't say he couldn't be SAVED! How many know He's not dealing with salvation at all? He's not dealing with salvation at all. He's talking to SAVED people, who desire to become disciples. All Christians are NOT disciples, they are POTENTIAL. And they may BECOME disciples if they meet certain conditions. And He puts down the conditions. He says, "If any man WANTS it, if any man will BE a disciple, let HIM, let HIM, let HIM..." What does that mean? It depends upon the PERSON. Let him FORSAKE, let him GIVE, let him take up his CROSS, let him do ALL these things. Not one of them would EARN salvation, because He's not dealing with salvation. He's dealing with a consecrated life. A fellowship in DISCIPLESHIP. What is a DISCIPLE? Comes from your Greek word. He is a "taught one, a disciplined one." "Disciple" and "discipline" have the SAME root. How many know, to be a real disciple, you've had to been disciplined? Anybody that starts in found that out. Of course you do. Intense, terrific discipline is called, but we don't tell that. I talk freely about the things of God you know, and make them so easy and simple, and then they say, "Oh, Brother Follette, Dr. Follette, I'd like it, I'd like that! Oh,..." I said, "You can HAVE IT! If you pay what I've PAID. I've gone through HELL a couple of times!" No. You have some terrifying experiences. Terrific DISCIPLINE. Surrenders...trials...tribulations. I've been through, as I say, a PATTERN OF HELL, two to three times in my life. I had to have it to find God. I couldn't have the revelation of Truth in God that I have, if I hadn't PAID THE PRICE for it! People have these childish, silly ideas of approach to God dealing with the profound, eternal things that it ANNOYS me.

6. Coming back now to this disciple group. He has talked about discipleship and discipleship. And He says, "Unless they HATE their father and mother..." Now that seems rather strange. I know some people who get by, by making the translation easier. But you have no...you should NEVER, dealing with a translation, ALTAR it to accomidate your theory! How many know, some people get a theory, then they hunt all over for a VITAL VERSE to PROVE it? That's a very sillling thing to do! Let God give you the TRUTH, and He'll show you the verse FOR it! He'll show it to you. How many know He'll show you a verse, and He'll open it to you and then you'll see the Truth? Works that way too. That's a good way to have it. So here they are. He says, "HATE..." Well, now some people say, "...I've seen it in their translations, "Unless you love your parents with HATE...with LESS degree of hatred..." Oh, it isn't a MEASURE of hate in degrees at all, it's just HATE!!! "I don't like it!..." Well, you'll have to LUMP it, dear!! There it is! Does that mean you have to HATE them? Well, some poor thing that doesn't get it, he wants to be a disciple, and he's quite desirous, and he'll do anything, and he goes down in the morning...he's prayed thru, as we say, and he's going to be a disciple, and he comes to his mother in the morning and says, "Oh, mom. I just HATE you! I HATE you! I HATE

you! I HATE you!" She says, "Well, dear, what's the matter with you?" "I'm trying to be a disciple! I hate you! I hate you! And He said to His disciples that unless I hate you I can't be a disciple, and I want to be a disciple!" How many know, that a lot nonsense? He not talking about going and hating your folks. No. That won't get you anywhere. That's very silly...very foolish! Your word is HATE, in all of it's strength, because there's no other word that could substitute. Then use it.

7. Now, coming back to PETER, and Jesus, what has happened? Well, it is when a person is USED of the enemy to thwart the purposes of God, how many of you see, he is SERVING THE ENEMY? It's the ENEMY working through him. Do you get that or don't you get that? For instance, I've had it happen in Bible college, when I had students who desired to come. And the mothers would say, "I cannot let dear Helen, or Rachael, or Suzy, or whatever her name is, go to a Bible school, she might be called as a missionary, and I cannot have that!! She is NOT to be a missionary!" How many ever heard of people like that? They just will NOT have it! Do you know what that is? That's when you have to "HATE" your father or your mother. Not as a PERSON, but what? As an INSTRUMENT that the Devil is USING to defeat God's purposes! How many can see a difference in there? He's not talking about hating a personality. All that that personality now represents because of IGNORANCE, you hate THAT will all that there is IN you. That's why Jesus turns to Peter and calls him the Devil! Why? He smelt the Devil in there! He sensed the Devil! He felt, "The enemy is in here to thwart God's purposes!" And He called him the Devil! Why? Because the enemy was there to thwart, to hinder, to destroy the thing that God wanted, and using PETER, of all people, to DO IT! How many know the Devil can do that? Yes, he can. He HAS. Many a life has been blasted because of the persistancy of a NATURAL AFFECTION of a DESIRE--THWARTING! Lest God might have it HIS way. I know of any number of young people who have been DEFEATED in the whole career, because some ambition of the PARENTS has interfered with what God had. You might rather have what GOD wants, in a very limited life, than all that the PARENTS want, in a life that's soon going to fade, and it's WASHED out. But the thing that God wants, how many know that will ABIDE FOREVER!? The decision that's made by the Spirit in God, and what He's wrought, how many know that will LIVE eternally? It's much better to let God have His way. ALL of us have had to surrender. I've had to surrender plenty in my life to get this far with God. I couldn't have carried on my natural, human ambitions. No, because God says, "Now, here. If you want THIS IN GOD, THAT has to cancelled!" Not WICKED!! But their were AMBITIONS. And there were gifts, in my NATURAL, which I had to just put them on an altar, and say, "All right, Lord, here they are. Now, You can take them." Then He turned to me and He said, "It isn't that I want THEM, but that's a part of you. I want YOU." He has never asked me to speak. He's never asked me to preach. He's never asked me to publish books, which I have. He's never ASKED me to do any of those things. That have been the OUTCOME of a consecration to HIS WILL. And His WILL was, "I want YOU." If I get YOU, I can get all the rest of it." Do you know that's true, or don't you know know that? Why? If He can get the dedication and surrender of the personality in HIS hands, possessed of the Spirit, how many know He can do ALL that's necessary? That's ALL that He wants. So He said, "That's all I WANT."
8. So when you come to passages like that "HATE," ask the Lord to give you a slant on it, and He'll give you illustrations of it in the Word to help you to see it. It's exactly what happened with Peter and with John, or with Jesus. And Jesus says, "That's the Devil! That's the Devil! Get out of here!" He was talking to PETER! How many can see that, or can't you see that? I want you to see it. Well, come back. So here are these Jewish people with this strange, blurred vision, have followed Him for 3 years, with this secret hunger and desire in their hearts for a national demonstration. "If He is the Messiah, then let Him "messiah" correctly. And get ON the throne, so that one can be here and one there, and get us OUT of the doldrums! He goes and works these miracles, He can feed three to four to five thousand people just like that! That's the economice problem, He can SOLVE IT, it we can get Him on the throne where He belongs! But He doesn't seem to want to "messiah." Wasn't that a terrible crisis? Poor things. And they saw all this "good" power going to "waste!" How many get it or don't you get it? Now Jesus sensed

that too. He's very conscious of it. Very conscious of it, and He deals with them about it. And so, every time they do that, their ambition is thwarted, and God has a time of reducing them and putting them in line where they belong. Finally, He DIES. Well, that is a TOTAL collapse of everything! They thought, "NOW, the bottom has fallen out of all of it! He's gone and died on our hands!" Well then they revived a little, for in 3 days He got up again! Well, they said, "It isn't so bad, He's ALIVE, because He comes and sees us." But as we said the other night, He flits in and flits out, so there's no certainty about it. Well, who wants a Messiah, that just as they go to get Him on the throne, He'll disappear! Then what will we have? Well, they said, "Do you suppose we got the right idea about this kingdom?" Well, some could take it and some couldn't take it. It was just "too bad," of course. I'd like to give you a little line of teaching on the two who went to Emmaus. Remember that too? How many know what ailed them? They were dissatisfied. Two heart-broken disciples. The kingdom hadn't come. The Lord had died. And He just comes in and goes out, and disappears, and appears again, and they can't get any head nor tail to it. So, they just say, "This is enough!" You see, it's a DISSAPPOINTMENT. It's a hope unrealized. And a hope and a desire that has been frustrated and broken, how many know the reaction is TERRIBLE? Some can't take it at all. Some can't take a little dissatisfaction of a day's doing. Well, take a LIFE'S EXPERIENCE! See what will happen. Come along and knock the bottom right out of the WHOLE BUSINESS!! It's a very strange feeling. It certainly is. And they couldn't take it. So what is it? They make what we call, "an escape mechanism." And so here they are going down, dissatisfied, heartbroken, upset, and confused, and defeated! And Jesus knows all about it. And He says, "Those POOR disciples! Oh...I have to help them!" So He comes trailing on down. Don't go too far down your road brother, it's awfully full of DUST. Somebody's after you. There's somebody after you. Don't keep Him waiting too long. I have dealt with people like that. I have quite strong, Spiritual discernment at times. I never asked for it, because when you have it, you SUFFER so completely WITH it. I've had to deal with people; so have come to me, and instantly when I see them...the vibration of the Holy Spirit is such that I know that man as if I'd made him out of a piece of mud! Look up...and I remember when I went like this...(wiping off dust). He looked at me and said, "What's...." I said, "You'll never understand...there's DUST from the Emmaus Road on you, and it's there, it needs to be dusted off." How many get the interpretation of that or don't you? I have SEEN it. In the Spirit. And I could tell the road. And I said, "Aren't you tired?" "Uh huh." "Aren't you weary?" "Uh huh." "With this?" "Uh huh." And someone says, "You know me better than I do!" I said, "Sure do! Not I! But the Holy Spirit lives in me, He knows you. And He lets me SEE you so that I can help you. You want help? All right. You won't get mad at me?" "....No????!" I said, "Come on, I'll help you, dear!" How many know I love them? God puts the love in your heart, you can't help but love a soul like that. You'd do anything in the world to bring him to his deliverance. And so, He has a terrific time with those disciples, but how many of you know what happens? He got them out of it. Now I want to talk a minute with that. Do you remember when they went along the road dealing with Him, their VISION WAS WITHHELD, so that they did not discern His identity? They did not know Him. However, they knew, by the way He expounded the scripture and all TO THEM, that there must be something strange about this man! How many remember it? It says, "They know Him NOT." They didn't know Him. It wasn't for them to know. But something had happened. One of them was generous enough to say, "Let's have a little breaking of bread. In the orient, they still do; I've been in Palestine, and they still have these customs in Europe and Palestine, these which we hear and teach about everyday. They are quite common. Bread. I went to one church in Europe, REAL orthodox, old-fashioned church, where the communion service, when they filed out, the priest officiating mass, had a loaf of broken bread that big in his arms, and he broke the bread with every person in that church. Wasn't that sweet? That was "breaking the bread!" And He blessed it and He broke. They all ate of the SAME BREAD! And I thought, "Well, this is something GOOD! I kind of LIKE that!" And so when they sat down to eat, and when they broke the bread, do you remember what happened? As they broke their bread, it said, "Their eyes were OPENED, and they beheld Him, and He VANISHED!" How many get the story or don't you? HOW was He known? He was known in the BREAKING OF THE BREAD. And when your life is

BROKEN, your heart is BROKEN, how many know you'll get a vision that you'll never get any other way? Absolutely. Absolutely. Psychologically it is correct. The Bible is full of good, sound psychology, only people are afraid of it! But it's there. It's there. And when they broke their BREAD, which is LIFE, how many know a VISION DAWNED? And instantly, INSTANTLY, they got up, and what happened to them? They said, "Hallelujah!..." No. No, no. They got up and said, "Let us go BACK to Jerusalem!" Where's that? That's the place of your DEFEAT, dear. That's the thing that got you going. How many see that or don't you? IMMEDIATELY, under the impact of this strange miracle, they riverted, turned completely around, and went right back to the place that had caused them all the trouble! How many get it or don't you? How many know, God can give you GRACE to RETRACE your steps and GO BACK and FACE a difficulty, a DEATH, a calamity! How? In an entirely DIFFERENT Spirit than that which sent you AWAY from it. I have seen tragedy. I couldn't do the things I have if I hadn't seen it. Experienced it. But how many know, that when you return in the NEWNESS OF THE LIFE that God gives you, you have an entirely different attitude? An entirely different ATTITUDE, because something happens TO us.

9. Now come back. Here are these poor disciples. They have been dissappointed, and dissappointed, and dissappointed. There is no kingdom forthcoming. Well, finally, He DIES. Well, THAT is a tragedy! But He is resurrected from the dead and He sees them. And He talks with them. And He promises things, and has a wonderful time. But you see, it doesn't bring a kingdom yet. Doesn't bring a kingdom yet. And all time, even though they don't speak it out loud...how many have had...don't look at each other, it's embarrassing. How many have had little, secret prayers, that you'd like to pray, but you didn't exactly pray them OUT LOUD? How many ever had anything like that? Little secret prayers in your heart, which you just didn't want to say them out in words, but they're THERE. And you wouldn't say them to the Lord? How many know He's a MIND READER, honey? How many know He knows your HEART? He knows our thoughts. He knows us better than we know who we are. I don't know who under heavens I am! I lived with myself for 80...I'll be 83 on my next birthday, hallelujah. But I don't seem to know who I am yet. I said, "Lord, do You know?" He said, "Yes, I know." So I said, "Lord, I don't know who I am. I seem sometimes like I'm about 17 kind of people all squeaked together." I don't NEED to know! I don't need to know. Why should I? And so, we have these times when we PRAY, and all the time there's something going on INSIDE! We don't say them out loud. That wouldn't be "nice." We say, "Hallelujah!" Do you all do that? It's more "pleasing." Well, the Lord looks at us through all of that anyway, so there's no need playing that kind of a game. It won't get you anywhere. So here they are, just...at the end of the road. And they think, "Now maybe He'll kind of REVIVE, and get the KINGDOM." This is the LAST afternoon they have, and they're up on the side of the mountain. And He is just about now to depart and leave them. This is His home-going! This is the time of His ASCENSION. And so He gathers His disciples together and they go up together for a fellowship on the hill side. There they are, ready now, for His home-going. And they are talking with them, and visiting. And they have had the perogative, and right, and priviledge of asking Him questions, ANYTIME they want to. And when they sat together; it says, "When He's alone..." I'm so glad He got alone with His disciples sometimes. This awful "rabble" of the public got out of the way. These crowds are wonderful, but I think they're horrible! I'm glad I don't have to minister with them. There's such a confusion of spirit in them; I don't like them. And so when they're ALONE, it says when He's alone, He expounds all things TO them. So they had that wonderful priveledge of ASKING any questions that may be difficult for them. Any problems, and He would have solved. And it says that when He is alone, He expounds the Truth TO them. This is His LAST afternoon. Wouldn't it be WONDERFUL, now, for them to say, "Lord, tell us more about this terrible death that You have died. We have witnessed it, and You have come out of it. What is the MEANING of this terrible tragedy? And Lord! This coming out of that TOMB, ALIVE, when we KNOW You were dead! Explain to us something of the mystery of this resurrection. Lord...EXPLAIN some of these mysteries to us!" NO!! There they sat! You know the ONLY question, and the LAST question that there was ever asked the Lord? The last question that any disciple ever gasped out of his mouth? He turned to the Lord, he says, "Lord. Will you NOW, at THIS time, restore unto us the kingdom of Israel?" I'd feel like I'd want to DROP DEAD! My reactions are so terrifying, I said, "Oh, Lord. I would drop

dead." But He doesn't let me drop dead. He keeps me going. How many ever had experiences something like that, you feel the only thing to do is say,...and pass out!? IMAGINE the last question that those disciples...who had the privilege of asking the mysteries of the resurrection, the significance of His incarnation, the meaning of His death on Calvary, the terrific, fundamental truths that's the basis of our whole Christian philosophy; now that's the first question that was asked. "Will You, AT THIS TIME, restore unto us the kingdom?" How many get your first question? What is it? It's one relative to TIME. It concerns the TIME ELEMENT. What is His answer? So sweet and beautiful. "IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW." "Ohhhhhoooo!!!" Wasn't that an awful SLAM? "It is not for you to know the times and seasons which are reserved for God concerning His second coming." But there are times and seasons which God will give you in prophecy; you may know them. But no man knoweth the day or the hour." How many know that? No body knows that. Well, someone, not long ago, came and said, "Well, Follette. There's a man out teaching, who is prophesying the world will come to an end, and Jesus will appear on such a date. Well, Acts says you don't know the day or the hour, but I know the YEAR!" What's the best thing to do? Quarrel about it? No, don't quarrel. What? Accept what He says you may have. Isn't that better? THIS is not for you, you think you'd DIE if you don't have it. No, you won't die! How many get that thought sometimes, "This will kill me!?" How many know it didn't kill you at all? How many know we're all HERE? When we get through things we say, "Why, Lord, this will KILL me!" No, it won't. You aren't FIT to die yet. Isn't that plain? Sure! Anybody that has any sense or respectability says, "Well I know why." I say it too. Not ready! No. So He says, "Now THIS is not for you to know." The TIME. BUT--here is an alternative. How many see your "BUT," throws your question into an alternative? Do you get your reasoning? Come on, with reasoning. Have you had any work in philosophy and reasoning and all that? How many remember it, how we have to have these arrangements? This...thus...not...but. Yes. That's good reasoning. THIS is not for you, BUT, THIS IS. When then get out in "THIS IS." Get THAT. So He says, "This is not for you, BUT--you tarry in Jerusalem, and I'll pour out the Holy Spirit upon you. And you shall become my witness in the world. Not just a little, Jewish nation set up here. But you are to become the nucleus of a mystical, Spiritual BODY of people. You are to become the charter members of it. That's your priveledge. And ye shall, what? Become unto Me My witness in the world." As a SUBSTITUTE for their dissappointment of not having a little kingdom where they could sit one on the right hand and one on the left. How many know that God's SUBSTITUTES are always so tremendously so far ahead of our little desires, that it's always WISE to say, "Well, Lord. Then I'll take the substitute. It is not FOR me, but THIS is." And I won't take the time here, but I want you to see it while I'm ministering about that, because some people don't seem to see it. He said, "After that the Holy Spirit is come upon you,..." Now listen. How many know that in John, BEFORE Pentecost comes at all... now get this STRAIGHT, before there's any Pentecost at all, before Pentecost dawns, how many know they had ALREADY RECEIVED THE SPIRIT? Yes they had. He had breathed upon them and He said, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit." How many know they had the Holy Spirit dwelling IN them? Because He had BREADED it upon them, and said, "Recieve ye the Holy Spirit." That was a reception of the Spirit in SONSHIP. The Holy Spirit bears witness with MY spirit that I am a CHILD OF GOD. And He bears witness in my HEART. And so He says,...He breathed upon them, and He said, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit." Now this is BEFORE Pentecost. I wish I could place that on every Pentecostal church and mission. Because they will not look at it. They don't want to look at it. They HAD the Spirit, BEFORE PENTECOST!! How many know they HAD? Because He had BREADED it upon them, and they had RECEIVED it, and He said, "Receive."! Do you suppose they RECEIVED? I DO!!! I don't think He said, "Receive," and then went like that! I think when He said, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit!," how many know something happened? Something happened. What happened? They received the Holy Spirit in their hearts and lives, in the capacity of SONSHIP. How many know, at the same time, He gathered them together and He gave them POWER FOR THEIR MINISTRY, and said, "Go out and heal the sick and preach the gospel..." How many remember that? Put up your hand...I want this...I may not preach here again, I want this through. The Pentecostal people...most of the Pentecostal people don't know this at all. That's why I'm not too popular. I upset too many "funny" little theories

they have. BEFORE the day of Pentecost, they HAD the Spirit. I heard people say, "And they had the baptism of the Spirit, and then they received the Spirit." No, you received the Spirit when you got SAVED!!! He is the Spirit of sonship dwelling in your heart, witnessing to the fact that I am BORN OF THE SPIRIT! How many get that? I want you to GET that! Well, then this business of Pentecost is something entirely different! It's ENTIRELY DIFFERENT! So He says, "You have received, and I have given you power to go out and heal the sick, preach the gospel, raise the dead, do ALL these things, all this power..." and He gave it to them, and how many know they went out and demonstrated it? Put up your hand! Come on! Yes, they did! Yes, they did. Then, WHY under heavens, do you keep saying, "The baptism of the Spirit is for SERVICE."? What makes you say that? That's silly! How many know there WILL be service? But that is not His CHIEF objective. It is NOT. They HAD that already!!! Is Jesus forgetful? Is God forgetful? How many know, God is very "old," but He's not getting feeble-minded? God is very old, He's called the Ancient of Days, but how many know, He can SURE remember? Well, was Jesus so feeble-minded, that He had FORGOTTEN that he had given them the Spirit? I don't think so. He had GIVEN them the Spirit; they HAD IT! Well, then at baptism, that isn't when you RECEIVE the Spirit. You HAD that! They had GIFTS! To go out and minister, and come back and reported. Do you remember that, or don't you? And John had it; he was one of the "Sons of Thunder." He was that beautiful, "thundering boy." And so he came back, and he says, "They didn't receive us down here. Lord, do you want me to bring down fire and consume them?" How many know he COULD of? He had power to DO it! How many know that, or don't you know that? Yes, he could! And Jesus said, "Yes. I'm so helpless, dear. I do need your help. Now, go and..." No such foolishness. He said, "John. You don't know what SPIRIT you are OF." "Huh? Why, Lord! I want to defend You! I...I would just go to town in this Holy Ghost business! I...I'd go out, and raise all the graveyards to show You! You only raised a few, I'd raise a whole graveyard!" How many know the ambitions of some people? How many know where it's dragged a lot of people, too? Where it's ended in foolishness and fanaticism, and made a black eye for some intelligent people want it, and they looked at them and said, "What kind of a collapse is that? I don't think I'd go for it." They have defeated the very purposes of God with their foolishness! He said, "No. You don't know what spirit you are of! It isn't a matter of having power. You can have the POWER, but there is such a thing as a SPIRIT back of the power." Nobody wants to HEAR that, but I'd like to preach it. How many know that, or don't you know that? There's a spirit back of the POWER. It isn't a question of POWER at all. He says, "Sure. I gave it to you, but listen. I don't need you to DEFEND Me." These people who are DEFENDING THE LORD, and keeping Him up on the throne where He belongs, and encouraging Him, they always BOTHER me. Do you know that type, or don't you know that type? Defending the "poor, dear Lord." Well, He doesn't need defending. If He isn't able to run His own business, I certainly can't come in with my little, "two plus two!" Sit down. So He says, "You don't know what spirit you are of. Sit down." He did get him finally. But that's another sermon and I haven't time to do that. But while I'm after it here, He speaks to them and says, "After that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, you shall BE or BECOME My witness in the world." Israel is the witness of God in the OT. Jesus is the great witness of salvation in the middle dispensation, and He says, "I'm going to have a witness too. My Body, here. My mystical, Spiritual Body on the earth will be My witness and testimony while I'm gone. I will still function and move through a mystical Body." How many know that? That's His CHURCH. That's a mystical Body. And He says, "You shall BECOME unto Me...you shall BECOME! Tarry in Jerusalem, and you shall BECOME!" How many know, "becoming" is not a verb of ACTION? BE, "I AM," is that ACTION? No, that's a "state of being." Intransitive. Transitive, "I strike the book!" Action. How many get it? An object. In your Greek testament; I do this thing in the Greek testament when I really want to go to town on it, I get a Greek testament out and get at it, and get the word, and look at it. Like them or not. That helps you. And I have found that, I said, "What in the world do they talk about the baptism of the Spirit is for SERVICE, when He's already GIVEN them that? That looks silly! If He has given them the power for service, they have DEMONSTRATED it, then why would they want to say that it was given for their service?" How many know that is INCLUDED in it? But it is one of the most SIMPLE parts of the whole scheme. You WILL

serve through the power of the Holy Spirit. But He said, "I will give you, pour out upon you the Holy Spirit, and ye shall BECOME!!!" Whew! Not "DO!!" BECOME!! How many know it's much easier to DO something than to BECOME something. Don't you know that, or don't you know that? Yes. The action that's prompted by the EGO in here, that finds a explosive avenue through which it can move. How many know, that's MUCH EASIER than to have a PROCESS where He changes your whole LIFE? The PROCESS OF BECOMING something is tramatic, terrifying...but how many know it's the only thing?

10. So He says, "Under the impact and power of the Holy Spirit, you are going to BECOME unto Me, My witness in the world..," as God had Jesus as a witness, and as Israel was a witness in the OT, I'm going to have a witness here. And you shall be unto Me MY WITNESS. And you are to BECOME that through the action and power of the Holy Spirit POSESSING you, transforming you, changing you, making you into this mystical Body of Christ, which will find it's education HERE. And finally I will come some day, and take this strange, mystical Body, FILLED with My own life, and translate it, and place it in a NEW ORDER, a brand NEW ORDER, an order of ages, and ages, and ages yet to come. And there it will FUNCTION for Me in the field for which I have destined it." THIS is our little period of ADJUSTMENT. That's all it is. I don't hope to get anywhere in this life but what? TO BECOME ADJUSTED TO THE SCHEME OF REAL LIVING IN GOD. ADJUSTED to the LAWS to which He has made. ADJUSTED to a knowledge to His plan and work, so that I may be TRANSFORMED and CHANGED from one creature that I was BORN, into an entirely different creature. Now that's what He said. So if your question is, "Will You at this time DO?" God may be able to say to you, "It is not for you to know all of that. BUT--here is a DIVINE SUBSTITUTE." How many know God ALWAYS has a DIVINE SUBSTITUTE for anything which He takes? He has never taken a thing out of my life but that He has given me a DIVINE SUBSTITUTE. He always WILL. He's a JUST God, and a kind, loving, heavenly Father, And He LOVES us. He wouldn't do us HARM, He wants to do us good. And so He says, "If it isn't for you to have, I will GIVE." So He says, "It isn't for you to KNOW, so I will give you a DIVINE SUBSTITUTE. So here it is." That's when we ask the question, "Will you do it NOW, Lord?" The TIME ELEMENT is too UNCERTAIN. It depends upon so much of our REACTION, that He couldn't tell. WE determine much of that by our powers of CHOICE and the way we conduct ourselves. Do you know that, or don't you know that? How many know, you either HASTEN or RETARD the moving of God in your life? Yes, you do. Everyone of us. We RETARD it or we HASTEN it. How? By our OBEDIENCE to the Spirit Who's desire is to TRANSFORM AND CHANGE us, and make us into the creatures that He wants.
11. The other question that was on my mind; this was the one in Acts that speaks of, "Will You at this time..." The other one is where we wonder after He speaks to us, HOW in the world a thing can be done. How many have ever had Him to show you something, and you sit down and say, "Well, Lord, that's wonderful, but HOW on earth can You ever do it?" Have you ever had that? Well, that's good. How many have found out that He WANTS to do for you, but it seemed like an utter impossibility? Well, it's not impossible to God. ALL things are possible to Him. If it's IN His will, design, and purpose, He's very happy to do it, when we can't do a thing with it. Now, the next question would be, "HOW can you do it?" How many have ever "HOW-ED" the Lord, a little? I always say, "Don't HOW Him, WORSHIP Him. Don't 'WHY.' Worship Him. Gets you so far around, but we have to, because we're human, go through all these strange antics like children who are learning to grow. How many know, you can't save a youngster. She won't listen to you. How many know he has to fall down seventeen hundred times, do all these funny things, and we say, "Oh, if he's only learn!" He won't! He goes right out again, and does it all over again. How many have seen children? Yes. Four? Who are intelligent on that point! Why, yes. I think they are the most marvelous phenamena, because we can learn so many questions from them.
12. So, here is the question, "HOW can He do it?" Well, where did you get that one? Well, I got that one, when I was reading about the angel bringing the annunciation to Mary that she was to become the mother of this little Christ child. Of course it was proph-

ecied that there was to be the child born. That's very plain in the OT. She must have read some of it. But she had no teaching on it because the Jews were BLIND to anything like that, they wanted a KING. They weren't fiddling around trying to find a baby born. They wanted a KING! Now, who wants a crying baby in a manger, oh dear..."I want a King!" That won't get you anywhere at all. That won't help you a bit. Not a bit. Because I can bring all the other verses to parallel the one you have that shows Him in His humiliation. Prophecies of EXALTATION. Prophecies of HUMILIATION. If you're going to town, and just getting all those lovely prophecies of Him in His exaltation, how many know, you're getting the whole thing out of balance? It's all out of balance. Completely OUT of balance. I didn't know it till He made me do that. He said, "Look at your promises in the Word of God. Every promise that you can find in prophecy in your OT relative to this Messiah. Get your Titan Bible out..," and I did, "Get your paper and go to town with that." So I did. Now He says, "Get all of those prophecies, everyone that prophecies His coming. Classify them. Automatically they fall into two classes. Either it's a prophecy of Him in His HUMILIATION, Isaiah...oh, there's so many. Prophecies from Psalms, so many. Pictures of Him in His humiliation, and right along with it will be one where He's EXALTED. How many remember how you read the Word of God? Read the Word of God under that impact of Truth and it will be amazing what you will find. ALL the promises of the coming of that Christ are classified automatically into two groups. So I got a piece of paper about that big, and I went to work on it! I have to be obedient when He teaches me, because He's a great teacher, and I don't REASON with Him, I do what He tells me to do. So I did, and I got converted to it. And I stopped after I got about half way through, and I said, "Lord, I'm thoroughly converted. I don't need to go any more. I see the point!" And He let me, He said, "Do you see? All those verses prophecying Him are classified under two heads. They either prophecy Him in His HUMILIATION, or in His EXALTATION. Which one now, is going to appeal to these Jews who are looking for this MESSIAH? How many know which chapters they are going to read? How many know yourself the kind of verses you'd kind of like? How many know the REACTION you can get by reading certain verses? Oh sure! I've seen them on paper. "Here. When you are blue, read this. When you are pink, read that. When you are hungry, read this... ." How many ever heard of any such lingo as that? I've seen them! Little papers! I thought, "Isn't that childish?" Well, it's "nice" to have...how many know it's rather "thrilling?" How many...how many like to read those that make you "feel" better? How many are THRILLED to death when you read one that brings A CROSS in it? You just get right off your chair and say, "Hallelujah! That's going to CRUCIFY ME! I just LOVE CRUCIFIXION!" No, you don't. You're too HUMAN. You would be completely "ab" and "sub" normal if you ever did that. You don't do it. No you don't. Because the human heart is ANTAGONISTIC against any process that the Lord would have. So He says, "Here they ARE." So those JEWS would not listen to the prophecies in the OT concerning Him in His HUMILIATION. Therefore, how many know, they missed the bus? How many know, they missed it? What did they miss it? Because they had FED THEMSELVES so long on the PRECIOUS promises of a man who would come in GLORY! How many know that's DANGEROUS? There are people today reading the Bible hindsides too, but I wouldn't dare to tell them because that would HURT them. But I just grin at them and say, "Precious Lord..." like that, you know, and go home and say, "Lord, that mess is something!" Can't do anything with them! Can't do A THING with them! They've carved out their own little nitch, and you only might as well sit down; you can't get anywhere with them. Can't get anywhere with them at all. So He says, "That's fatal."

13. Now. Come back to this QUESTION. They have read the scriptures. MARY has read the scriptures. And here is this marvelous VISITATION. This messenger of God coming to her in her simplicity. And he said, "Behold. You'll conceive and bring forth this child." The whole CONCEPTION picture. What was her FIRST answer? It was a QUESTION. It was her first answer, the very first thing she said had to be a QUESTION. She said, "HOW shall these things be?" Do you remember it now? That was her first reaction. Do you see how very NORMAL that is? In the face of a problem like that? In the face of a miracle? It's only a natural reaction. "Why," she says, "HOW can these things BE? I have no husband, I have no...HOW can this be?" I think it was a question in AMAZEMENT. I don't

think she expected the angels to sit down and give her a discourse on the incarnation. Do you think so? It was an AMAZING thing in her. She says, "HOW could these things BE?" Did he answer her? Umm, hum. He said, "You ABIDE UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY, and God will work the miracle." What did he do? He gave her an ABIDING PLACE, when her reasoning processes were futile. How many ever got to that place? When your reasoning processes are fruitless, and He does not tell you HOW, how many know, the safest thing to do is to ABIDE UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY? Now listen! That's not out in the LIGHT, "Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!" That's NOT! It's SHADOOOOOOOW!!!! Darkness!! How many get it? He throws you into a place of SHADOW and DARKNESS. Under the SHADOW! Not out in the brilliant LIGHT, where it's all explained, and she goes up and down the street saying, "Hallelujah!! I'm going to be the mother of the Messiah!" That's crazy! That's about what some folks would do! Shallow-brained folks...some of them...they torment me to pieces. I say, "Lord, what's the matter with them?" That's why I keep away from folks, I live in absolute wilderness, and I don't wonder. Can you imagine anybody trying to live with me? Oh, my heavens! How many now the Lord lives with me? We get along tops! But nobody in the natural could ever live with me, because I don't live like folks. I don't WANT to live like most folks. I think it's a horrible way to live.

14. So, he says, "God will take care of that. You just rest and ABIDE in the place that He provides. It's going to be a SHADOW. A DARK place. Under the protection of His wings. Not in the public where you EXPLAIN every, last moving of God." How many know, He's put you in places where you COULDN'T explain? You just COULDN'T! He doesn't want you to explain them. How many ever had a little secret with the Lord? Did you? Did you have a little secret with the Lord? It's lovely to have a little secret with Him. And how many know SOME you couldn't tell? How many know, you don't WANT to tell? Oh, no. Not if you love the Lord. Do you know I'm in love? I hope to tell! At this age do you think I've escaped everything in life? Wouldn't you like to KNOW! Well, that will come out in my memoires. That will come out in my memoires. Then your cosmic curiosity may be satisfied. But not just now. At another period. But not now. So he says, "Abide under the shadow." And what will happen? In that SHADOW is when this Christ child is FORMED, and shaped. Now I never knew the wheels and the philosophy of that thing until He got after me one day, and I was reading, and I came across this verse of Paul's. It was written by Paul. Yes, he's writing to one of his churches, and they are saved and sanctified, and baptised, and gloriously moving into God, and he says, "I am BURDENED. I am burdened in my heart. I am burdened in prayer. I am in intercession, I am burdened UNTIL--what? UNTIL CHIRST BE FORMED IN YOU." Do you remember that? That's real mysticism, but how many know, it's delicious? "I am burdened in prayer till Christ be formed in YOU." This wonderful forming of Christ's LIKENESS and CHARACTER and NATURE in US is a DIVINE PROCESS. It's only operated by the Holy Spirit, and it comes by the Spirit, but it's brought forth by the CONSENT OF MY FREE WILL that this miracle should be. But MY LIFE that HIS may be manifest!! So we might as well face the business! Do you want to live, or you'll let the Lord live! If you let Him live, how many know, it will CANCEL yours? It will CANCEL mine. It has to. It MUST. It HAS to. It's a LAW! It's the same as the law of gravitation. He doesn't change it for anybody. It's THERE. So we say, "I want this wonderful life of Christ duplicated in me," for he says, "We are all epistles, read and known." "I want this life of Jesus, too. I want all this." Well, I'll tell you something. Paul says he prayed that it may be, that Christ may be formed in you. This NEW CREATION, that's what it is. It isn't that we become incarnate...God incarnate...it isn't all that. That's "funny" stuff that philosophic people have cooked up, and "dub" it Christianity. I'm not dealing with that. Rubbish! But how many know there is such a thing as CHRIST LIFE being manifest IN US, for he says so? That's quite a different thing. He said, "It's done in SHADOW." Who wants the SHADOW? Do you see it, or don't you see that? How many WANT it? How many want the SHADOW? Well, you don't GET IT otherwise. Who wants to be thrown into TOTAL DARKNESS and ECLIPSE in order to get a SPIRITUAL life? When all HUMAN life, HUMAN processes, NATURAL processes are CANCELLED, and there's TOTAL DARKNESS to get the light that you want. Do you get me or don't you get me? Well, that HAS to BE. Because that is the process through which He PULLS, and TRAINS, and takes the spirit along. So He says, "That's not for you to KNOW.

BUT--here's your alternative. Abide in the shadow that God has provided for you. And as you abide under the shadow of the Almighty, GOD will work the miracle!" You can't! We may become the RECEIPIENTS of His marvelous workings, but He brings it forth. I won't take too long, but I could go in there for a little while, but it's too long. Are you getting too tired? Do you want one more?

15. Then I was asking the Lord, I said, "You...so many of these questions are asked...here is uh...oh, this is going to take so long I don't know whether to tackle it or not. Another person who asked a question, and was DENIED, but GREAT GRACE came to Him in PLACE of the answer. How many remember the man named PAUL? How many remember His distressing time with what they call the THORN IN THE FLESH? Do you remember? And God said, "Now PRAY HARD, fast and pray, pound on the chair by way of accent, and get REALLY enthusiastic and SHOUT!!! And maybe...I'll take the thorn out!" No, He didn't. How many know that's some "gymnastics some people have to go through with? "Pray hard and get ahold of the HORNS OF THE ALTAR!!" How many remember when they used to do that? Oh, dear! That used to just terrify me! They used to pray that, oh...that always just got me wild, when they were all just going...tear...get ahold of the horns of the altar! That...oh, that...I said, "Oh, Lord...I can't get ahold of anything but my shoes. Let me go! Jesus, where are you anyways?" "I'm here, did you get out?" I said, "Yes!" He got out too! He's not interested in any kind of a thing like that! He's not interested in anything like that. That's HOPELESS. Then, some of them get WRESTLING. How many know those who "wrestle with God?" NEVER wrestle with God. Well, somebody took me to town one time, they said, "Don't you know anything about the wrestling that's spoken of in the Word? Wrestling with God!?" I said, "No! It says we wrestle with the powers of DARKNESS. " Isn't that right? You don't wrestle with God! I have a FATHER! I never went and wrestled with my FATHER, and said, "Father! I have to have a pair of shoes and I'm going to wrestle with you until you bring the shoes FORTH!!" And finally, when I wrestled real HARD, VERY hard, I got my shoes! How many know that's just a lot of foolishness? That's nothing but RELIGIOUS HABIT! You don't WRESTLE WITH GOD! JACOB never wrestled with God! An ANGEL wrestled with Jacob! Never a thing in there where he wrestled with God at all. I says an ANGEL WRESTLED WITH JACOB! How many know there's a difference between an angel wrestling with Jacob, and Jacob wrestling with God? But your TRADITION won't let you! Your singing book won't let you! "I want to be an angel, and with the angels stand. A crown upon my forehead and a palm within my hand." You'll never be angels! How many KNOW that? Well then, why do you sing and do these funny, silly things? "I want to be an angel..."! If God...angels are an entirely different creature. They are in a category by themselves, but you see, you have these funny, religious HABITS, and songs, and choruses that BLOCKACE the whole thing that God's trying to do IN people! He can't get very far with some people because they're LOADED with TRADITION and STRANGE HABITS! RELIGIOUS HABITS! But STRANGE things that HINDER and IMPEDE the working of God! And you can't get anywhere.
16. So coming back to this question that's on our heart, with Paul...Paul had a THORN IN THE FLESH. He says so. But how did you find that out? He says, "There was GIVEN to me a THORN IN THE FLESH." How many see it's a GIFT, or don't you see that yet? How many know that's a GIFT? People are always wanting gifts from God, suppossing God gave you a GIFT like that! What would you do? He says, "It was GIVEN to me by God!!! God GAVE it to me! A messenger of Satan to buffet me. There was GIVEN to me a MESSENGER OF SATAN to buffet me." "But the Devil did..." now let the Devil alone for 10 minutes!! "Well, he prayed hard and got rid of it!" No, no, no. An old woman, I remember telling about, she was so pious, and she got all the victorys, and fasting and praying; she had everything in the world "happen" to her, and she said, "Isn't it too bad, Paul, that marvelous man never got the victory over the thorn in the flesh? Oh, how sad!" He was not SUPPOSED TO!! He was SUPPOSED to have!!! And God GAVE it to him!!! But He also have him the GRACE that he might BEAR it. How many get that or don't you get that? No, you haven't been taught that, you're singing in the singing book yet. Well, a lot of singing books ought to be burned up! But you see, I'm a "heretic" and I'm...let loose. See, those things are horrible to me, they are traditions that spoil the thing. "There was given

to me a MESSENGER OF SATAN, to buffet me." Well, then take that statement and let it be JUST AS IT IS! It was A GIFT OF GOD. God ARRANGED it FOR him, and GAVE him this messenger of Satan to BUFFET him! Well, now some people thought it was SORE EYES. Oh, folks like that, I nearly want to faint out of the picture! Where in the world would you get SORE EYES? Hadn't anything to do with "sore eyes," but they do it. But you know, some interpreters have very strange ideas of interpretation. "There was GIVEN to me a MESSENGER OF SATAN to buffet me. That is my THORN. There was given to me A THORN. A MESSENGER OF SATAN." What is his "thorn?" A what? (messenger of Satan) Say it again! (A messenger of Satan) "There was given to me a thorn in the flesh, a...what?" (Messenger of Satan) Well, then why do you call it "sore eyes?" He tells you distinctly, "There was given unto me, a THORN IN THE FLESH, a MESSENGER OF SATAN!" Some body comes up, and I say, "There was given to me a birthday present, a new Bible." Somebody says, "What was the present?" There was given to me a BIBLE! Is that plain? Can you see that, or can't you see that? How many can see that? "There was given to me a BIBLE." Well, then don't say, "What was the present?" The present was the BIBLE! I don't know why people have all this time for 2000 years messing around with that thorn and can't see it yet!! It me it's as plain as the nose on the face! Because I take it as he said! "There was GIVEN to me a THORN IN THE FLESH, a MESSENGER OF SATAN, to buffet me." How many can get it now? Can you have it any clearer on God's earth than that? I don't know how you couldn't have it and be intelligent! "There was given to me a birthday present, a new Bible! Which I hope to read." "Well, what was the present?" I want to faint away about then! Will somebody take me out? Why? Because I'm dealing with somebody that hasn't any intelligence at all. They don't listen. "There was given to me a birthday present, a new Bible." What was the present? A new Bible! Is that PLAIN? How many can see that or can't you see that? "There was given to me A THORN IN THE FLESH, a MESSENGER OF SATAN, to buffet me." Well, then, the THORN is a MESSENGER OF SATAN! All right. Well, alot of people say, "That's DEMON POWER of some kind!" Why NOT!? Can't God use the power of the enemy AS HE WANTS TO in His economy? He wants to get ahold of JOB. How many know the terrific time He had dealing with JOB? How did He DO it? He used the DEVIL! The Devil is still His SERVANT. Believe it or not. He's very much out of order, but he's a SERVANT. And He USES the enemy where He pleases. Jesus wants to deal with Peter. Peter needs a "coming through." And Jesus is going to HAVE it too. So He goes quietly, because He's such a "sweet Jesus." And He says, "Peter, there's something I want to tell you. It's very secretive, but there's a disturbance here that...now come over here alone, and I will tell it to you..." He did NOT. He talked to His Father about it. The FATHER knew it too. Peter needed some CORRECTION. And some HELP. How did they do it? God says, "The only way I can do that is to use the POWER OF THE ENEMY. But the enemy has to get PERMISSION OF ME to do it." The Devil can only go as far as the Lord LETS him. The Devil is mighty, but God is ALMIGHTY. Do you get the difference or don't you? So what happens? He can only go as far as the Lord will let him. So, instead of Jesus taking Peter aside and saying, "Now there's something I want to tell you." He didn't! He said, "Peter, you're so constructed, that the only way that I can get this over to you is to let you have one of the most terrifying, humiliating experiences in the world! But it's the only thing that will ever CURE you! That's the way you're MADE!" How many know some people have to be down...knocked down twice and dragged out to get them anywhere? How many know that people are MADE like that? They have to be knocked down twice and dragged out, and they wake up and say, "I think there's something going on..." Well that's right. You laugh, I don't know if you're laughing at yourself or what you're laughing at, but how many know that's just the TRUTH? That's the way people are MADE.

17. So. Jesus says, "Come here Peter. I want to talk to you. Now Satan has GAINED PERMISSION FROM GOD to SIFT you folks." ALL of them. Your "all" in your Greek is an inclusive pronoun. Meaning the whole group. Not just Peter. "The Devil hath GAINED PERMISSION." He had to get it of God. And God's going to GIVE IT TO HIM. "The Devil has GAINED PERMISSION to SIFT you ALL as wheat. Don't be scared! Don't ask for deliverance, and yell and scream, and fast and pray, and pound on the chair! Now, be STILL. Sit down. I have PRAYED for you." How many know that's the thing that CARRIES you? That's the

thing that carries you. "I've prayed for you." So He says to Peter, "You're going through a most terrifying experience. It's coming to you. You're 'calling' for it. You're temperament, your disposition, the way you're constructed calls for it." How many have ever seen children that we say, "He's itching for a thrashing?" Have you ever seen that? Yes. Why? There's something in them that they're not satisfied till they have them disciplined. And they just perform and perform and perform...how many see that or don't you know that? Well, that's the way we are with God. Some people just ITCH, because He can't get them any other way. You couldn't take that child in a corner and say, "Now..Tommy. It's like this." "Yeooooow!!!" How many know you couldn't do that? No, you can't. You can't do that. What do you have to do? Subject him to some of the most terrifying PHYSICAL contact, not an approach HERE, but a PHYSICAL contact. How many get it? Not THIS, but PHYSICAL. I'd like to go into the psychology of that; there's good psychology in there. Real rich, too. But it's good. But I won't take the time, but I could. There's a wonderful field in there in the line of DISCIPLINE. So He says, "Peter. You need attention. The only way it can happen is this fashion. Now the Devil has desired to SIFT you all as wheat. But I have PRAYED for you." What ever got him through? The prayers of the Lord, that's all.