EWE LAMB I & II John Wright Follette

- 1. ... Satisfy them with good things, Lord, and grant that if it is Thy will, we shall touch these hearts again as we tarry out in this section. You'll visit and touch them and encourage them and bless and feed them. We pray for them this morning. They are on Your heart continually, the members of this great Body over the universe. Lord, let life from the Living Head flow down to the Body that has no power to give life in itself. We can only receive it and Thou art the Fountain of Life. Thou art the Living Head where there is direction and vision, and we pray that that life may flow down to even the weakest member, even the weakest member, the fresh, new babe that's been born in Christ and brought to God. Let life come. Encourage those who are coming into maturity, being tested and tried; bless them, encourage their hearts and hold them quietly, Lord, and give them the encouragement they need to keep them going. Oh, how we need Thee, Lord, and in these closing days, it seems that we need Thee all the more, because we are conscious of the moving of the power of the enemy, every form that he can move in. He is pressing in upon us. He is pressing in upon the whole civilization, the whole order, in every field; we are conscious of it. Therefore, may we be hidden away in Thee continually, and able to partake of Thee and of Thy life and Thy vision, enough to stand, to please and satisfy Thee. What little portion you have for us today we pray that we shall receive it in Thy name and to Thy glory, for Jesus' sake, Amen.
- 2. Yes, this wonderful Body of Christ to the ends of the earth, and they are all members. But I am so glad that all direction is in the HEAD. Here's my body. He doesn't expect my hand to be my brain. He expects them to serve the mind. The mind directs, and we forget that Christ is the Head of the Church. Christ is the Head of the Body, and therefore, there should be nothing originating in us, only RECEPTIVITY to perform and do that which is actuated and directed from the Head. We forget it, because we get so concerned, we think we'll do this and we'll do that. First thing you know, we are moving around, and I think that's one reason our church, we say our Body of Christ, I think that's one reason it's so feeble. It has NO LIFE because it doesn't know how to live from the Living Head. It tries to produce what the Head wants to produce. The HEAD wants to make the program. He only asks us to function. He says, "You are the MEMBERS, not the HEAD." It takes us a long time to find that out because we are so used to directing in our natural from the head, and our body doing when God says, "No, not that anymore. Now you will become just a member in my great Body, but I AM THE HEAD." All direction, all the program, all the whole doings that are worthwhile at all, they ORIGINATE IN HIM. He has to have us as a Body through which He executes and lives and moves. Now, what a burden that would take off of our hearts and lives if we could ever believe it. We direct our own little "traffic." Well, how do we know how to? Well, because we've always done that. No. Sometimes the Lord has to do some very shocking and strange things to get us out of that old groove of self direction, although we don't do BAD things; I mean doing all the good things. It takes a long time for Him to get us out of that groove; we are geared to it. "Now, I think I'll do this..., let's do that," and we "are doing" it "for" the Lord. "Now we'll do this..." Now, I think the Lord often says, "I don't thank you, dear." But He let's us, and alot of things I am sure, He must be amused with. I really do believe it. I remember one time, it was when they were cooking; you will know a housewife baked and cooked and made pie crust and youngsters, how many of you know they always want to make pie crust too? And how oftentimes I know mother, she would let sister Mary, let her make her dough and she would be making pie crust up. Don't you know, she never washed her hands. She had pie crust dough on everything she was working on, and she was making pie dough. You know, my mother didn't scold her. But you know, she couldn't USE any of it. That's the bad part. She never scolded the child, but my mother couldn't USE it possibly in any way...any of that performance. That dough was impossible. Well, I believe a lot of preachers today are making "mud pies." I don't think He blesses it especially. He would much rather have the HEART and LIFE. And they come with their little mud pies, "See my mud pie..." And my mother would say, "Yes, that' lovely, dear." But she couldn't eat it, she couldn't enjoy it. No. And I often think a lot of them are making mud pies. I would rather not have a pie, I believe. And much of the estimation that are put upon the life and ministry, it's put upon just that side of

it. "How many 'pies' did you serve? How many 'pies' did that man make? How many churches did you build? How many things did you do? How many 'pies' have you got on the rack?" Well, some of us haven't any pies on the rack at all. But you see, that isn't the point. The point is in the CONSECRATION and in the SURRENDER. He does all of that. What a wonderful, patient God! I guess you have the same reaction as I do. Haven't you been able as you have grown a little bit, look back and smile over some of the things you have thought and that you did, you know, and you did it willingly and gladly FOR the Lord. I'm sure He must have smiled at them. I remember mother had an album of snap shots we used to keep when cameras first came out and snap shots, and we used to keep that album and mother would start it from period here, to this, you know, and when we go home and get the album out, and we would say, "Well, Ma. I NEVER looked like that!" Well, yes you did. "I wore a dress like that?!" Why dear, here's the picture. I look back in my experience and I say, "Lord, did I actually do that?" And He said, "Yes." "Did I ever think THAT?" "Yes!" So let me tell you something. I think you have gained a victory when you can step out of yourself over here, look at yourself and laugh with the rest. Nobody wants to be laughed at. Then laugh WITH them. Isn't that better? Nobody wants to be laughed AT, then laugh WITH them. It'll save you alot of pain. Say, "Ehhem. That's the way I was, wasn't I a scream!?" Oh dear...don't way, "Well, that's they way they..." No. Now you are hiding again. No one wants to be EXPOSED. "Well, I didn't wear that, but that's the dress that Mama made..." No. Wait a minute. This old, "passing the buck." We are all made like that. And in the natural we used to get that book out and look at it and just have a gay time. And we would say, "Mother, did I comb my hair like that?" "Yes." "Did I wear a hat like that?!" "Well, that's the picture," Mother said, "Yes, and it was perfectly accepted, and it was wonderful." I have a picture my oldest sister taken years ago when they wore peach basket hats, or don't you remember them? They were actually this high. And an ostrich plume, ostrich plume, and she sits with a lace coat on and we used to get that out and hand it to her and...oh, oh, ohhhh... Well, it was real and accepted at that period, but it's good to become detached, not feel hurt it you are laughed at, but laugh with them. Do you get me or don't you? Are you fit enough to laugh with them and say, "Heavens! Yes, wasn't I a scream? The Lord have mercy on me..." But that's one little sign of MATURITY. Just the first little sign. That's one of the first little signs, and with it is this idea of detachment. But it's hard. Very difficult. It was only in the last two or three years He was speaking to me about it. I was involved of corse, in OVERCOMING, and the difficulty that I didn't feel I was accountable for, I was involved. And I said, "Lord, well this is none of MY doings. I want to get out of it." How many know He will INVOLVE you when you don't want to be? Well, that's because we want to save our "hides." That's the way we are made. Nobody wants trouble. How many know you will sidestep trouble just as long as you can until the Lord takes you by the ear and says you will HAVE TO HAVE this trouble, and even though you don't do a naughty, bad thing, He'll let you get involved in something. How many know that, or don't you know it? Well, PRAISE GOD for it. You will "save face" as long as you can. You don't want to DIE. Neither do I. None of us want to. But God says, "You asked for it, and if you will come MY way, I will involve you in trouble." Have any of you been involved in trouble that wasn't your fault and you had to just SUFFER and suffer and suffer with it, and you have said, "Lord, I didn't make this mess! I have nothing to do with it. Now you have go me involved in it." Oh, isn't that horrible!? I have had to go through several of those, and I have learned to be still. I say, "Lord, this isn't my consequences. You know I wanted to be good." Ha, ha. He says, "I know. But it I dont' permit this; this is in My PERMISSIVE WILL. You have avoided it so long, but you have to have it. Now, I will involve you indirectly." Well, several years ago, I was going through an awful trial, and I wanted to lay it over and there I was with it. And He taught me this lesson, and I'll pass it on to you. Maybe it will help you. When that comes into your experience, and it may last weeks or months, sometimes it may involve two to three years before it is consummated; when that happens and you are conscious of it, and you are pressed into it and you can't get out, you don't know the way out, you can't make an escape...God came to me; He is very merciful. I said, "Lord, if You don't help me, no one else can. Now, what's the matter? I take it,

Lord, I can't look at it when You do it, but I'll take it. Now hold me, hold me tight and tell me, show me." He showed me this. He said, "When you become involved in a trial of testing like that, it becomes possessive, and we get under it's power and we become LOCALIZED. Now, that's right. A severe thing like that can just LOCALIZE you. HOLD you. Now, He says, "And while you are held there, two things are a result in your make-up and you will see it." I had to see it. He says, "You lose all sense of proportion in judgment, in hte way you evalute anything. You lose all your sense of proportion and you lose your sense of value." Two things. When you are involved like that to make an escape or to get through your sense of values become too shallow and you will even COMPROMISE. Now get this -- and it is not nice. You needn't look at each other. Let's look at the Christmas tree. You will be brought even to a place of COMPROMISE because you don't want to sense the full value of the thing. You lose your sense of value and your sense of perspective. You see the trouble has involved you so closely that you have no perspective as to it's real character because you were too involved in it. Now this is what He told me. He said, "You have to learn something. You have to learn DETACHMENT. Now you are involved in Follette; you are involved in IT." He is not blaming you. You are involved in your personal conception in this situation, and you are moving by your personal reaction because it is affecting YOU. Now, you will have to do this. Learn to gather yourself up like that, and by FAITH step out of that whole thing until you feel you are detached from it. And He says, "When you come over here by Me, you look at it from MY SIDE." How many can see right away, I'll get an entirely DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE? Absolutely. I'll get an entirely different perspective because I am not looking at it in any localized set-up. I am looking at it from over HERE. How many see right away my perspective becomes correctly ADJUSTED? How many know my sense of value will come back again to what He has then? It's good psychology in here. Isn't that good psychology? Of course it is. It's GOD'S psychology. Well, I said, "Lord, I see that." He had to bring that to me and analyse that with me because I don't get too much "help." I wish, oh so many times, I wish I had an old saint I could go to and just get down by him and say, "Will you say something to me? Just say something to me." I wish I could. I have always said, "Why can't I go to some old saint, I don't care who he is or what he is, but a saint that I know he has touched God and touched Reality." I would get down just... I would say, "Talk to me. Talk to me." I would say, "Touch me, please touch me." Do you get me or don't you? I would say, "I don't care even if you don't say anything, but I want the sense of a contact." But I can't find it. Do you know what I mean? Some of you who are moving with God know what I mean. I would say, "If I just..." But you see, you don't get it. HE is the ONLY contact. So we have to learn by FAITH. Not to ENJOY that, but we get from Him, our SOURCE is from HIM. But how frail our flesh is! How feeble it is! My flesh is so frail; I am honest with you. My flesh...I'm very human. I am very natural, and I sense things. But when He weans you, He WEANS you that He could BE ALL. That HE could be ALL. Now, He says, "It will take time to get out of this set-up. Keep moving from it. Keep moving from it. Don't let it touch you." "You get in..." "No. Don't let that touch you. Keep moving." Well, you know, I was able to get over there and you know, that's when He showed me that. He said, "Do you see now? You get a correct PERSPECTIVE." "Yes," I said, "I do." Now, He said, "Begin to work from this angle. Not from this centered thing, but work from this angle. Now, as you see it as I do, begin new adjustments." How many see this overcoming business isn't "play?" No, it's not "play," but it's something that I would rather have than anything even though it KILLS me. I really would. I say, "Lord, I would rather have it even though it slays me. I have had a taste of it and I can't get away from it." Now He says, "You will see your sense of value returning." And my sense of value, do you see they become more clear-cut? When you are here, your senses of value become fringy and you can say and do things there that you can't do when you are here. Do you get me or don't you? Yes, that's right. You can think and make judgments there because I feel the fringes. Over here it's clear-cut. It's clear cut. I don't know why I am talking this way. It may be it will help somebody. I hope it will. I hope it will. So you see, we walk along.

3. Now, here's another thing. I don't want to say it to be amusing, but I think many of us will detect it and sense it. In teaching, we have to deal with children, of course, I

have dealt with children all my life. Now a parent, for instance, has a certain conception concerning his child which is right, which is good, but you see, the child is a projection of the parent. Now, he will have an entirely different sense concerning that child than a person over here who is absolutely detached. And this person over here could really tell that parent several things, but you don't dare to, because the parent says, "Well, he is my child. I am the father. I am the mother of the child..." I know, but I say, "Listen, dear. Flesh has never hated itself yet. It's in the Bible. And that's a projection of your flesh. That's merely a projection of you, and from here we get an entirely different perspective. We can cast an evaluation, but you can't because it is a part of you." How many get that or don't you get it? That's why very often a question concerning, say discipline, is much more clearly explained and helped by a disinterested person who sees it from that angle than the poor father and mother weeping and wailing and calling on God, and praying all the prayers they can. They can't get through. I know that. But that takes quite a DEATH for the parents to say, "You can help me over this child?" And you say, "Yes, because you are too close. You can't see. Your father and mother instinct will shelter and cover as long as it can, and here's the condition that should be dealt with." How many know the surgeon over here can operate when the father and mother can't? Because that is his skill. Father and mother can't operate on the child, take a pair of scissors and cut him open and see what's inside. They can't do that. But how many know the physician who has no personal contact with him at all, can handle that? He sees, understands, and appreciates the situation. I see it more and more and more and more. We have so little in ourselves, we can't judge. We can only judge a certain bit of our own doings in the light which He shines upon us. But after all, it's so LITTLE. It's so LITTLE. We don't understand ourselves enough that the light could cover the whole sphere, it covers little packages of it. Just little packages, little patches. But how tolerant He is! How wonderful He is! We get so...so afraid. I said, that picture I used to have: "Thou God Seeth me!" Now, we say, "Oh, I WANT You to see me because it will HELP me. You can see what I can't, and you can help me. Please help me."

I don't know exactly what to bring to you this morning. It's been on my heart that I wanted to share with you some of the things that God has been doing with me in the last years. It started, oh, I say over three years ago. It started in my meditation in Romans where it speaks of us being conformed to His image. Do you remember? Let's look at that. Romans 8:27, "And He that searcheth the hearts, (this is the Spirit), knows what is in the mind of the Spirit because He maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." Now, there, there, I'll stop for a minute, and then I'll come down to the other verses; something good there. How helpless we would be if we had to go through on the energy of our own prayers and of our living. We can't. Now I have two people, two sources of prayer for me aside from my little prayers. "He ever liveth to make intercession for us." Well now, that INTERCESSION is for US. It's not for the WORLD. "I pray not for the world, I pray for those whom Thow hast given Me out of the world." We have come OUT of the world. That's what we come out of. And so He says, "I have a prayer for them, but the people in the world can't come under the value of the intercessory work of Christ unti. they come in the position that they have been taken out of the world into this position with Him." We can get the benefit of it. "I pray for those whom Thou hast given Me OUT OF THE WORLD. I can't pray this prayer for THEM. (in the world) I said, "Lord, why is that?" Because they haven't come under the REDEMPTIVE priviledges. REDEMPTION brings us into great priviledge. If we are redeemed and the Blood of Jesus has cancelled our SIN question, and we have NEW LIFE in Him, instantly we become subject for this prayer business. But the people in the WORLD can't. They can't. But you have to come through this, so that through the blessing of salvation, a NEW BIRTH, a NEW LIFE in Him that brings us into a place where the intercessory work of Christ can work. The intercessory prayers of Christ today doesn't touch the world. His death covers that. His death today is for the WORLD. But His intercessory prayer, it's for them, "whom Thou hast given Me out of the world." Never could have come under the power of His intercessory prayer until we are redeemed and brought to a place where we can receive. First, we have to receive the benefit of His REDEMPTION, and on the basis of having received the benefit of

His redemption, and on the basis of having received the benefit of His redemtion, we become subject to receive the benefit of His PRAYER. Now, it works like that. Now, He says the Holy Spirit Who indwells us is also praying, for "we know not HOW to pray." I am glad He says that. Sometimes you feel like you know how to pray like a house-afire. We don't. It says distinctively that we don't. "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities, for we know not what we should pray for." No, we don't. Our vision is too limited. We think because we are pressed for something too locally to pray as we ought... here's your "but," meaning the ALTERNATIVE. That's the situation, "but," always throws a line of thought into ALTERNATIVE. "I cannot do this, BUT, you know..." There are always the DIVINE ALTERNATIVES. "But," is the strange, little conjunction. It's a strange, little conjunction in there. It always throws a thing from this into that. He says, "We know not how to pray as we ought to." We have not vision, penetration of it. "But," over against that, "but," "but," "but," "but.," we have the Spirit because of our infirmities, our lack, "for we know not what we should pray for as we ought...BUT...BUT...BUT...the Holy Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." Now, that's both ways. The Holy Spirit is praying FOR us, and he is praying for US. How many see a little difference in it? He is praying when I can't do the praying. He is praying FOR me, he is carrying my prayer process and He is praying FOR me. So I said, "I thank You, Lord." I think maybe with the combined efforts of the intercessory work of the Lord, and the groanings of the Holy Spirit which cannot be uttered, and my feeble saying, "Lord, I am cheering for You, I'm praying with You," I believe God gets us through. I believe that. But these great "prayer warriors" always make me feel strange. He does use people as prayer warriors in a sense, they are INTERCESSORS, there is a mission, a field, I have had touches of it. But after all, none of us can redeem ourselves, nor we can't pray ourselves through. No, we can't. We just can't. It is humiliating to our flesh and pride, but why not let that crazy thing go anyway? How many know, our pride never has gotten us anywhere, only in trouble? It just gets you into trouble. You might just as well let it go. So when I found this, I thought, "Well, there are two praying. Jesus is praying, and the Holy Spirit is praying."

5. Now let's follow this. This is your little build-up first, before I come to this next verse. He says, "And He that searcheth the heart knows what is the mind, the objective, the thought of the Spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints according to WHAT THOU ASKETH?" "According to the CLAIMING OF THE PROMISE?" "Oh now, what are the promises for?" No. He only hears us as the intercession and the prayer is made in THE WILL OF GOD. Hmm. Isn't that terrific? "And I think that we just will pray through and claim the promises and get ahold of God..." Now listen. Sit down. That is an old fashioned prayer meeting technique that has been worn out for years and years. He only heareth us when prayer is made according to the WILL OF GOD. So, why pray all these fantastic things? Sometimes my prayers are very short. How many have found sometimes that your prayer life has been upset? How many found that the old fashioned prayer technique that you had ten years ago doesn't work today? No, it doesn't. I know it doesn't. Because He will force us, bring us into situation that our old prayer patterns, our old prayer technique doesn't work. It needs something more than that. And He REVOLUTIONIZES us. One thing, I don't say it often because I feel "superior," but I say it because I can sense, and I don't feel it is humility on my part to call a stone a stone. A stone is a stone. I know people... I think one of the best things so far that will happen to them is for God to get into their prayer life and overhaul it. But how many how that's one of the most dangerous things too? There will come a period in your life when God will have to get into your prayer life, maybe He has already. How many have Him working in your prayer life? Well, don't be afraid, dear, don't be afraid of it, dear. Welcome it. "And he can't pray as he used to and..." He doesn't WANT you to. "I claimed and I...." Sit down. You are getting yourself all into a sweat. Why does the Lord say, in the Old Testament, the garments were never to smell of SWEAT? Did you know that was in the Bible? Yes, it is. Sweat is the symbol of HUMAN EFFORT. Human AGITATION is your sweat. And He says, "I don't want the smell of sweat from your garments." In the Old Testament the priests and those who served Him; He didn't accept it. How many know, that's the smell of FLESH? Sweat is the smell of FLESH. And so it's here. Sometimes He calls us, it's His doings; learn to be pliable with Him and don't tell Him too much.

Just say, "All right, Lord." Now, that's hard, I know, I have been in it. To have a silence maybe for weeks and months. It is alright, if He wants to come in there and overhaul that part of my experience in there, then I say, "Alright." He won't ruin it. He will probably enlarge it or refurbish it. But we want it kept in that little, neat pattern. I have know people that I have had to deal with, they would think I was terrifyingly wild. so you can't talk to them very clearly. As a Spiritual director, you have to learn all the "P's and Q's." You can't say anything much to them, only, "Yes, dear," or something to be polite. But what you want to SAY..now listen, sit down. God wants to get into your prayer life and tear it all to pieces and reassemble it so that it's on a correct basis. He has to let you ride along thus far because of your ignorance. Not that he is blaming you for it. he doesn't blame us, but He does not want us to be ten and twelve years old forever. He doesn't want it to be that. He loves the Babes in Christ, but He doesn't want a Babe in Christ that's 70 years old. I have met Babes in Christ, 65 and 70 years, the loveliest babes in Christ! Whoever wants to be that? They have been with the Lord 60 and 70 years; 60 years and Babes in Christ! Well, why? Because there was never anything given over to a process of GROWTH. Well, you have to SUBMIT yourself to that. There are growing pains in the Spirit as much as in the flesh. Certainly.

So here He says He will hear only according to the WILL OF GOD. So, you can't intercede if you are interceeding in the Spirit for something YOUR WAY. It just won't work. You can QUENCH THE SPIRIT doing it. Yes, you can QUENCH the Spirit, but if you give way to the Spirit, you will be surprised at what He can pray. How many have ever been surprised to find out the Lord prays certain things through you? Have you? Really? Yes, yes, yes. Surprised that he would pray that. Well, it is because He had access and He dared to. So don't be afraid if He gets into your prayer pattern. The best thing for some people is for them to let God get in there and upset their prayer pattern because you have a certain technique in your prayer life that grows and becomes modified, changes. So let's read on. This is where I got caught now, this is about three or four years ago. I was reading it, and it says, "We know...," one thing that all these things allowed to fall into my pattern, "are working together to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose." Now go on. Don't stop there. You have been stopping there. Why don't you find out what that purpose is? "Oh, we are called to His purpose, ehemm..." Now, listen. "We know that all things," THIS is where we begin to accept the will of God without too much quarreling with Him and crying. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God (this is agape), to them that are saved?" Now wait. Of course they are saved. "To them that are sanctified?" No, no, no. "Those who are baptised? In the Spirit?" Be still. "To them who are the called according to His purpose." Well, what is His purpose? "For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son that He might be the first born amoug MANY BRETHREN." How many of you are daring to hope with me that you are one of the brethren coming down the line? Yes, but He is the FIRST in that procession, and knowing us before we were born, knowing our whole attitude of life and what He could do if He could once get us really SURRENDERED. He says, "This is what I can do for you. I have called you to a supreme purpose, NOT to redeem the world. GIVE your testimony to the world, bring the gospel to the heathen. That's alright. But MY objective, My great purpose is to conform you to the IMAGE OF MY SON, and I am going to undertake this great purpose, and I'll give the Holy Spirit in you as a DIRECTOR, as a TEACHER to work with you, to instruct you. And you yield to HIM, and He, HE, not the theologian, but HE will lead you into all light and Truth and revelation," as we are able to take it. Now, that means we have to be built up to it. RECEPTIVITY will have to be built in us, and that's very difficult. The power to RECEIVE that which He has for us. So He says, "My great objective, My great purpose is the conforming of you to the image of My Son." Well now, when God began to open that to me, that's where alot of trouble started. But's it's good trouble, it's good trouble. But I mean it started a tremendous work of God in my heart and life, because I prayed; I know right where I was when I prayed it. I said, "Lord, I think that's really what I want. I have been after it for so long. I have come up to a crisis, and I want you to do that. I want to be conformed to the image of Thy Son." Do you see that's a disasterous prayer to pray? It is terrific. But I prayed it almost in ignorance.

I was not ignorant in the fact that I wanted it, but I was ignorant in the fact that it involved so much. I didn't know what it involved, but I wasn't ignorant to the fact that I was really saying YES to God. So I said, "Lord, that's all I want. I want that, to be conformed to the image of Thy Son." Now, that's a LIFE PROCESS. He begins with us in the beginning, as babes in Christ to condition us. Always, all of our first years are conditioning, conditioning and conditioning, before He really dares to begin a real, profound work of reorganization. I would call it the RECASTING, the CONFORMING. And when He said it, I know right exactly where I was. And He said, "If I do this, this involves your whole personality." And He says it is Spirit, soul, and body, and therefore, in these three or four years, that's where I have been living, and why I haven't been in a lot of public meetings and services and all the other things that people want me to go to. I have calls to the ends of the earth. I think I have letters THAT high. I can go to Australia tomorrow, all expenses paid. I have offers and offers and offers more than I could possibly ever think of, calls to come and I can't take ONE of them. Not ONE. Now in almost two years, I have had nothing but a retreat here, and maybe one little meeting. All last year I had, even while I was home, I had one little meeting the whole year long, and that was over a weekend for Easter. He didn't want me out there. He wanted me home where He could work. And it hasn't been pleasant, but it's been most valuable, and I wouldn't exchange it for anything in this world. But I have suffered, terrifically. I have suffered more this year than all the sufferings I have had in my lifetime, but they have been sweet with Him. They have been crucifying, but they have been sweet. They have been in absolute darkness at times, maybe days and weeks without any consciousness of God, any more than if there wasn't any God. Well, you got to get through that. You just have to come to it. I KNOW He is there. But He might as well not be. It's strange, but it's a part, I suppose, it's a part of your Spiritual development. I had no business to pray this prayer. And He said, "I will begin with you as a trinity: Spirit, soul, and body, and I am going to give you the testing and the discipline that it takes to do this correction and this building." And I went through a whole period of nothing but SPIRITUAL REVOLUTION in my spirit. My whole Spiritual consciousness, how shall I call that, shall I call that the atmosphere of Spirit...that I... how many know we have atmosphere that we deal and live in, that whole Spiritual consciousness of God that had to be all worked out. Now, that can't happen in a day, nor a week, nor a month. And as soon as I felt that He was finishing some of that, it would drop down upon another level and my whole soul life, psychic, soul, mental; my whole life in there would be all purged out, all by the power of His Word, by the TRUTH. And finally He struck my BODY. You see, this is such a trinity, and here was this, it was like this, you see this trinity. I mean two trinities. (on the blackboard) I had the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. That makes a Trintiy. Well, now I want to get in there and I know God wanted me to move into a deeper consciousness of taht, but here was another trinity. I can't get in there, only through this SUFFERING, SACRIFICE, and DISCIPLINE.

How many can see the suffering, sacrifice, and discipline? Now, I have to get used to these three, and here I have to come in here and in here and here. I can't get in there, only here. If I take discipline, I will come into sacrifice. I'll go through that, I come up to suffering, go through suffering, come back to this. And I couldn't get out of that cage. How many know what I mean? It was just like there was NO escape. If I tried THIS angle, it would bring me to THIS one. Well, He said, "This is your trinity. This is your little trinity. This is your little trinity that you have to move through, because all these things which will help to qualify, to change and make you over into the creature that I want." I am saved, I am a new creature in Christ Jesus, I really am. But you know, the revolution here was so much more terrific than anything I had when I got saved and filled with the Spirit. I had a terrific time, and marvelous opening when I was saved and brought into the Spirit. My salvation was not so drastic because I haven't any idea of any date when I got saved at all. I don't remember the day I got born either, but I am here, I am

born. I don't remember the day. You remember the day you got born? Your mother gave birth to you. Sit down. Well, now some have a special day and experience. I can't say it happened in one experience at all, but I know that through a certain period, God wrought something in my heart and life that after that period I was DIFFERENT. I was changed. I had accepted Him, I had accepted Him, I didn't have any rousing experience, "When I got up, the sky was different...and the birds sang." I never had anything like that at all. But how many believe I am saved just the same? You better, because I really am. But I can't go back to an episode like that that is MARKED, you know,"THIS is the day, the 26th of March, and so and so, the year so and so, and it was afternoon... I can't do it. But I know that during a period in there, that my heart was for God, seeking god, I was confessing and confessing, and seeking God and confessing and seeking God through that period and finally I am finding myself coming out into a consciousness of the REALITY of God, and there was peace in my heart. "Well, do you say it is PROGRESSIVE?" I don't know anything about that, I just know that's the way it worked. Now, I am not saying that people can't have definite experiences. I know when God brought me to CONSECRATION, and I know definitely when He baptized me, but I can't go back to that other. But this has been more revolutionizing and more terrifying than any of the others. But, of course, we have to have it. So when I stood there as a trinity, He said, "I'll begin." And He began. And this overhauling, overhauling and overhauling, and if you want to get into God, all I can say children, you just got to make up your mind, there is going to be some terrifying suffering for you, that's all I can say. It's a LAW, LIFE ONLY COMES THROUGH DEATH. And you don't want THAT. Nobody wants it, but that's the only way He has, and I can't tell anything different. I can't go as they do and get them saved, and say, "Now you have heaven, and a little bit of heaven to to heaven in." And they exalt, you know, the emotional aspect of our salvation. There is an emotional reaction to us in salvation, we have great joy and great peace, but can't LIVE in that joy and peace. We have to learn to live in Him without that joy and peace because HE is the habitat. HE is my HOME, HE is my RESTING PLACE. That's taught, "Now we got a heaven to go to heaven in." Well, in about six months, a bomb falls out of that ehaven and then you don't know where you are. You come settling down in the mud. "Where is I?" Like the man who flew in the airplane, a colored man, and he went up and when he landed, he said, "Well, where is I?" That's like it is with these awful let-downs. They are in the glory, and then these meetings they have all the time, you know, to maintain that status. Oh, I think they are horrible! They are horrible. "Well, come one and get it and maintain it!" You can't. You are trying to maintain an EMOTIONAL REACTION that's only an ACCOMPANYING FEATURE, and don't do that. You have to learn to feel just as good when you don't feel good, as if you DID feel good. You've got to learn to do it, that's all. Because it's wholly a matter of FAITH. A matter of FAITH.

7. So here is where He started in. So, in all this period He has been bringing me to this place of conforming to the image of Christ. Now, I am only in the PROCESS, and this is at least over three years. He started in on it, and I am still going, because I find that it covers so much in a person, involves so much, but we have to have it. This is your only triangle which we can fall back on. If you aren't in a PROCESS OF DISCIPLINE, you are in a PROCESS OF SACRIFICING, and if you get through that, you come over into the REALM OF SUFFERING, and you can't get out of it. "But isn't there a little escape, little place..." Yes, you could even construct them. But don't do that. That's artificial. Wait, and it will become REAL to you. So in this question of suffering with Him in identification, the Lord opened this. He said, "Now, if you are to be identified with Me, then you have to learn." Not in it's fullness, but I believe we have the priviledge, and it is really a joy to know you can do it, but it is terrifying to get into it. If I am to be united with Him, I must learn to be able to partake of His life in all the different phases. I see Him walking the earth; I have to learn to be identified with Him as He has walked the earth. $\,$ I'll $\,$ get my reactions in my limited experience with He had in His fullness. How many see what I mean? Now He had had all that strange experience in a life. I will know it also in miniature form according to my capacity, and all don't have great capacity for some of these things. They will have a little touch of it, but not the fullness of it. But He say, "According to your capacity, I will unite you with Me, and I want you to be united

with Me, so that in miniature, limited form, doesn't always last too long, but you too will feel what I have felt. You too, you too shall feel it. so He has been doing that, and Have I been having a time! Wrrrr...I don't want to tell it...too holy and sacred...but it's there, it's there, and He will say, "Now, you are only feeling in your little capacity what I had in all it's fullness, because I want you with Me." Isn't that sweet of Him to do that? So I said, "Lord, I am awful shallow. I don't know how much I can take. But if You hold me goo, then let me feel this." And you know, He has let me have some terrific times, just terrific times, just terrific times. Periods that I know He must have had, only in their fullness. I can't yet see how the Bride of Christ could be perfectly and wonderfully united to Him unless she knows something of that. I just can't see it. I don't think that the translation can effect it. DEATH can't make it. I know people who think that the minute they are translated, all those things are taken care of, and they are going to be all developed and everything all in Him. Why, that's nothing but a fairy tale. You know something? God is building up Spiritual value in everyone of us. A Spiritual deposit. Now, that's the only thing we take with us when the Lord Jesus comes for us. The only thing that's translated is the accumulation we might say, the accumula of SPIRITUAL LIFE and VISION and UNDERSTANDING. That's the ONLY thing He will take. Now, that's the deposit which He has for these next ages. Do you wonder why I am so serious about this business? Because people are DECEIVED. Christians by the thousands are deceived as if they are believing in Mother Goose and Santa Claus, just exactly. I know preachers who believe that way. Why they say, "When we are resurrected, or when Jesus comes, we will all be changed and all those things will happen." "No," I said, "No, no!" We get a glorified BODY. The CHARACTER QUALITIES that I have been able to build up in here, that's ALL that's carried over. I have a NEW BODY, a SPIRITUAL BODY, a new RESURRECTED body, but God can't, in the change like that, BUILD A CHARACTER. Can you see that or can't you? He cannot. CHARACTER takes time under a law of TESTING AND PROVING, and that's what I have here. And when He comes, all that there is translated of me will be the Spiritual gathering of LIFE and understanding in Him. That's all. That's all, that's all He can take. Now THAT becomes the seed planted in my next age for it's fruitage. I read you that poem, "The Singing Plowman," to tell you about that. This period that we have, is the period in which He plows my heart and sows the seed. There is no time for the harvesting of that. The harvesting of that will come in the ages and ages and ages because now He plows my heart by the plow of ETERNAL TRUTH. He plows my whole being. He plows it all up. Exposes it, digs it up, the worms and bugs and everything that's in the ground, it all comes out, digs it all up. He harrows it, he pulverizes it, He does everything He can to that soil. Then He sows the seeds and it sprouts just enough to show it's identification, that it is seed of this, but we don't stay here long enough for it's fruitage. But He can take this DEPOSIT into our NEXT AGE. That's why He said to them, "You have been FAITHFUL over a LITTLE. That deposit, I can multiply it into ten." How many see your multiplication coming? But what did He multiply? A very simple beginning. A very simple beginning. But He can multiply it. I have all the ages to come for the GROWTH and MATURING of CHOICES and decisions which I have made here. I haven't time in life NOW to fulfill the choices and the decisions, but they can be made full over there. Now, this is a horrible part. I CAN'T COME BACK from there to here and make my CHOICES all over again! No, I can't. I can't come back and say, "Oh! I wish I had chosen this... "No, you can't. You make your choice HERE. Your FRUITAGE is THERE. I can't come back and make the choices. In dealing with young people, I often say to them, "Don't be concerned about your ministery and service so much yet. You are too little. You are nothing but a 'baby.' But listen to me now, listen, listen, learn how to make your good choices, because ALL LIFE IS BUILT ON YOU POWER OF CHOOSING. Learn how to differentiate. Learn how to cast a sense of value over a thing. Learn that, and let your call and all this business, let that go for a minute to get a SPIRITUAL ADJUSTMENT. Learn how to make a choice by what? A proper evaluation. Why? Because what your choices may be today may blossom in ages down the line before it will bear any fruit at all. But you can't come back HERE and make that choice. You make the choice HERE. You make it HERE. But it will find the fruitage of it over THERE. So, He ahs been talking a lot about that. Make your choices HERE.

8. Shall I read that poem? I couldn't have written this thing that I am going to read to you

if I hadn't been a little barefoot boy on a farm. But I recapture all of those things and weave them in. I was born in the country on a farm and we were very ordinary people, godly people, but we didn't have all the wealth in the world, and of course, as children we had to look after our clothes, what we wore, and what we couldn't wear. In the summer I had to go barefooted so that I could save my shoes for the winter. See. That was good economy. So I know what it is to be barefooted. Well, then you see, in the fall I would have my shoes and my boots. I really wore little leather boots with copper toes on them. That's what we wore 70 years ago. So you see, the styles have changed in 70 years, they change in 70 hours now. But then they didn't. Well, we lived on this farm and Dad, Father, had a hired man who helped on the farm named Dave. And he used to plow and do alot of work. I was too little to plow but I could follow around and get my nose into all things that were going on. I always was in everything. And I remember him plowing and being barefooted, you know, how many have ever been barefooted? Come on. How many like the feel of the earth in your toes, and under your feet? Isn't it fun? And I used to just love that soft earth with my bare feet, you know, and put my toes in like that. So he would plow, old Bill the horse, and the plow, and a good plow with a plowshare. How many know what we mean by a "plowshare?" That's the blade that sits out onto the plow. The plow is this. Well, then you have certain blades that you put on points, one for such a plowing and such a plowing. Six inch, four inch, heavy plowing. That's the plowshare. The share is the knife. And I know how they did that, and then I would walk behind. Dave would be plowing and I come behind him you know, my feet in his furrow, worms and bugs and unything under the sun they plowed up. Things you plow up that go....get out of sight. Have you ever had HIM plow you, dear? Did you ever see anything run or didn't you? Well, one thing that always pleased me, he was always whistling. He always whistled. He was a gay boy, just a bright young man; loved to whistle. And I can go right to the field where he plowed today. And one day I was meditating, and God was speaking to my heart about His testing and proving me, and getting at me and upsetting me, tearing me all to pieces, and I just didn't like it. And I said, "Well, what is this, Lord?" He said, "I am plowing you. I am plowing you." He said, "Don't you remember when you were little, how they plowed the ground?" And I said, "Yes." He said, "Well, your heart and life is merely a great field that I bought. It wasn't cultivated yet. I bought you through my precious death, but the field needed cultivation and all. I bought you. You are mine. But it was such a rugged field. Now I am plowing you, and my plow is the TRUTH which I will bring to you, and the plow is the Word and plowshare is the Truth. It is the Truth that penetrates." He said, "I'll plow your heart and life." And He used to plow and turn around and plow back again. Then turn around and plow and, "Now I think you are through."? No, no. And then He says, "Now I can SOW." David was always whistling. And so He gave me this word. You see, David never bothered to think about the harvest. He was whistling. He was joyous and happy in the plowing. He didn't plow and say, "Well, are we going to bring in any sheaves?" He didn't do that.

THE SINGING PLOWMAN

God's plow struck deep with my heart,
And plowed long furrows one by one.
Through fallow ground so hard and firm,
From early morn till set of sun.
The plowshare was Eternal Truth,
Which tore the hidden roots in me,
And turned them to the light and air,
Till selfhood laid a field set free.

You get the sun is the Son of Righteousness, the air is the Holy Spirit, and I was exposed to the "sun" and the "air." Do you get it? It's all symbolic, the whole thing.

He only plowed that He might sow, There must be seed to scatter wide. And then I felt His presence near, He stood in silence by my side. How many know I knew what He wanted? He wanted SEED to plant. Well, seed has to go to it's DEATH and I was the seed. He never ASKED, He just stood there.

He only plowed that He might sow, There must be seed to scatter wide. And then I felt His presence near, He stood in silence by my side. And so I gave Him all of me, My hopes and dreams and inner throne. All these He scattered far and near, And left me naught to call my own. They fell like seed in furrows deep, And all were buried neath the sod. All that I had went down in death, To wait the mighty breath of God. He did not leave me then alone To mourn the loss of earthly things To be thus stripped gave greater place For life His radiant presence brings. How could I grieve for heart thus plowed? I covet now no sweeter thing Than wait with Him the harvest day, And in the meantime hear Him sing.

Do you like it? Now you're in that, aren't you, dear? I want you to be. Yes. "I have no greater joy now, than to wait, for that harvest day, and in the meantime hear Him sing." Is that scriptural? Yes, "I'll sing over them and joy over them." It's in your Old Testament picture. The heart of God singing in joy over them. And like David, He sang. Well, we have to take our plowing.

9. I think I'll talk a little bit about some of the other things. This is awfully disjointed isn't it? But are you getting something? That's the main thing. I can give you some scriptures; I can't open them all to you because it would take too long, but I can give you some scriptures with He gave me relative to this being CONFORMED and coming into fellowship with Him to understand His heart and to understand Him as He is now. As He is. And of course, Jesus prayed. He knows how to pray. There was a tremendous prayer life. I can remember reading too, how He went alone to pray, so many times He didn't want anyone near Him when He prayed. How could He, how could He even bear to. There were times when He wanted them, but there were nights and times that He'd spend in just a communion and prayer with God. So I know that if I were to be identified with him, I must learn to bear what's in His heart, and on His heart, and the Lord Jesus today is still concerned over the multitude to bring them in. To bring them to God. That's right, that should be; that's in His heart. Well, we will too. And he began to lay a burden on my heart, and I had known intercessory prayer way back in the beginning of Pentecost, touches of it, but He let it become more and more intensified, and so for days I was just...really for weeks, I was almost all the time in prayer. In just terrific prayer. A burden that I couldn't MAKE myself and couldn't get RID of it. It was just there in my heart, a terrifying burden, and I could feel so many, many times it was for the welfare of His body, the welfare of His body. Now, there is a burden of prayer for the sinning world; we have that. Evangelists have it, missionaries have it. What is that? That's a burden that He places on us for the LOST. And they are consumed with a desire to bring them in. Now, that is wonderful, but you can't bear that in the fullest and bear that other for the maturing of those that are brought in. My prayer, my prayer now is for the babes who have been brought in, who need MATURING and the Body which He is shaping that needs it's growth and it's development and it's building. That's my prayer. That's on me all the time, day and night, day and night I am under that burden for the body, the Body, the Body. Then there came to me a sense of bringing them to BIRTH, and Paul said he was burdened in Galatians. He was burdened and travailed AGAIN in prayer, intercession and prayer until Christ could be formed

in those who are already saved and filled and baptized in the Spirit. Why, I got ahold of that; that's what He put on me. He says, "Now this prayer is for those who are ALREADY saved and filled with the Spirit that I am working with. They are part of My Body, and they have to be prayed through. You give birth to them. You have to pray them through, you give birth to them." And I was just in travail, that was all. I wanted to bring it forth. I was so burdened like a mohter, a woman that was in travail, that was all. I was carrying it for days and days and days until sometimes I couldn't take very much more of it. But I said, "Lord, I can't take much more of it. Can't You do something to me? Say something to me." He was so SILENT as if there was no God. Just that awful ache and crying on the floor and walking the floor. don't tell this to people, but I want to tell it to you so if God, if He deals with you, you won't be frightened. Sometimes just walked back and forth, bac and forth, and back and forth, and sometimes praying in tongues because it you pray it in English you never could take it. Wasn't that nice? So He says, "I can pray through you, YOU become the instrument, the instrument. I'll put the prayer in there." And it was in tongues. Many, many times, and sometimes noises, groanings. I wouldn't want to make the noises, they were just noises, agony, just... I would be on the floor just in torment and agony...you can't say it...you couldn't get a tongue for it, but I said, "Lord, if you will only give birth to this, bring it out and do what you want with it." And I kept on and on for days, days, days, weeks, weeks. That's why I didn't go to meetings. How could I go to meetings with this thing on me? Why, I couldn't do it. I would just say, "I am not available." Well, I wasn't. And one day, out of a clear sky, I wasn't thinking about anything like that at all, I wasn't even thinking of it, I was reading over in Isaiah. I wasn't thinking, only I had been praying the Lord would speak to me, but He WOULDN'T speak. Now, don't "tease" God if He doesn't want to talk to you. Don't tease Him. I have learned to do that. I said, "Alright, if You don't want to talk to me, Lord, for the next week or two, or a month, or a couple of months." I mean talking intimately to my heart. How many know I don't mean FELLOWSHIP? I HAD a fellowship. I had a fellowship. You can have a fellowship but not that INTIMACY, that understanding between His heart and mine: If He didn't want me to have that, and yet I knew I wasn't backslidden, I was IN His fellowship, I said alright, if He wanted that, that's alright. You have to learn to do that, and let the world go by and all the rest of it. And I was reading in Isaiah 40:11. I had come to the 10th and 11th verses, and was quietly reading, and God...I didn't feel Him anywhere near me in the world. He had me in ISOLATION, and He wasn't pleased to comfort me, and if He didn't want to comfort me and let me feel His love, then that's alright. Then be STILL about it. Just let it go. I was reading on. "And behold the Lord God will come with strong hand and His arm shall rule for Him. Behold His reward is with Him and His work before Him. He shall feed His flock like a Shepherd. He shall gather the lambs with His arms and carry them in His bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." Well, right out of heaven, "YOU are the ewe. YOU are the ewe sheep. You are heavy with young." It almost frightened me. A EWE SHEEP? He said, "You are a EWE. that's why you feel you are heavy with young. That will have to be birthed, and you will have to learn to nurse them, and give them suckle, nurse." So, I said, "Thank You, Lord. This is the first You have spoken to me in months." How sweet! And he only said four words. "YOU ARE A EWE. I have called you." And what is a EWE? The EWE is the young female, and that disturbed me because I thought, "Well, that's a FEMALE." But I want to help you with that a little later This idea of the female bearing the young. It's alright when you get on to it. It disturbed me. No, He said, "You are a EWE. You are heavy with young. You will have to give birth. They will be brought in." And He said, "You have to nurse them." Do you see it? How many know, I am a nursing EWE? Ehhem. How many know I have plenty that nurse me; they nurse me all the time. They come and nurse me in the Spirit. He says, "You have to learn to accept that." Well I said, "What comfort is there in that?" He said, "Read it again." "I will gently LEAD those who are with young." How many see it's NOT in a FLOCK? How many can see I am not in a FLOCK at all? How many know I have no place in a FLOCK? Can you imagine ME ministering in a FLOCK? Great big FLOCK of people? No, there are plenty of others that can do that. I can't. No, I can't. He says, "I'll gently lead those who are with young." Well, where are they? They are right by HIM. And as He said that, I said, "Yes, that is true. You have made a unique and strange fellowship between my heart and Yours, and You keep me close to You." Well, He said, " $\underline{\underline{I}}$ was alone with My disciples."

If you look carefully, and He called these 12, "That...the very FIRST thing...that they might BE NEAR HIM." THEN He sent them out. Did you ever notice that? He says it specifically. He called them that they might BE NEAR HIM. THEN He sends them out. You have to get near Him BEFORE you are safe to be sent OUT. Do you see that or don't you? Yes, you have to be near Him to get the feel of the whole situation. Yes, yes. So He said, Now, don't be disturbed. I am here with you. I'll keep you by my side." How could a EWE great with young do in a general flock? As I have said before, some old ram and alot of ugly sheep jabbing around, they would injure that. Did you see that or can't you? They had no place in that general flock. I know it. I know meetings I wouldn't dare to go to. No. I know I would only be hurt and injured. I know it. And I know to keep away from it. Not because I am backslidden, because a EWE, great with young, can't always more in a FLOCK like that. It just can't. So, He says, "You keep close here by Me. You keep by My side, and I'll take care of you." And when He said that, I said, "I know...why, yes."

10. Well, then I looked again, and I saw something here. "He shall feed His flock..." Now, that's the general group; that's the general group. "He shall feed them as a SHEPHERD." And He is a SHEPHERD. "He shall gather the LAMBS." How many see a GRADATION coming. Lambs. "He shall gather them with His arms and carry them in His bosom and gently lead those that are with young." How many see a GRADATION of a trinity right away? A THREE. The GENERAL FLOCK; He ministers to them continually, and the LAMBS; He carries in His bosom, you know why? Because they are so frail and helpless. They are so frail and so helpless, they can't take care of themselves, so He carries them in HIS bosom, and gently leads those that are carrying the burden, moving with HIM; they will give BIRTH for the rest of the flock. You can't have a flock unless somebody brings them out, you see. You bring them out, you give birth to them, and that's not pleasant, it isn't easy. It's very difficult. But He says, "You stay." There is a GRADATION. Now later on, I'll show you that again in John. You will find that same gradation in John. You remember after Peter had hade this terrible fiasco upset; you know the "daring Peter," he is the strong etravert. I love him, but he had to have a dealing, and God knew that. The Lord Jesus was very merciful to him, but you see, he has a way of handling...He didn't say, "Peter, I want to talk to you. There is a quality in your temperment that's going to work ruin in your ministry. Just your natural disposition, development. And I want to talk you you about it, and I'll pray with you and lay hands on and you will be delivered." No, no. Because Peter isn't the kind to be dealt with like that. "And you will be delivered..." No, no. Because Peter isn't the kind to be dealt with like that. Peter is the kind that has to be knocked down and dragged out. Then he looks up and says, "I think there is something going on." How many know he is that type? Yes, he is just that type. He is just that type. And so this Peter, with his extravaganza, had already said to the Lord three times, "Though all the rest of them deny You, I won't!" How many remember his testimony as to his devotion to the Lord. devotion to the Lord! "Though ALL forsake Thee, I will not!" The Lord could have just said, "Well, listen here..." And He did. He said, "Now listen, Peter, before the cock crows you will deny ME three times." "It can't be! I'm so devoted, Lord!" Well, these extravagant operations, I don't care for them. So the only thing to do was to allow him to go through this terrific let-down. How did He do it? Did HE do it? No. He permits the ENEMY to do those things. When God wanted to deal with Job, did God come down to Job and say, "Now, dear Job, I have to deal with you." He didn't. He let the DEVIL at him. He did. He let the DEVIL at him. Because the Devil is a SERVANT after all. He is the servant. He is less than the great Creator, he is the servant. He is a PART of God's economy. And so He lets the Devil at Job to bring through what HE wanted. He USED the Devil. Well, then when He wants to get at Paul, what does He do? He USES the Devil again...ehemm, He let's the Devil loose at him. When He wanted to get at Paul what does He do? He let's a DEMON loose. God can take care of all the demons, so don't be afraid. He let a demon loose to get ahold of Paul to teach him a thing or two. Now, they are all in HIS command, and so with poor Peter, the Lord said, "The only way I can deal with him is to do it this way." So He allowed the enemy to test him and prove him and carry on until he made a terrible flat-out. Well, now if you look in the scriptures, and read the story, Peter has not yet had an occasion to meet the Lord since his awful let-down. He has not had an occasion to meet him. He has gone through this awful tragedy of death, the whole business,

and he hasn't met Him yet. The last time he saw Him was up at the temple when he stood there warming his hands by a fire. Do you remember while Jesus was being tried and all, that's the last Peter had ever seen of Him, and then to go out and have this episode. I think his heart must have nearly killed him inside, "If I can only see Him once to get this thing straightened out!" No occasion. Isn't it awful to have to go so long before you meet Him again. isn't it? It's hard. Well you know, you meet Him anyway, and you want to. and there is no occasion. That's very "bad." So Jesus didn't wait until Peter came back in a repentant mood and said, "Forgive me." He didn't wait for that, but He loved Peter enough to take the initiative and go after Peter. he always takes the initiative you see, when WE are so weak and foolish. And so when poor Peter is in this boat fishing, and in this awful place of unbelief and disobedience, Jesus comes down by the shore and says, "Have you any fish?" What a question! But that was the question which made the basis for the BLESSING to fall upon. So they come in and He has some breakfast and says, "Won't you warm your hands by the fire?" And He had a lovely fire all kindled, and you know, in that cold morning, their hands are cramped. They have been handling the nets, and He says, "Won't you warm yourself? I have breakfast for you." I put this in one of the stories in my book that I published, "Broken Bread." You will find the story. Where was the last place where Peter warmed His hands? You all know where that was. And wasn't it clever, psychologically, that he could arrange it to warm his hands again? So he has the coals all there, "Won't you warm your hands and have some breakfast?" Poor Peter is warming his hands, and finally Jesus says, "Where are the fish that we have." "Oh," Peter says, "I know where they are. They are down here." He got out of the picture as fast as He could, his hands were very warm! And so he went way down to the boat and got the fish and brought them in. Poor, dear Peter. How the Lord must love him. He did love him greatly. And so after they had eaten, after they had eaten, Jesus tackles him, and this is in the book, you have heard it before, but I'll tell it for some of you have not read my book. Jesus opens this conversation with Peter, and He says, in our English it's so poorly put, very bad, feeble English translation of it. You read it in your Greek Testament; you will find something sweet and beautiful. You see, Peter had declared His love for the Lord by saying, "Even though all forsake you, I won't. I got love for you, Lord. Nobody knows the depths of my love for You." He was self-deceived. And you notice, he made the measure of it, "Though ALL forsake You, I'll lay down my life for you." Now, that is an extravagent testimony and prayer, and Jesus picks him up right there, picks him up right there, and He turns to him and says, "Lovest thou Me more than these?" Not fish, but PEOPLE. Well, I suppose Peter thinks He is getting right at it head first. And He says to Peter, "Do you really love Me more than these?" And He SAID he did, "Though ALL forsake Me, YOU wouldn't?" Do you see how clever He is, psychologically, to weave this pattern and get it shaped up? Now, when He said that, He uses a strong word for LOVE, which is AGAPE. AGAPE is the strongest wrod we have for LOVE in our New Testament. Never uses EROS, and all those other words at all. AGAPE, PHILEO, and different words that show affection and love. So when He said, "Peter, lovest thou Me," He used that strong word, AGAPE, and Peter said, "Yea, Lord. I love Thee!" He did NOT. He said, "Yea, Lord. I am VERY FOND of You." PHILEO. That's ANOTHER WORD. So the thing went back and forth between those words. That's all lost in our translation. It is all lost. And Jesus is very clever, and He uses that strong word, AGAPE, "Peter, lovest thou Me?" Well, Peter knows better than to use THAT word, and "Yes, You know I love You; yea, Lord, You know that I am VERY FOND of Thee." "Thou art VERY DEAR to me." Either one. It's an EMOTIONAL word. Well then, he told him to feed the lambs. He said again, "Peter, lovest thou Me?" He uses that same word again, rubbing it in gently. Precious Jesus, and can't He rub it in!? Oh, dear. he said, "Lovest thou Me?" He said, "Yea, Lord. Thou art very dear to me." "Well, go feed my sheep," and so on. And the third times He says, "Lovest thou me." And you know, that's what BROKE HIM. And he said, "Yea, Lord. Thou knowest all things and Thou knowest I love Thee." And he broke down and cried. I am so glad he did. I was glad he did. And this is what I am coming to. You see, three times He tests him by saying, "AGAPE, AGAPE, AGAPE." But he (Peter) replies always, "PHILEO." Very fond. Very dear. That's an EMOTIONAL word, sweet and beautiful. But he knew better than to put that strong word in. He knew better. He had been cured.

11. Now this is what I want to hook up with this one in Isaish. When Jesus speaks of Him feeding, he uses different words concerning the method of feeding. In the Greek Testament.

Sometimes you have to look it up, dear, in your Greek text. It is just sweet in there. Do you know the first concern on His heart when He reinstated Peter were His LAMBS? Not the SHEEP, not the HALF-GROWN SHEEP, but the LAMBS. And He said, "Graze, graze my lambkins," in diminutive. Like "madchen," for "little girl," in German. It is in the diminutive form. GRAZE them. So in feeding, you have two words. One is "to GRAZE." Now when he uses the word GRAZE, that means the responsibility is upon the SHEPHERD to find adequate pasture and water, and you know, what is good for that little lamb to take. Do you get me or don't you see that? He is very careful about the DIET. Grazing, that's the SHEPHERD'S business to find the proper place for these little lambs to come in to feed. So He says, "GRAZE My little lambs." I said, "Why is it that way?" And you know what the Lord said to me? Well, He said, all the sheep that He has, a LAMB is a potential of a SHEEP. Do you get it? That was good. God said that to me. He said, "Because the LAMB is the potential, if you get ahold of the POTENTIAL LAMB and get him basically straightened out and..." How many know you don't have to think about the feeding of the OLD SHEEP when he gets old? No, you HAVE taught him that. So He said, "Take My LAMBS first. That's the POTENTIAL FLOCK. All the flock rests in these lambs. Graze them. You have to go out and find what is adequate for them." How many see we are not able to choose very much? No, no, no. We are not. We aren't safe to choose. That's why in teaching Bible School, the students...it's sometimes ridiculous to know what the students are reading and planning on doing. It's really ridiculous. They don't know who they are. They don't know what to eat, what to read. They just don't. Now, the next concern after He says, "First graze my lambkins," then He goes over to the old sheep, and He says, "FEED them." Now, FEEDING is different. FEEDING is to turn them in, and by being a sheep...now you see, with a SHEEP, He doesn't say GRAZE this old sheep. He should have been feasting and eating adequately, so that he KNOWS the pasture. Now hook that up with the New Testament where Paul is speaking of the saints. He says, "The saints who have their senses exercised whereby are able to discern the strong from the weak." How many remember that in the New Testament? Well, now that is a good connection with this very teaching. "For the OLDER ones," he says, "who have their senses exercised to be that they can discern good from evil." How many remember that in the New Testament? Now that is the same teaching exactly. Only it's put in picturesque form here with Jesus dealing with Peter. So He says, "FEED my sheep; turn them out. They are old enough now to know weed from everything else." Then He turns immediately to the half grown sheep, and that's another word. There are three words: LAMBKINS, SHEEP, and HALF-GROWN SHEEP, and in the Greek, they are all three different words because in God's thought, there is this division and there is this strange arrangement of people on LEVELS. Do you get tired of me talking about people being on LEVELS? And they are. Can you see a classification right away? That classification is probably in this room. In many fields because we don't more automatically with the whole sweep of the personality set-up. He leaves much in the areas of our disposition to deal with. Now there are many things in my life; I am still like this little lamb. I don't know what's what and He ahs to provide. There are other things I have learned in the years that He can trust me with, to eat that and go on. In Isaiah, "He feeds the flock and carries the lambs in His bosom." How many see that right away in John where He says, "Feed my lambs first."? Do you get it? The LAMBKIN. That's in His bosom. And then He puts that lovely word that bothered me, because when he said "EWE," that sounded feminine, and I thought, "Oh, dear." No, now don't be afraid of that, because He says...that's the verse I want to get this morning in the revelation of Jehovah, one of His names is EL SHADDAI. And what is that? "THE BREASTED ONE." Now, that's the FEMININE aspect of God. He is the BREASTED ONE, the One who FEEDS. That's God Jehovah. He is not humiliated to have, what? The idea of feminine, the mother, the female, the mother aspect that's in God. And He is the, "God of Breasts," this is, TO FEED. And then I didn't feel too bad about it. I thought, "No...that's alright."

12. Then I was reading along, and He showed me another one. I'd never seen it. And this was one place where He was teaching me something of the sufferings of the Lord Jesus. He suffered in my aspects. This is ONE ASPECT of His sufferings. There is the suffering of His DISCIPLINE, there was the suffering of his being FORSAKEN, oh, there were many phases of His suffering. This was one when Jesus came back to Jerusalem, and this is toward the end. He went upon the side of the hill and He looked over Jerusalem, and it says, "He

wept and He said, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how oft would I have gathered thee under Mv wings as a hen... " How many see the feminine in it again? The MOTHER instinct. I never had seen such a thing. I said, "Then I am not afraid, Lord." "No," He said, "That's perfectly normal. Perfectly normal that even Jesus gives way to it." He said, "I felt like a mohter hen that would like to have gathered you under My wings, but you would not." How many see that? Now, that's the mother instinct again. I found two to three places. I had never noticed it. I wonder why was He so grieved? And the Lord said, "It is unrequited love." Well, that is an awful confession. He said that word to me. And I wasn't so sure that I knew the meaning of it, and really went and got a dictionery. Don't tell anybody of my stupidity. But He spoke it to me. He said, "That's the suffering of unrequited love. Love that's poured out like that. But there is no response, no response, just a hummm." And you know know, when He let me have that, it would just ruin me. I never had felt such suffering in my life. "Why," I said, "That's when your heart of love flows like that and there is no response...just...back again." I walked days and days under taht. You see, some of these things take days, and some of them, weeks. Now, I was literally days under tha sense of unrequited love. Uhhhh...how He suffered! Suffered why? Because there was no release, no receptivity, no repoire. Just uhhhh! And He was upon the side of the mountain and that's where He took the part of a mother hen brooding again under her wings. How many can go back again to the original? The Holy Spirit brooding over CHAOS. Bringing forth. It's all through the Word. It's a wonderful Word, isn't it? Just a wonderful Word that would have all little connections. Moving, coming and going like that through it. So He showed me GRADATION, and ... now this about the EWE. These are scripture verses you can look up if you want to take them down and look them up:

Isaiah 40:11 - The one we started with wherein He said He will gently lead the ewe who is great with young. He keeps close by Him because He doesn't wnt that one in the general flock. It would be injured by the clumsiness of the flock, if you know what I mean, the "clumsiness" of it. You couldn't take it. Can't take it.

Psalms 78:71 - Where He was taken from the flocks to feed, David, was taken from the flock where he was serving with the ewes and the flock in order to feed the HOUSE. That's a good verse. Taken from the flock to feed.

John 17:20 - Is where I was praying about these things I was sure I would never touch, and in my intercession and prayer very often I would come back again into a sense of the here and now. And I said to the Lord, "Oh, God. I am praying about thighs that are projected way out here. There are things that I will never see." I said, "How is it? I'll never live to see that? It kind of scared me. You know what He said? He stopped me and He said, "Listen. I prayed for you 2000 years before you were born." In that 17th chapter of John, and that lovely High Priestly prayer of Jesus. He says, "Father, I pray not for these only, but for all those whom you will give me through these." How many of you remember that verse? That's YOU and ME. He prayed for you and He prayed for me because we have come in under that. "I pray not only for these, but for those whom Thou hast given Me because of them." So, He says, "Now you don't need to be afraid you will never see some of these things worked out." I think if we get close to God...I think it's right...He'll let us pray and move in things that are past HERE. I believe my prayer and alot of these PROJECT. I have touched things in an age to come. I just know I do. Don't you see that's possible. That prayer can project past the HERE AND NOW. Surely. Surely. His prayer projected from that immediate set-up to 2000 years, and He said it. "I prayed for you 2000 years before you were born." I said, "That's enough, Lord. I see it. I believe. It's alright. You don't have to do anything. I see it." He will give you little words like that to confirm a Truth. Now, sometimes you get this; so don't be worried about it. Sometimes as you move with god, He will give you a consciousness of a Truth, and you will know it, and yet you can't find verses in the Bible until later. He will shake it up so you can. I have touched Truth that I was very conscious was Truth, and yet I couldn't find any verse for it until maybe a long time afterward God would let me, in my reading, come to a set-up or a situation in the scriptures that would confirm that. I said, "Now, Lord, this is what I knew back there, but I didn't know where in the Bible." You see what I mean? So don't be frightened. So as long as

you are sure that that is a little fragment of Truth...many years ago, I suppose it must have been fifty years ago, He gave me a little intimation in Song of Solomon about the Bride. And it was so startling, so revolutionizing, so wonderful, I thought, "Isn't that wonderful." And I couldn't lay my hands on anything in the Bible. If somebody said, "Give me the scripture and the verse..." That always bothers me. I said, "I don't know. Read it. It's in the Bible." But then, you have to be polite. Awful to be polite sometimes when people are so vexing, come along and say, "What chapter and verse?" I don't know either one. They annoy me. It wasn't until a long time afterward I came to see it. Well I said, "This is the thing that I wanted and I never could find it. Now I see it." Well, I suppose I wouldn't be geared properly to it, or built up to it. But by ANTICIPATION, I had it. Then I got into the REALIZATION over here, and I said, "This is what it is." So don't be afraid if you get some intimation of Truth, and you can't organize it properly. Don't be afraid. But don't be too smart with it. Just hold on. NONE of us have ALL the Truth. No.

13. Now, another one you can hook on with that is the Leviticus 14:10. And this I was glad to know, is that the EWE LAMB, though it's a little mother lamb, she could be offered as a SACRIFICE as well as any masculine creature was. Like a bull or bullock. Now in offerings, the bullock always represents STRENGTH and VIGOR. The female meant REPRODUCTION and LIFE in the sense of the thing. And we always think of a bullock, "He offered a bullock unto the Lord." That means the masculine, or the strength. But you know, He accepted even as a sacrifice a EWE LAMB. So I said, "Thank You, Lord." You will get under that too. Do you get me or don't you see that? So that encouraged me. Now a few more about this EWE LAMB.

Numbers 6:14, II Samuel 12:3 - That's about this little ewe lamb and the story, you remember what was the name...Nathan, who told the story and David's awful caper that he cut up here you see, and he says there were two men, and it went with this man, and he had a little ewe lamb, and it was a sweet pet. The choice of his heart, and he ate from his hand, and drank from his cup, and carried it in his bosom, and he was so tender. Well, that was a little ewe lamb. And then how this man came to him and said, "Now, it's a man." Oh, that was terrific. Well, what I was getting at, is this little ewe lamb rested in the bosom of this man. Well, Christ Jesus was the great sacrifice. Where did HE rest? On the BOSOM OF THE FATHER. On the bosom of the Father. It was the same location. So you can put that down with John 1:18.

Genesis 21:28, John 21:15 - So have you got anything this morning? It's been awfully broken up, but did you get something? As long as you get something to help you, and probably be kind of little sign posts guiding you along the way that when you come of these things, don't be afraid, but do thus and so, and don't expect too much in a minute. It takes a long time. I think of being baptised 55 years. I have been baptised in the Holy Spirit, and only in the last couple of years got into some things where I belong. Well, what a long time for a build-up, isn't it? Well, then how immature we are. How little we have to offer. I used to say to the sutdents, "How do you even dare to go out?" You wonder at them. How they go with a Bible, and they are going to turn the world over. I say, "For mercy's sake, sit down." Oh, and the subjects they would take was amazing. Correcting the whole situation, and in 15 minutes give a discourse on the atonement. No, they know so little. But isn't He good to us? He is good to us, but you have to be quite SURRENDERED, absent, and THEN He speaks.

Our loving Lord, we thank Thee for this morning we didn't know if we would tackle this or not. But You have made us to talk about it. Now don't let these people try to all be ewe lambs. Oh, Lord help us. I don't want to talk because everybody wants to do these things. Help us to abide in the calling whereunto You have called us, and whatever that calling may be, help us to abide in it. But at the same time, we may also in some fashion partake of many of these things which relate to Thee. We can partake of Thy sufferings, but only in a drop compared with the oceans of it. We can also share with The in Thy outlook. But our vision is so limited. Help us to be contented. Keep working in our hearts and lives, conforming us to the image of Thy Son, that our fellowship with Him may please His heart, that we may offer back to Him something that will rejoice His heart and satisfy Him. We ask for Jesus' sake. Amen.