

GOD'S QUESTIONS I  
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1. I greet you again this morning, in the lovely name of our Lord. I trust that this may be true, that as we EXPOSE OUR HEARTS to Him, and open to Him, that He will find the ACCESS that He wants to find. God is seeking US. Sometimes we think that WE are seeking God; we are seeking God. God is seeking Us; He's been seeking us from the day that He sought Adam. He has never yet been satisfied. That is the Eternal attitude toward humanity; it is that of a SEEKING God. At times it seems as though He were making an INVASION, pushing in from every angle to find us, to "discover" us. He has to do that because we don't know WHO WE ARE very well. As I've said before, if any of you think, or if I should think that I know who I am, you are quite deceived. We are acquainted with this SURFACE, immediate, manifestation of life and light through us. We become acquainted with each other in physical form, but as far as knowing the REAL hidden ego of this personality dwelling there, we know very little about it. Even the individual knows very little about him. As you advance in God, and you move on before Him, isn't it wonderful how the Holy Spirit can keep projecting before us unexplored territories of life that we have yet to move into, over which HE SEEKS DOMINION. We say He reigns and rules in our HEARTS; that's very true. But has He found the absolute and perfect CONTROL AND POSSESSION of all the TERRITORIES, I call them, territories YET TO BE POSSESSED IN HIM. He wants to POSSESS us. He wants to take hold of us. He wants to SHAPE US AND MOLD US, do miracles with us and IN us, so that at some time, we don't know just when, sometime He may see good to lift this strange mystical Body of believers, a Body that has projected itself down through 2000 years. We are coming down towards the END, but we are also little CELLS in that Body. And someday He wants to take that OUT of the world, and OUT of time, and OUT of these "sense" relations, and present it to the Ancient of Days, the great desire of His heart. He desires that He should have something to PRESENT.
2. Now I want to say it again, don't let your heart be deceived in thinking that any EXPERIENCE, I don't care how profound it may be, how very moving it may be, how very revolutionizing that experience may be; there is no experience into which God may lead you that will EVER MATURE YOU. Now that's right. But people are deceived, you see, because they think, "Now I've received, now I've come into, now I have..." That's all very fine, children, that's all very fine, but don't let it deceived you. Because if you do, there has to be a day of GREAT REVELATION. I'd like to have all of our days of such revelation taken care of HERE AND NOW.
3. I want you to hear what God has laid on my heart. I'm not here to entertain you; I'm here to help you, so you'll remember some of these little words and thoughts which I leave with you. Don't allow yourself to come under the power of an EXPERIENCE, and then LIVE IN THAT, and build your life around it. Now that won't send you to HELL. You'll still GO to heaven. It's not a question of heaven and hell. It's a question of have you allowed God to DO IN YOU AND THROUGH YOU, while we are caught in this strange condition of time and sense; has He been able to accomplish, as far as your "set-up" will allow Him, THE THING THAT HE WANTS? That someday when we are released and taken; you can't come back and make choice and decisions, no; what there is of Spiritual value in you and me, whatever of Spiritual worth in you and me, is ALL we will carry into the next age. That's all. Now don't be disturbed if God is not using you to make a manifestation out here of your life, say, as a preacher or teacher, or a great evangelist, or a great missionary; now don't be disturbed if you can't bring forth that manifestation. He doesn't WANT that from you. He's not expecting it from you. He had one Paul. He had one Wesley. He has ONE of you. You are the only SPECIFIC EDITION OF WHO YOU ARE. So am I. So is everyone of us. Now since that is true, He is desirous of possessing every last individual that we find. To accomplish IN that individual, the thing that He has brought you into time and sense FOR. Now don't get your WORKS all mixed up; that's your TECHNIQUE. Don't get all this manifestation of DOING THINGS and all this business; that's very good, but that's only the TECHNIQUE, THE METHOD. That is the METHOD WHICH HE WILL USE TO DO THE MIRACLE IN YOU AND IN ME! That's why it doesn't

matter to Him if He's called you to be a great preacher---then preach! If He has called you to be a good farmer, then be a good farmer! The whole thing "swings" from this angle, that whosoever will DO THE WILL OF GOD, THAT'S ALL HE'S ASKING. And if it is to plant potatoes, then plant potatoes to the GLORY OF GOD, and sing all the while you're planting them. Well, why do you sing? Because you say, "Well thank you Father, this is what you've asked me to do! And I'm going to do it with all the strength I have, for YOUR GLORY." And God will say, "Thank You." And at the end He'll never say, "How many souls did you win?!" He'll say, "How many potatoes did you plant?" Well He will. You see, you don't get the right philosophy of the thing. We become ENTANGLED IN THE MECHANISM, and forget the OBJECTIVE. Don't lost your objective. Keep it always before you-- --THE GLORY OF GOD. The LIFE SURRENDERED. The whole being moving back again to the heart of God. Being DISCIPLINED, educated, trained, conformed...how? By the THOUSAND AND ONE THINGS THAT GOD THROWS INTO YOUR LITTLE PATTERN. That will never divorce, as people do, "this is sacred and this is secular!" I DISLIKE that very much. To a real saint of God, EVERYTHING should be holy and sacred. There's no secular to it! That's common talk among people who don't know things of God. Therefore, they have categories into which they place certain experiences of life. We shouldn't do that. If I am called to be a good plumber; how many know that's a sacred calling on me? What makes it sacred, plumbing? NO!!! What makes it HOLY? IT'S THE WILL OF GOD! NOT the plumbing! The WILL OF GOD. If you can do that, then we move on.

4. So we won't forget some of these little ideas that I have "dropped" on you. They are only things I have DISCOVERED. I lived a little longer than some of the rest, and therefore I feel I have a right to give advice and counsel; it's only what God would give through me. It isn't that I stand egotistical, "I have found, and this is the end, an acme of all things; I've arrived!" I don't like people who have arrived, they always annoy me. They always do, they actually annoy me; I always feels like going, "Yeooooow!" and scarce them like that, and say, "Brother...you're in a trance!" But that's "naughty," and you mustn't, but say, "Merry Christmas," and then let them go. That's true. None of us have "arrived." WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING. We'll be in that process until the Lord takes us home. We will still be in a PROCESS, a RELEASING. RESHAPING, RECASTING, TEARING DOWN, PUSHING ASIDE..."Why, I had all that taken care of when I got saved!" No dear. You're still in a deception. God dealt with your SIN. He can do that in very short order, but it takes a LIFETIME for Him to deal with you and with me. A lifetime. Didn't I tell you how in the Body when He placed all these gifts of prophets, pastors, preachers, and teachers and all; just ONE evangelist to catch a fish. One evangelist to bring in a soul, and God says that after you get that soul saved and filled with the Spirit and in the Body, it takes about FIVE instruments to work on him. Don't you see that or don't you? That is after you're saved and filled with the Spirit, and had six visions, and almost translated, pretty near, but not quite...but all this elaborate... after that's all settled, He says, "I'd like to DEAL with you a little." Why? "I haven't got a hold of YOU. I've been dealing with your sins, dear. I've been dealing with all of that externality, all of that. Now I want to come in here and get ahold of YOU." That's what makes it DIFFICULT. That's why people don't like my teaching. I know assemblies that wouldn't have me any more than the anti-Christ, and don't I know it. It doesn't bother me. Why? Because they are DISTURBED. TRUTH will always disturb you. It has a "bad" way of doing that. Truth will always disturb you. But it has a two-fold way of disturbing and moving. If you it, TRUTH WILL ACTUALLY SLAY YOU. But it will be the TRUTH WHICH WILL RESURRECT YOU. Do you get your two opposing forces? How we vibrate between them, don't we? What a strange effect it has upon life.
5. He talks about DEATH, but He talks about LIFE. He talks about the SLAIN, and the crucified, and He talks about the RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. Piece them together, don't divorce them. I told you the other day, never divorce Mary and Martha. Now they both have their vocation. They are SISTERS in the same family. Let them remain. Whenever Martha gets up in you and bustles around, agitated, you know you don't get anything in God in all that racket. He waits sometimes years for people to get stopped! He really does. He says, "You poor dear, agitated Spirit, I can't get anywhere near you. But go on until you are exhausted and your tongue is hanging out and maybe I can reach you

possibly. He does that. I have met people who have had to go thru it. Now, that's all right, Martha has a place in you. Mary has a place too. They are sisters. Mary actually represents the aspirations of the SPIRIT. The ascent, the moving toward God, the sense of vision and life. But listen, ALL of that has to have a field of DEMONSTRATION, otherwise you become unbalanced. Never be caught into the most magnificent revelation of light and Truth and deeper probings into that field; never do that, unless you remember what? A DESCENT into your plane of reality, where you LIVE. And as far as God makes it possible, MAKE A DEMONSTRATION, a tangible, a tangible, RESULT of the thing caught. How many get me now? So, we accept in the life, all those strange phases.

6. Now this morning, I thought I would like to share something that I've found. I don't read these things in books; I've had the training, it's good, I don't depreciate education at all. I think it's good if you can keep it in balance. I've had the training, I'm a college man, a seminary man; I've had all of that before God ever baptized me. But He has helped me, by the grace of God, to keep it in balance where it belongs. I could never use that as a substitute of what the Holy Spirit wants to do. They're just as foreign as day and night. They are two levels. So what I bring you morning by morning are Truths that I have discovered in this FIELD OF SPIRITUAL REALITY. I like that term better. It is a REALM. I said the other day, so much of our teaching is so faulty, and we don't get fed, and our body is weak, and our dear, precious, Pentecostal people are STARVED TO DEATH. You know it or not; I don't know if you know it or not. You travel with me and you'll find it. They are absolutely, utterly, starved to death! For what? FOR FOOD, NOT MILK! But for MEAT and for some strong MEAT. And they NEED it, they need it badly. God can't take a Body that's just a whimpering baby and say, "Sit on the throne with Me and share..." He can't! He can't do things like that. There WILL be a place; I imagine that heaven will have a tremendously large NURSERY. I feel that, I really do. You laugh, I feel more like weeping, really. I do, when nobody knows it. I'm burdened. I weep and wail before the Lord because I'm conscious of that very thing. "Babes in Christ," fifty, sixty years old, seventy, baptised in the Spirit, twenty, thirty, and forty, and the sweetest, loveliest babes you ever looked at. Absolutely. That shouldn't be. And so as we venture along, we'll make our little discoveries. Last year was my 50th anniversary, this is my jubilee and one year. The Lord brought me in 51 years ago. I was reminiscing with brother Ward here. You see, I worked with his father, shortly after the "Civil War." I mean it was quite far back. And this big boy; I couldn't do with him now what I have done with him. I can remember him coming to our convention a little lad, just about this big....I knew him before he knew himself.
7. In these years, I have been moving in what I call the REALM OF THE SPIRIT. He said that we are birthed and we come into a consciousness of our birth. If we come into a consciousness of our birth; many have never yet come into a REAL INNER CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE BIRTH. They have not. They don't realize it. It is a POTENTIAL MATTER with them. Purely a POTENTIAL matter. But if you have come into an INNER CONSCIOUSNESS OF THAT BIRTH, that you have been released into a new...you call it kingdom...you should call it REALM. That is a better word. We are birthed into a vast realm. When you say "kingdom," then right away you are thinking of horses and bugles and banners, chariots, and a throne, and a man telling you where to get off and get on. Well He's not talking about a kingdom like that at all. He's talking about a REALM. A realm. You have the vegetable kingdom, animal kingdom, mineral kingdom; how many know what I mean. It is a FIELD, a great realm, a vast field, a realm, into which certain things are found. When He spoke about coming into His kingdom, He was not talking about HEAVEN. He doesn't call it HEAVEN. That isn't what He's talking about. He talks about Paradise, now that's something else, don't get that all mixed up with the kingdom, and the kingdom with this and that and the other, and you sit down and say, "Where am I?" Like the "darky" who fell out of the airplane and said "I know where I am, but this time it's 'where IS I?'" Well that's like you get, you get CONFUSED with it. He called it, "A vast REALM." Now, by the power of the Spirit, He will probably gradually bring you into an inner consciousness of that. Maybe not the

first day or the first year. I've had to deal with souls who have been filled with the Spirit ten and twenty years, who have NOT yet come into the consciousness of that. It is a REALM.

8. Now what's in this vast realm? ALL SPIRITUAL REALITY. The things we have are all NATURAL phenomena in what we call our NATURAL. We have natural LAWS which govern. The law of gravitation. The law of light. The law of vibration; all of these are NATURAL LAWS, which God has established and placed here for our WELL BEING that we could live a comfortable life. And it would be a great aid to us if we could discover them and come under the power of the laws which God has placed here. He doesn't want us so Spiritual and "super" in the Spirit, that we don't know beans from buttons. He doesn't want anything like that at all. He wants us PERFECTLY PRACTICAL TO DISCERN, and yet all the time say, "This is NOT my realm." This is NOT my realm. HERE is my realm. I live with HIM in Spirit. Now, in that realm; I've been pushing around in there for a long time. I have been making discoveries of Truths, principles, laws, methods, and facts which are just as REAL in that realm, but they are ABSTRACT AND SPIRITUAL. Therefore, most people never mess around with them at all. They want something like GRAVITATION. Well, if you want to live on that plane, LIVE ON IT and go to heaven! Play on a harp! You will never yet find the thing that God intended that we should have in the Spirit. Now in that field I make little discoveries. I find HOW God works. I watch Him work HERE, and I watch Him work THERE. Then I go around in the Word, and a trace it. Perhaps in my study I go like a "hound," and get a scent of something. Do you see how I mean? Do you ever see a hound dog, sniffing, sniffing. He doesn't say, "Where is the rabbit? Where is it?" No, he doesn't. How many know he moves? He scents. I'm like that in this word. I'm just like that in the Word. God gives me a little scent, and sometimes I'm six months to a year, sometimes two years chasing that thing down. I say, "You get behind that stump, and I'll get you yet!" And he (the "rabbit") becomes evasive and he hides. Then I chase him down thru the Word, thru the Word, and I see him 'bobbing' his head up way over in MATTHEW. And he dodges like that, and I read in the OT and he pops up in one of the Psalms. I say, "I know you, I caught you in Matthew, and one of these days I'm going to catch you and put you together." You do. So you make DISCOVERIES. That's all I hope to share with people. Maybe I'll talk to you a little bit about prayer some morning. I want to. To show you how prayer is governed by a LAW, A SPIRITUAL LAW. Now don't think we're in PSYCHOLOGY, or some crazy stuff, we're NOT! We're in the Word of God. There never has been a psychologist as clever and as wonderful as our Lord, nor a psychiatrist; He's the greatest one that ever walked the earth. But you see, He keeps it "veiled," for fear that people will stumble and fall down. But to those that He can trust, how many know that He will unveil it to you? If you are able to be trusted with it, He will say, "Do you see how this works?" Oftentimes He does. "You see the psychology back in here?" I say, "I sure do Lord, that's wonderful." He says, "It's always BEEN there, but I want you to see it." He is a very clever psychiatrist. I told you the other day, a friend of mine, a Christian psychiatrist...he told me the other day, "Follette, I have driven a hundred and fifty miles today to get in on one talk." And you know some places, you hold a meeting and you can't get them a block away! I said, "I appreciate that." You know something, it ain't I. I am a very simple creature. But I said, "God has opened Truth, and I am able to see and discern. And if you are helped by it, Amen!" He said, "I am helped. I've come 150 miles to get in on this service." I thought then, think of all the people sitting, what are they getting? Well dear, you'll get according to your CAPACITY. You get according to your CAPACITY.
9. So in this field, you make little discoveries, and I find out how things go, and I watch the Word of God, then I watch Him in LIFE. I like to be a "guinea pig," too, that He experiments on. Have you ever let yourself be EXPOSED enough for that? To watch to see how He does things IN you? How did He make the last approach? What was the last real contact that He had with you in Spirit, NOT IN RELIGION?! Oh, I wish I could dump about 500 tons of religion out of our work! I really do. I wish we could. They are so religious. Dear Lord, they are so religious. Well, then I CAN'T help them. You know I can't. No I can't; they're too CLUTTERED. Would you dare to expose yourself to HIM like that? Now, don't DO IT unless you are WILLING. Because God may do some very

DRASTIC things. Very strange things. But the HOLY SPIRIT has possession of us and HE will HOLD US. And He won't let any harm come to us. He loves us too dearly. He wouldn't WRECK us. BUT THE SELF CREATURE IN THERE WILL WRECK YOU! And the Devil too. But don't say everything's the Devil. Don't you know there are 3 working continually? Here's GOD working from that side. Here's the ENEMY working from his side. How many know there's something IN HERE (in us) that works too? Didn't you know that? "And the Devil, and the Devil..." I said, "Listen dear." Some come to me with problems like that, I say, "The Devil isn't within 500 miles of you. The disturbing element is a little CLOSER than that!" Well that's right, but they aren't HONEST enough to see that thing.

#### GOD'S QUESTIONS

1. Now I want to talk to you about...I think I'm going to have four points to it that are FOUR QUESTIONS to be asked. This little line of teaching came to me; God showed it to me. I like to read, I'm a student, and I like to read, but I...after awhile you know HOW to read. Some people can't! Just like eating fish. You know, they choke on every bone that's in the fish, they can't seem to get the fish for they're hocking and coughing on a bone. By and by, you know, you have to read and skip a lot of things and yet you'll get some REAL MEAT too. So much of our reading today has real meat in it. But sometimes there is so much bone, that people say, "Is THAT orthodox?" I say, "I'm NOT talking about orthodoxy. I'm talking about this. How many get it or don't you. Learn HOW to read.
2. So I read, and I was reading in the Word of God and this is what I discovered. It seemed a little strange to me at first, but after I took it to the Lord and said, "Now Lord, will you please tell me how this thing goes? I see this, but tell me why it's this way. What's back of this thing?" I was reading in the Word of God and I found Him asking a question in His conversation dealing with some people, and He asks such and such a question, and I knew all the time that HE KNEW THE ANSWER! And yet He persisted in asking that question, and all the time He knew. I'll bring that up with one of the illustrations where He asks a question; He knows it very well. Then WHY should He ask the person the question He KNOWS? Well I want to tell you about THAT! There has to be a REASON why He does that. He ASKS the question, and He knows ALL THE TIME THE ANSWER, and a BETTER answer even than they could give, but He asks them, and they make their answer, and you see all the results that come following along.
3. Now this is a little principle that He works on in the Word, and in YOUR LIFE. I have selected here---FOUR. This is my message this morning; I could take three days on it, but I'm going to take ONE morning. I have found FOUR occasions in this Word where God asked a question with which HE IS VERY FAMILIAR, IN ORDER TO PROVOKE AN ANSWER. And then from the ANSWER, He works His way out. Now this first one is the question that He asked Adam after he has SINNED AND FAILED THE LORD. Do you remember that God had said to Adam, "In the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die."? The story of the TESTING on the part of God, but the TEMPTATION is on the part of the enemy. I'll deal with that question a little later. NEVER confuse them. The occasion may be ONE, the INCIDENT MAY BE ONE, but it's your APPROACH. The TREE was a single item without any special MORAL value at all. How many know that the TREE IS AN IMPERSONAL THING? But it is the MEDIUM that He is going to use. Now the whole thing will depend upon the APPROACH to the tree, and how you INTERPRET it. God PLANTED THE TREE, not the Devil. GOD planted it...we'll take that a little later too, for a specific reason. For His TESTING AND PROVING. The ENEMY takes advantage of EXACTLY THE SAME SET-UP, for what? The occasion to DEFEAT, AND KILL, AND DESTROY! How? With the SAME thing. Do you get that or don't you? It's the SAME tree and the same fruit and all. But when GOD plants it, it is for the OBJECTIVE POINT OF DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH AND RELEASING AND BRINGING HIS PERSONALITY INTO BEING. The ENEMY says, "I can use that same fruit too, and I will use it to kill and destroy." So we find in the NT his program. The enemy has come to kill and destroy and to rob. Of course. That's all he CAN do. "But I have come to give you LIFE AND THAT MORE ABUNDANTLY." Your NEGATIVES AND YOUR POSITIVES continually CLASHING over some media in the center here. So He says, "In the day thou eatest there-

of, thou shalt surely die." Now He DOESN'T say, "You will fall from grace!" It is so much easier to teach religion, where they have SOMETHING LEFT in the "poor old WRECK," that he had sort of "tumbled over" under some terrible condition, and if we breath on him and shake him, we might sustain him, resuscitate him. You can't! He's DEAD. He didn't say, "In the day thou shall eat, thou shall fall from grace." He said, "In the day thou shall eat, thou shall surely DIE!" That's why in theology today, they don't like the words "sin" and "die." Very unpopular. But they are scriptural words. They are the "words God uses." "Thou shalt die." Well did he fall over DEAD when he partook of the fruit? No. He LIVED hundreds of years later. Well, then WHAT died? Didn't judgment fall upon him? Yes. He DIED SPIRITUALLY. That is, ALL SPIRITUAL CONTACT WITH GOD HAD BEEN SEVERED THROUGH HIS DISOBEDIENCE, and he was left a SUB-NORMAL being.

4. We are made Spirit, soul, and body; a trinity. And in the UPPER Spiritual part of our being is where the Holy Spirit would like to come to rest. There's where He dwells. "And in the day thou eatest thou shall surely die, for this LIFE PRINCIPLE, the Spirit of LIFE, the Spirit of God will be CANCELLED, and you will remain a sub-normal person. A PSYCHIC, PHYSICAL, BEING." It's a horrible thing to think that when we are dealing with intelligent people, beautiful, lovely, intelligent specimens of humanity, that if they have NOT the Spirit of Christ within them to restore again unto God the TRINITY, how many know they are sub-normal? Everyone of them. They are sub-normal. They are under the normal set-up. Why? BECAUSE THEIR SPIRITUAL LIFE HAS BEEN CANCELLED. They have mental life, a psychic life; THAT can move out into the realm of our RELIGION, you see. Man is BY NATURE a RELIGIOUS CREATURE! Now get THAT down! We don't go to the foreign field to make people "religious." How many know they are CURSED WITH IT! We don't go there to create in them something that will take ahold of religion. They HAVE it and they're taking HOLD of everything on God's earth from snakes up! Why? Because that INNER HIDDEN URGE FOR GOD AND LIFE AND LIGHT IS PUSHING THROUGH ALL THE TRASH, AND DARKNESS, AND NONSENSE WITHIN THEM, saying, "Where is life?" When we go in the field, I've worked in the field some, and had a wonderful time in Africa with those natives, and God gave me some precious souls, ripe, raw, heathen! I'd like to tell you about it sometime. It was terrific. Raw heathen; some of them never seen a white man! God turned me unto an evangelist. How would you like to see me an evangelist once? I become an evangelist every once in a while. It's very delightful, because you have such a lovely access, and you see some results. But you see, when you're a teacher, you don't get anything. You just POUR it all out and say, "God bless it." And you go. You don't have a report...so many hundreds saved! 32,000 baptised! 69 miracles!... Oh dear Lord, I don't know how...you know how they build it all up! I never get that. I don't want it...I'm not out for it. I think it's quite vulgar. No.
5. That URGE is there. So He says, "In the day thou eatest, thou shall surely die." Now what is it that dies? It's that lively Spirit of LIFE AND LIGHT AND TRUTH AND REALITY, that ACTUATED him. Now all of us "swing" in life from a certain NORM OF BEING. That's the way we're made. The structural law of my life DEMANDS THAT. And God has made it that way. I like Augustine's old saying, "The heart was made for God. Neither shall it find rest until it rests in HIM." Isn't that so? That's the philosophy of our whole Christian thought. If we could only remember that. We WERE NOT DESIGNED BY GOD TO BE CLUTTERED UP IN THIS MESS OF EARTH. Man shall not live by bread alone! That's the SAME PHILOSOPHY!
6. No. So He says, "Thou shalt DIE." All right. We won't go too far in there, but I want you to see the NATURAL response. It would be beautiful if there could have been a lovely beautiful response on the part of Adam, when he had discovered this terrible conditions in which he found himself. And Eve. Wouldn't it have been noble and beautiful of them if they could have returned and said, "Oh God, we did what You told us not to do and we're in an awful condition. Oh God!" Wouldn't that have been beautiful? That would have been so beautiful. But you see, human nature, when it's down in that crash, has NOTHING in there to do that. No. What does it do? It always substitutes a NATURAL

FLING instead of anything else. And so they put out a NATURAL FLING. What is it? "Let us make a covering of leaves." But that's only a human substitute down on earth that has a curse upon it. So are you going to take from the earth, which is a cursed thing, the material from that and make you a covering to come before God? Quite impossible. Before He gets them to be clothed, while He's waiting; Oh that wonderful heart of God, the FATHER heart. The heart that had created this strange and wonderful being. He had made all creation about him, in all of it's fields and ramifications. The creative mood of God had been breathing and moving, until in the Godhead there was a counsel and they said, "Let us make a new creation. Something different. Let us make something we will call MAN. We will make him in OUR own image and likeness." Now NOT coporial, not a physical body, not "look at His hands, now stick hands on him." Don't do that, that's...don't do that. He talking of a moral and spiritual likeness. The IMPRINT and IMPACT of a personality that is lined up with God so that there shall be an intelligent communion and fellowship with Him. And the Spirit of God dwelling in there, can take hold of our little, immature, limited, aspects of God, and do what? COMMUNE with us. Commune with us.

7. God is LOVE. He's the essence. Well, are we all pure love? No. How many know we have LOVE CAPACITY? Yes. God knows, He is infinite in His knowledge...He is just INFINITE in all of His knowledge. Well, how many know we have knowledge CAPACITY, too? Yes we do. All of the characteristics there, are IN US, in a very limited fashion. They were MADE limited in his thoughts. Well, NOW you see, in his sin and failure, THAT IS A MESS, just a broken down, chaotic MESS! Don't try to RESTORE it. IT CAN'T BE RESTORED. There has to be A NEW BIRTH AND A NEW LIFE, AND A NEW BEING. If you, sitting here, are the SAME being that was born a few years ago, there's something radically wrong. God sees you and He sees me not as the creature as I was born and you were born. HE KNOWS THAT! But He is all the time by faith, penetrating through to see us as new creatures in Christ. Little new creatures with new life in us. A little vision, a little hope. That's what He sees.
8. Well, Adam doesn't have the courage. He doesn't have the courage to come to God. So he makes these dresses and he hides away behind the tree. It says, "Because he was NAKED." "Now do you mean he saw he was naked and was scared to see how he was made?" Oh, don't be so silly! He's not talking about a physical nakedness at all. That is purely the PICTURE LESSON. He's talking about a discovery in Adam. Of what? A terrible FAILURE. A terrible LOSS. A NAKEDNESS AS FAR AS ANY ACCESS TO GOD!! Isn't that right? He was conscious..."Oh, my access to God has been RUINED. I have no...how can I come to Him...how...no, no..." he says, and he goes hiding! It wasn't like he was "ashamed" of himself. Mercies to me! These people with this artificial, prudish sense of deceitcy; they wreck me! How many know we are all made alike? Well, then sit down! Well isn't that right!? I want to be on the right road. Now they HIDE, you see, they HIDE. WHO is hiding? That lovely, wonderful thing that God had created. For HIS Glory, a thing which He had hoped would sometime evolve and develope, not only carrying the nature of the human being, but the character quality, hidden away would COME UP, under the pressure of trial and testing and proving, and blossom before Him, and end finally in a GLORY. But He doesn't see that. Adam, not knowing the objective of God thoroughly, CRASHES. And so he hides himself away. Now THIS is the question. WHO TAKES THE INITIATIVE TO MAKE ANY DISCOVERY? It HAS to be GOD. Man would never come back.
9. Now some have a different interpretation of that idea. Some think that it is God in the sense of "righteousness," and "judgment," coming down to meet the first aspect of SIN!!! Now I don't see it that way at all. "In the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." How many think that Adam had attended several funerals and he knew all about DIE? No, he hadn't. He hadn't. DEATH was not in his vocabulary. He didn't KNOW death; he just knew it was some terrific thing which would come as a result of his disobedience. But he had never had power to penetrate into the region of DEATH. All denial of life and light; he did have power for that. But"thou shalt die." He

was DEAD. So he HIDES. Who is it that has to take the INITIATIVE? It's always God, the Eternal, the seeking God. I think it was God---broken hearted. To me it is. It seems to be that God was saying, "Oh Adam! Where art thou?...Oh Adam, what have you done...what have you done...where art..." I can't imagine Him coming down, "Adam!!! Stand out here! I'm now going to judge you, and hell will hold you as the first victim!!!" Well, no. Let's not get into that. No. He couldn't do that, could He? No. He couldn't do that. Now there's a hell! Don't go out and say, "Follette doesn't believe in hell!" Now, sit down!! I get misquoted all the time because people can't take little words that I pass out. No. I think it's THE BROKEN HEART OF GOD. Loving, seeking...hoping. It is the LAMB SLAIN FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD FINDING IT'S FIRST PLACE, ISN'T IT? I think so. And He says, "Adam...where art thou...?"

10. Now, do you...don't LEAVE it in the physical. "He got behind a tree and God couldn't see which tree it was. And so He says, 'Adam, which tree are you behind?'" How many see that's terrible stuff? It is HORRIBLE TO ME! I am a literalist in many things, but I see deep, lovely, rich, Spiritual value hiding away all the time behind this thing. "Where art thou?" Now He KNOWS where he is. He knew which tree he had been BEHIND. "I was afraid, and so I hid away." Yeah. "Where art thou?" Now to me, that represents the first question that He is asking. He asks it of EVERYONE OF US in our experience in God. This first one I call: POSITION. Where. "Where art thou?" Now that will be given to you in Genesis 3:9. It's the question which will bring your CONFESSION of your POSITION. Now God can't do very much with us if we aren't straightened out on our POSITION. He has to do what? He has to ANSWER God. "Where art thou?" Now the question is ALWAYS asked to PROVOKE AN ANSWER. And YOUR ANSWER will be a CONFESSION. And, on the basis of your CONFESSION, a BLESSING will move. How many get the philosophy of that. That's the way it goes. I'll show you that all the way thru the word, in all the different fields which we are going to progress and move in God. This very first one of finding our IDENTIFICATION, and our RELATION, and our POSITION. IN LIFE. When God first approaches us, His first question is, "Where art thou?" Well, what do we answer? We HAVE to answer as Adam. Make the CONFESSION of the thing that has brought us to the level, or the plane, or the position, in which we find ourselves before him. And so he answers, and he makes a confession of it. He makes a real confession of it. Upon the basis of that confession, how many see that God is able to bring a blessing? What is it? His ANSWER, His ANSWER. "Oh these leaves will never cover you, Adam."

continued

on

God's Questions II



GOD'S QUESTIONS II  
John Wright Follette

1. When God first approaches us, His FIRST question is: "Where art thou?" Well what do we answer? We have answer as Adam. Make the CONFESSION of the thing that has brought us to the level, or the plane, or the POSITION we find ourselves before Him. And so he answers, and he makes a CONFESSION of it. He makes a REAL confession of it. And on the BASIS OF THAT CONFESSION, how many see that God is able to bring a BLESSING. What is it? HIS answer. HIS answer. "Oh these leaves will never COVER you Adam. You own where you are?" "Yes" "And you've tried to cover." "Yes" "Do you see how it is of no avail?" "Yes." How many see a deep, lovely, CONFESSION of the whole situation? Then after that, He says, "Well then come here. I'll show you." That loving God, slays a little animal, takes it's skin and COVERS him. How many see that is the FIRST picture of Jesus? That's the first picture of the LAMB SLAIN. That's the first shedding of BLOOD for this redemption of this man, that from his NEW POSITION, now, having ANSWERED the question, that was of God...why? To provoke an answer. What is the ANSWER? A confession. Because your confession will become the PLATFORM upon which God may MOVE once more. And restore and bless, and do a thousand things for Him. How many can see that this morning, just that one point. I want to hurry through here and ask you a few more. I have four of them. I have four of them I have seen that God uses in the development of our whole Christian life and experience. He works from a good, sound, foundation. He starts with POSITION. And we have to OWN our position. It's quite difficult to do that sometimes, isn't it? That's very difficult. We could make all OTHER kinds of confessions. But sometimes just to say, "I'm wrong," that's the most difficult. There are people who are willing to be martyrs, and be hung up by their thumbs, rather than say, "I was wrong." That's right. They would do everything else, and cut their feet off, and everything! That's right. This silly, crazy, EGO in here. He is such a...WATCH OUT FOR HIM! How many know he has a lot of RELIGION, too? How many know the DEVIL has religion, too? Understands it very well. Quotes scripture too, and is very "pies;" says at times he comes as an angel of light. Well people don't know that, they say, "The only time the Lord appears is when the Spirit falls, and everyone says, 'Glory, glory, glory..'" then that's the Lord, but if somebody gets sick, then that's the Devil. Aren't we funny? Oh, we're funny! I deal with people and I say, "My goodness, you don't seem to know the Lord from the Devil." "Would the Lord do THAT?" I say, "Well sure! Go to the Bible. Didn't He do a lot of 'funny' things?" "Well.....?" COME ON! DIDN'T HE?!! When He wanted to get ahold of Job, what did He do, let the Devil loose on him, didn't He? He didn't come down to Job, and say, "Now dear brother Job, there is somewhat I have to say unto thee. Thou art a perfect man, a lovely specimen, a great potential is in you. I want to help you very much." And He had a real conversation with Job, and He said, "Now get down Job, and I'll pray for you! One, two, three...bumble bee!!!" The Lord delivered Job! He didn't do that. That is going on in 1959! It's not quite as dramatic as that, but I mean the philosophy of it is going on that way. Yes it is. Yes it is. Using the very principle. But they're disguised with "Hallelujah..." Well the Lord knows "hallelujah" too. No, He says I can only get at you through this means. And He let the Devil loose on him. "Oh..it's the Devil! Oh the Devil!! Everybody cast the Devil out and all the demons!!!" Now have a deliverance meeting of somekind and kill the Devil. Well they haven't got a deliverance meeting up to that. I'm waiting for one where they really COULD kill HIM. Wouldn't that be something? I wouldn't go near the meeting; I couldn't take up with all that stuff. But I kind of would like to peek through the knot hole to see it go over. You can't PLAY WITH GOD like that. "In the word...ask what you will!!!" It does. It says a lot of OTHER things too. So we won't play around in that field. It isn't good. Your reaction in that isn't good. It will have to take weeks and months, and some people even YEARS to get over it.
  
2. Name your POSITION. And GO ON. And out of that, on that platform, God will come. God will COME. He'll come on that platform. But NOT ONE: you're fixing up. "Oh let's build a lovely platform now. Hallelujah!! You pray, I pray, she prays, we pray, all pray... pray..all power, power, power..." Oh no. Sit down. You'll never get a platform if you come on that. He's way off in the heavens, and we say, "Well where is God? We've got

a platform all fixed for Him. You've tried to REGULATE God and the Spirit long enough. PLEASE STOP. I said the other day, people are praying for a terrific, tremendous, super, expidulous moving of the Spirit of God! And I stay behind and say, "Keep it up there, Lord. You know how." I do. Do you know what? BECAUSE FLESH DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING YET. And RELIGIOUS FLESH---ESPECIALLY! God will pour out His Spirit in some lovely, new, beautiful moving, and six months from now that would be all channeled, named, and labeled. That's TRUE. That's the way FLESH is. Now you know WHY I don't get in a lot of things. I can't take it. I'll be fair with you. I can't take it. I'm not GEARED to it. I don't want to be mixed up with it. No, flesh is like that. It can't let God move as HE wants to. It has to be cateloped, and fixed, and programmed, and labeled, and fuddled with and by that time the Holy Ghost is out and everybody says, "Where's the Lord?" And I say, "Well for heavens sake, He got out of here ten, fifteen years ago!" Don't. Sit down. Don't ask me if you want to know. I could tell you plenty of things, but you wouldn't want to hear them. I could. I could tell you plenty of things this morning, but you wouldn't want to hear them. It would upset the faith of some of you, and I don't want you to "backslide and go to hell," so I'm just going to talk about NICE THINGS. And PLEASANT things, you know. I wouldn't dare to tell the TRUTH, because people can't take TRUTH. They can't take it. No they couldn't. You aren't honest enough to begin with; you THINK you are honest. Would you like to have the TRUTH come down and upset just about half the stuff you're mixed up with? How many would like that? No you wouldn't. You wouldn't. You couldn't take it. You live long enough, and God IS going to get in there and upset a lot of things. Yes He will. Some have ALREADY found it in their EXPERIENCE. He's not DONE WITH ANY ONE OF US.

3. I remember when I was in seminary. I took my work at Drew, up here in New Jersey, Drew Seminary, Methodist. And F.D. Gordon; how many of you remember the "quiet talk man?" Well he used to come over to talk, we were just young fellows then; he called us "boys." And he'd give us a Sunday school lesson so many times, when Gordon was there, he was the "soft peddle evangelist." That's what they called him, because he was more or less of the Quaker stock. He wore a gray suit and a little black tie, and he never raised his voice above a conversational talk. He was called the "soft peddle evangelist," and he's won just as many as some that "raise the roof." Their all built different. Some of them don't have any peddles at all. Well what I'm after,...one time I remember he came over, and he had one of these Sunday school lessons fixed, and it disturbed me and he said, "Oh these Sunday school lessons. I can't get any where with that. He says, "Let's lay it aside." I said, "Good." We always did. We said, "Goody, goody, goody." And he wanted to talk. I'll never forget one thing he said. He said, "Always remember boys, that when you walk with Jesus...I want you to walk with Him...in your daily walking...He is the Divine, fellow companion...Divine. But He is also a DIVINE DISTURBER." How many get it or don't you? THE DIVINE DISTURBER. How many know the difference between being disturbed thru FLESH, being disturbed through the ENEMY, and being disturbed by GOD? So he says He is the Divine Disburber. And of course we have to have it. Now don't get that all confused. There is disturbance which is purely of the ENEMY. There is disturbance as a REACTION AND A RESULT OF YOUR OWN SELF LIFE. It's terrible. Then there is a disturbance which God by His won desire and thought will work in your heart, and how many know you can't fix it any way you try? You can't. It just won't work. Because the DIVINE DISTURBER is in there working. Now pray all the prayers you want to, and claim all the promises you want to, and upset all the promise boxes right there and just claim them terribly. How many know you'll never get any where in the wide, wide, wide, world? Why? Because the DIVINE DISTURBER is working, and you can't "buy Him up" with any such baloney as that. No you don't; no you don't. He doesn't work that way.
4. Now, we're goin to come to another question...where the Lord asked the question, and I'm very sure He knows the answer. Now this person has moved from this position of failure, and death and loss, and thru his confession, he has been LIFTED UP ON ANOTHER LEVEL. He is now what we would say, "a saved man." Maybe he's filled with the Spirit. Let's build him up so we'll all be encouraged...maybe he's filled with the Spirit, and has all the gifts...these people who have developed a "gift complex" now, they ought to get

in there. He's got all them, and maybe he's had six or seven miracles. Anyway, he's quite "plump." We've got him all fixed. Well anyhow, he's moving off here, on a new level--rejoicing in the Lord. And the Lord blesses him like He did Miriam. How many remember Miriam, coming out of that Red Sea? In a miracle! Singing before the Lord, beating her tamborine; had them all out singing, real interpretive dancing. Before the Lord. They really had. In no time afterward, she had that nasty, critical, spirit that judges Moses, and upsets the whole business. And the Lord comes down and says, "Miriam, do you know how I see you?" "Here's my tamborine Lord!...bang, bang, bang! My tamborine!" "I'm not looking at your tambourine. I've heard that jingle for a long time. I'm looking at YOU." "Hallelujah, la, la, la, la...!" No. Now don't "la la." "Do you know what you look like? You look like a leper. That's what you are." Wasn't that an awful thing? My heavens, after she had danced in the Spirit, banged her tambourine, and had all the     ?    . Well how many know that thing was IN HER anyway? "Oh no, the Devil came at night when she didn't know it and stuck it on her!!" OH NO!!! She carried that right through the Red Sea! She carried that right through the Red Sea, didn't she? Sure she did. It was a PART OF HER, but she didn't know it. Isn't it good that God doesn't EXPOSE ALL THE STUFF WE'RE MADE OF AT ONCE? My heavens, what a FUNERAL it would be, wouldn't it? He doesn't do that! He lets us see a little bit and He blesses us to death. "Hallelujah!" Almost ready? He says, "Not TOO LOUD dear, see THAT?" "Is THAT in me?" He says, "Yes. Twelve just like it!" And then nobody gets up and says, "Hallelujah!" No.

5. Now this man is coming along you see. He's on a NEW LEVEL. A brand new level. But there is something that he has to learn. ~~Something that he has to LEARN.~~ He has a NEW POSITION. But now this is what we call CONDITION. This is CONDITION. And this little story is in Genesis too. It's a nice story, but as a rule, it is quite misinterpreted. In Genesis 32:24, "And Jacob was left alone." Dreadful to be left alone. "And he wrestled and fought in prayer with God Almighty until he got the Lord in a corner, and God said, 'I'm pooped! What do you want?'" Well...how many know that PRAYERS are just like that? I've heard people pray like that; I say, "Haven't you got Him in a corner yet?" But I don't. I just speak out of one corner and say, "Lord, stay out." And He stays out. These people who "get ahold of God." "Now let's all GET AHOLD OF GOD!!!" I say, "Dear. What would you do with Him if you had ahold of Him?" I always wonder what they would do. Why do you do those nonsensical things? How many know that we have TRADITIONAL patterns and habits in Pentecost WORSE than any old Jew had in the traditions of the elders? We have "mercy" on them, we say, "The tradition of the elders!" How many know that Pentecost is stuffed full of it? It's just FULL of TRADITIONS AND PATTERNS, AND SLOGANS, AND VERSES, AND ATTITUDES AND COMMOTIONS! It's just FULL. Wouldn't it be lovely to some day just shout "WHOOOOOOOO!!!" and the Lord just blows it all away? He'd say, "I'd like to start from scratch now," and the Lord would come down and start doing some things that He wants to. Wouldn't it be lovely? Oh, to me that would be so refreshing. I would go to a meeting like that. I keep away from the rest of them. Sometimes when I get caught in one, and it's possible, and they get carrying too great a pitch, and it's purely PSYCHIC, I always say, "Oh Jesus, let's go HOME." And then we BOTH GO HOME. Because He doesn't like it either! He doesn't! He doesn't, I know He doesn't! And sometimes I see Him..."Oh Jesus, this is terrible. Let's go home." And how many know, we go home? Yes. I can't take too much.
6. Now this man doesn't know too much about this business. And so he (Jacob) is LEFT ALONE. That's very bad. Most everybody wants a PROP, at least of SOMEKIND. But in a REAL CRISIS, how many know after all, the CRISIS HAS TO BE SETTLED BY YOU ALONE? It HAS to be. You can have the prayers of all the saints, but YOU HAVE TO MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION. And YOU HAVE TO MAKE YOU OWN CONFESSION. You can't get a good friend to CONFESS for you. He'll PRAY for you. Because we are creatures with this strange, subtle, power of CHOICE. So he's LEFT ALONE. And the Lord got him alone. Don't think that this is an ACCIDENTAL thing. Now I told you the other day, there is nothing ACCIDENTAL in this Word. There's NOTHING OCCASIONAL. Nothing CASUAL. The story sometimes reads so smoothly and beautifully, that you would think it is just a casual doing. No. No, no, no, no, no! There's NOTHING

casual. It is studied and arranged. They are like great dramas, where EVERY WORD of an artist or actor is WEIGHED. Isn't that true? It HAS to be. It has to be. It isn't a casual thing. Every WORD, every GESTURE, IT IS ALL WEIGHED AND FASHIONED in drama. This Word is a drama. The most tremendous drama ever given. Tremendous. It carries NATIONS in action. It carries personalities. It holds great prophecies. It holds LIP CONVERSATIONS. Little words that are spoken; they're not casual, they're not accidental. They are studied out by God from the beginning, as the MEDIA, through which, as I said the other day, Spirit and Life may VIBRATE. The greatest and most marvelous combination of any knowledge and Truth in the world. It isn't of the earth. Man didn't write it. God wrote it. The Holy Spirit breathed, and these little Spirits that we are, some of them were able to catch it and put it down. I said the other morning, I'll repeat it again, some of you were not here---when Jesus stood to give a little explanation about this great IMPACT OF TRUTH which He has brought to the world, He never got up and said, "I have some truth to give you;" He didn't do that, because HE IS THE PERSONIFICATION OF ALL THE TRUTH. The EMBODIMENT, ALL THE TRUTH, LIGHT, LIFE...ALL. The GREATEST MANIFESTATION OF GOD POSSIBLE. In Him the FULLNESS OF THE GODHEAD DWELT. A most marvelous, a most marvelous and wonderful DEMONSTRATION, action, producing. When He wanted to speak about the Word which He is bringing, this everlasting TRUTH. He didn't say, "My word is THIS!" And He held up a Schofield Bible! How many know He didn't even hold up a scroll? What DID He say? "My word....what GOD calls His Word..." This is the word, I'm coming to that; now don't get scared! But that is not what He said. He did not say, "Behold, THIS is my eternal word!" He did NOT!!! He says, "My Word, the TRUTH, THE TRUTH, THE TRUTH, THAT PUSHES OUT THROUGH ME, MOVING OUT FOR TWO THOUSAND YEARS IN THE HEARTS AND LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE---THIS TRUTH, MY WORD--IS SPIRIT AND LIFE!!!!" Two ABSTRACTS. Now, as we said the other day, in order to make that CLEAR to us because we are such limited little creatures, He has combined in this, which IS the Word of God; this is the Word of God (bible)...but IT is the technical, letter of the WORD, which is the MEDIUM through which SPIRIT AND LIFE WILL VIBRATE AND MOVE and do the wonders that God wants FROM His Word. Do you get it or don't you? That's why He had to speak to those old scribes who were revering "the Word." I've had GREAT REVERENCE for this Word! WHO wouldn't that knows anything about God! But to me, it is the INSTRUMENT THROUGH WHICH SPIRIT AND LIFE WILL VIBRATE AND MOVE AND STRIKE YOU! And DO THE MIRACLE THAT IS NEEDED IN YOU! Can you get it or can't you? He didn't say, "This is my Word." It IS the Word, but He never said that! He said, "My Word to you...Oh, it's SPIRIT...it's LIFE."

7. So He collects together, all this pnenanenal grouping, nations, people, converstions, types, symbols, cities; all the elements in the world are mentioned. Wind, and rain, and snow, hail, and earth, and clouds, and birds, and animals, people and all their emotions, and their emotional reactions, ALL that is gathered up in this strange, mystical, wonderful WORD, which is DIVINELY INSPIRED, breathed by the Holy Spirit, and NOT YET UNDERSTOOD...ONLY BY THE SPIRIT! You get a SURFACE understanding through your MENTAL processes, but you will never get into the Spirit of the thing expect BY THE AUTHOR WHO WROTE IT! I've been a student for many years, but I have discovered something. The deeper, secret, lovely openings in Truth, can never come by my mental processes. I read. But they come in some strange, mysterious, fashion in the HOLY SPIRIT. Even sometimes while I'm reading, I'm caught out of it and I see. I see. Well what is that? I think it's the Spirit INTERPRETING. It is the SPIRIT OF LIFE, "My Word is Spirit, it is LIFE." I feel THAT is what is pushing up through the Word. He said to those old fellows with the scroll, "You search these things thinking that in there you will find the secret of life. But you will not come to Me, ABOUT WHOM THOSE ARE THE TESTIMONY. That is written about ME. I'M THE TRUTH!! This TELLS about Me. Come to ME!" Do you get it? MAKE CONTACT WITH HIM! Make contact with this marvelous Christ. Make contact with Him in Spirit. Take time out. LEAVE some of the fuddelly duddley things, the RELIGIOUSITY; get away from it! I'll CURSE you. Get into this REALM OF SPIRIT where He wants to interpret these things and bring them to us. How many see that? Do you see it? I hope I'm not boring you to death this morning. I don't want to, but these things are very, very, much on my heart. Truths that have been on my heart for so very long. I wanted

Pentecost to get it twenty and thirty years ago, but I had no openings. I hope they will yet EXHAUST themselves. I really do. I hope they will yet EXHAUST themselves, that God will have at least one more little "touch" on this part of the body. I hope that He will allow them to become so CONFUSED, so EXHAUSTED, that they will have to STOP eternally repeating an old pattern which has been exhausted LONG AGO. No. But drag out the pattern and yeow over it and see if it won't work! It won't dear. It's DEAD. It's been dead for years. But I am hoping that God may someday sweep this thing off. I haven't any idea that Pentecost will EVER get back on the beam, I'm not so dumb as that. I'm not praying about that at all. He's always worked with a REMNANT. I'm trusting God to bring light, and life, and Truth, and Reality to as many Spirits who have found their way thru this media as possible. Now, I'm Pentecostal, and my name is in the counsel book, I think. So don't get scared. But I don't see eye to eye, nor do I take up with about half of the things that are going on; I just can't, that's all. And I am honest about it. I would be very wrong not to own it. I cannot function, it has no part with me. It is NOT in the scheme of God. Thoroughly religious, dramatically so. But the essence of the Truth of reality, that's quite MISSING.

8. Now this man; let's see what he's doing. We'll take him as a man who is SAVED, and filled with the SPIRIT, and walking with God. Jacob isn't just a "beginner." Well, look at the experiences he's had with God. But God says, "Jacob dear, I have some what to say unto thee. I can't say it unless you're ALONE. And I am going to so circumscribe your living and your doing, and so manipulate these externalities in which you have become involved; and you are using them half the time as an ESCAPE MECHANISM because you don't want the EGO to become disturbed, I know that. But I'm going to do it; I'm going to push that all aside. Because I want to find YOU. And I want you to find ME. I want REAL CONTACT. But I can't THROUGH THE MECHANISM THAT YOU'RE INVOLVED IN NOW. THAT, in the end, you will find, is a very disconcerting thing. It has certain advantages, but terrifying DISADVANTAGES.
9. So when he's ALONE, and God is after him, now listen. Now listen. Now listen to this. Don't get this story all mixed up with "praying through and getting ahold of God and wrestling with God, until the prayer's ended!!!!" Now WAIT. Jacob never wrestled with the angel. The ANGEL wrestled with Jacob. It says distinctly that this man, this angel, came down and HE took the initiative to start the wrestling. There is a REACTION in the wrestling of course. If God DEALS with you, how many of you would sit still like a DUMBBELL?! No, you wouldn't; you'd have REACTIONS---YOU HAVE TO HAVE, THAT'S THE WAY WE'RE MADE! How many have thoughts? You do! That's the way we're MADE! Don't apologize about it! That's how we ARE. I'm a REALIST. But I'm SPIRITUALLY minded. I have some movings in God, but it does not make me less a realist. I'm practical. As I said before, my hands are square , they are not tapered; they're square.
10. All right. Now let's see what happens. "And Jacob was LEFT..." He'll LEAVE YOU ALONE dear, but don't be scared. He will STRIP every last thing that you have as a source of "inspiration," or "comfort," or "solace." He says, "No. I can't deal with you with that!" "Why...I'm SAVED!" He says, "I'm NOT talking about your salvation and your baptism." Perhaps you have all the gifts. THAT doesn't get you anywhere in GOD. Those are phenomenal things that belong in the development, of course. He's LEFT ALONE. Some people can't stand to be ALONE. This is the age when nobody wants to be alone or STILL. How many can see the power of the enemy working all the time to bring a CONFUSION, all the time, all the time! He gets right into a spiritual meeting, he gets right into the heart of a person, lest God should have access and contact. And lest God should bring them, the Devil comes in, and I have known the Devil to start a commotion lest GOD should visit. Did you know that or didn't you. Yes. I mean a RELIGIOUS commotion! But it was GENDERED IN FLESH---RELIGIOUSLY---"GLORY TO GOD!!!!!" Religiously. But it did the trick. It diverted the whole thing from any moving of God in the Spirit. I know his tactics. Paul says, "I'm not ignorant of his devices." And after you live a few years you'll see them. You'll see through them. So this awful STRIPING, that you don't have a THING to LEAN on. Everything is GONE; that's GOOD, BUT NOBODY WANTS IT. We have to have something "doing"

all the time. In a meeting, it very seldom gets still, only when the Lord out of sheer mercy comes on. How many remember that lovely stillness of yesterday morning at the beginning? Wasn't that like velvet. Just like velvet. Not a soul. Do you remember feeling it? How sweet it was. God does that out of mercy. Just out of mercy.

11. So here is this man. Now it is NOT Jacob wrestling with GOD to MAKE GOD DO SOMETHING. Now get this settled: YOU HAVE NEVER MADE GOD DO ANYTHING. So \$IT DOWN. God has HIS eternal will and purpose moving. He has been able to sometimes, after SEVERE DEALING, to ALIGN YOU UP WITH HIS WILL, so that when you prayed, you prayed IN THE WILL OF GOD, and YOU GOT IT! How many remember how you rejoiced? And they say, "Ohh, I PRAYED THROUGH!!" Now wait a minute dear. YOU prayed through? No. GOD WAS SIX MONTHS BRINGING YOU TO A PLACE WHERE HE COULD BRING YOU TO PRAY. How? In SPIRIT. And God prayed through you. And you made God come to, hallelujah!?? Oh no you didn't. There's nobody making God come to time. No, you don't. Now get it. This is going to upset alot of theology, but alot of theology outght to be upset, and alot of the singing books torn up and thrown out. Because they are misleading.
  
12. "And there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day." This is the angel. There wrestled an angel with him until the breaking of the day. Where'd that angel come from? How come there's an angel there? Well let me help you. God has been a long time getting this poor, dear, deceiving, creature into a place where HE CAN DEAL WITH HIM. He's been occupied with his herd, and the cattle, and "the wives and children, which God has given him...hallelujah!..." And the Lord says, "Hurry up and get done with that." I want YOU for a few minutes." "I haven't time NOW Lord!" "Well, I'll give you time. Because once you prayed that you wanted to know WHO I am and all about it; I'm taking you at your word. You prayed that once at a meeting. Now I'm starting to begin to commence, to get ready to do it. And now you become EVASIVE. In order to get you, do you know what I'm going to do? Jacob. I'm going to send a special messenger down. An angel. And he's going to grapple with you, and work with you, until I can bring you into the position that I want you to be in. And nothing in the world can do it BUT THIS METHOD. I can't come down and say, 'Dear brother Jacob, I have somewhat to say unto thee.'" No, He doesn't do things like that. He sees a TEMPERMENT that nothing less than hell and damnation can get ahold of. Some people are made like that. Some people have to have the Devil and six demons to shake the puddin out of them, to get them to LISTEN. They can't. They're MADE that way. But He says, "I know how to get you. I'll send an angel down and he'll wrestle with you till you do come through. I'm after YOU, Jacob." "And there wrestled an angel with Jacob." In RESPONSE, Jacob begins to wrestle too. Of course. Naturally. There is a response. And so he starts wrestling too. You say, "Well what is this all about God? I'm Your child and have done so much...fa la la la la la..." And maybe you pray an hour and a half, and maybe for three weeks...I don't know how long, some people take longer than others because your temperments are quite different. But God sees that. So he prays quite an extravagant prayer here. "And when he saw that he prevailed NOT against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh." O brother..."And the hollow of Jacob's thigh came out of joint as he wrestled with him." Don't WAIT until He has to do a thing like that. Put your hip joint out of place; don't wait for that. LEARN THE LESSON FROM THIS, because Paul said all these things happen as an admonition for US. All of this is here. Jacob is HERE this morning; is Jacob around anywhere? How many feel that you are still in the FLESH, naturally, I mean all these angels, all these angels, you dear spiritual angels. How many know we are still in FLESH. Still bound by certain tempermental set-ups. He knows that too. Now when He comes, learn your lesson from this. Don't wrestle back with Him until He has to put your hip joint out of place! I've OFTEN thought there's no record that He healed him of that...you know WHY I think? I think because Jacob is of the temperment, that any time he might move back into this mood, you see, HIS HIP WOULD BOTHER HIM. You get it or don't you? That's the SOUVENIER He left him. It's a souvenir; I call it Jacob's souvenir. Isn't it? How many know a souvenir that is left so that you remember something by it? How many know that this hip that's out of joint is Jacob's souvenir? Souvenir of what? Wrestling! Souvenir of having to face God. So He says, "Here's your souvenir." And you know he LIMPED ever afterwards. No matter how he got

BLESSED, every once in awhile he LIMPED. What was that saying? "STAY PUT JACOB!" "Ooooooh..." "Stay put, Jacob!" "Ooooooh,,but..." "Stay put, Jacob!" I think He did that to keep him where he belongs. Paul had a thorn to do it to him. He did; he said so. He "owned" up. He owned it.

13. Now he says, "Let me go, for the day breaketh." And he (Jacob) said, "I will NOT let thee go unless ye bless me." Well, he'd (Jacob) better! It's nice to persist..."it's terrible, but Lord....I need You...this is terrific, and if You don't bless me I'll DIE, and I don't WANT TO DIE!" How many ever got into a path like THAT? Well, some of you have no TRAGEDY in you; you're so "sweet and calm." "Calm people" are not too interesting. People that have gone through hell a couple of times and six tragedies, four nervous breakdowns and come THROUGH...I can TALK with THEM. I can talk to them because he's LIVED. But a person who has just been with "sweet Jesus," for thirty-two years and never even chewed gum, I can't get ANYWHERE with them. I can't; I really can't. I can't get anywhere with them. No.
14. So he (Jacob) says, "Now bless me! Bless me!" Well if the angel could have spoken, do you know what he'd say? "THAT'S WHAT I HAVE COME TO DO! I've been commissioned from God the Father TO COME DOWN AND BLESS YOU! THAT'S WHY I AM HERE! God SENT me here with a special blessing FOR YOU. Don't be crying for a blessing, crying for a blessing! I'm HERE to bless you! BUT YOU WON'T LET ME! You won't let me." "Well, bless me! Oh, Lord! If you don't bless me, I'll just die!" No, you won't. I've said it before, I have a lot of people come to me; I do alot of personal work, rather tragic people, and alot of Spiritual work, direction. From all kinds of people. And sometimes they come and say, "Follette, if God doesn't come in here, I'll DIE! If He doesn't come in here, I....." I said, "Now listen. Folks like you never die." How many know they never do? They always live to torment everybody else. That's right, they always live to upset everybody else. I want to say, "Good thing if you could." But they never do; how many know they never do? They are ALWAYS GOING to die. "...I'll die!..." I say, "No, you aren't FIT to die! What would you DO in heaven? A busted down thing like you; what would you do with the Lord? You...die? You'll never die. Folks like you aren't FIT to die!" "I'll DIE!" "No, you won't. Sit DOWN. You're hysterical!" "Oh bless me! I WILL NOT LET YOU GO! I WILL NOT LET YOU GO TILL YOU BLESS ME...!" He says, "Do you really WANT to be blessed?" He says, "WHAT IS THY NAME?" How many get it? Get it... What is thy name?" Now do you mean to say that this angel had been wrestling all night with this man, and he didn't know who under the sun he had hold of? As crude as that? And this angel finally got so tired that he finally said, "I wonder if I got the right man? He's put up such a fight and I wonder WHO he is?" And so he says, "Who are you?" No, no, no. The angel knew only TOO WELL. But I'll tell you something. Jacob DIDN'T WANT TO SAY IT. Well why? Well, a NAME bears your CHARACTER. Names are always given because of CHARACTER. Jacob means, "deceiver, crooked, liar..." That's JACOB. "A crooked one," "a deceiver," "a subtle one." That's Jacob. That's Jacob. And who ever wants to say to the Lord, "My dear Lord God, I'm a damned WRECK!" Would YOU like that? NO, you don't! No, you don't! You say, "Lord, if it hadn't been for HER saying this, and HE did THAT, and you know the whole thing..." And so He says, "Sit down. I CAN'T help you!" He CAN'T. He can't; HE JUST CAN'T! So the angel says, "What is thy name?" "O BLESS ME! Oh...I'LL DIE IF YOU DON'T BLESS ME!" "What is your name?" "Bless me... Oh Lord, You KNOW I LOVE YOU, and..." Put up the LOVE STORY; that's another FLAIR, A TECHNIQUE. "Oh Lord..." Well the Lord knows all the psychology of that stuff too. He just says one thing, "What is thy name?" "What is thy name?" What is he doing? Doesn't he know who he is? HE WANTS JACOB TO "OWN" IT! That Jacob could look up and say, "Jacob." Just look up and say...he didn't say, "Mr. Jacob" even. Or "Brother Jacob." Doctor Jacob. NO, no. He says, "Jacob." Wasn't that "nice" of him to say it? That was so nice when he did that. He says, "...Jacob!" Ha! I'm GLAD, to see him CRASH down there like that! What was that? Do you see the CONFESSION AS A PLATFORM? Do you get it? "What is thy name?" That's the QUESTION. What is the answer? "Jacob!" What does that become? A PLATFORM. And God MEETS him THE VERY MINUTE THAT HE WILL OWN UP TO WHAT HE IS. And he says, "Oh no. NOT NOW. NOT NOW. NOT NOW." Why? He says he

has PREVAILED WITH GOD. Oh, so he got God in a corner? Oh no, no, no. You have PREVAILED IN WHAT GOD INTENDED YOU TO DO, AND TO HAVE. You have PREVAILED, YOU HAVE COME THROUGH. "But I have had to bring you through a most drastic way of sending a special minister down, a Spirit, that could do this strange work IN YOU, that you could COME TO THE PLACE where you could say,..." What is it? CONDITION---"Jacob!" Our time is up and I haven't got the other two. (Provision and Fruition)

15. How many got anything this morning; have you been thinking of anything? Did you get some things to think about? I want you to have plenty to take along, not to work it all out HERE; you can't do that. It will take the rest of your life to get some of these things going. Do you know it or don't you know it? And some of you haven't reached it yet, so I'm happy by anticipation. Some have not lived quite long enough for it. So this is CONDITION. And I think tomorrow I'll go with the two more. Is that all right? This is CONDITION. This is where...WHAT IS...what Jacob IS...HIS CONDITION. WHAT he is. This is Genesis 32:27. Now tomorrow, I want to get two more questions which are asked. I have two in the OT and two in the NT. And BOTH of them relate to episodes in our own EXPERIENCE. In our own DEALINGS WITH GOD. I do this for our PRACTICAL LIVING. I want us to learn HOW TO LIVE. How to let the Holy Spirit to get ahold of you to LIVE. To remodel, to recast, to do a thousand things in everyone of us. To the Glory of God.
16. Precious Lord, take this bread; it's all broken to pieces, but that doesn't matter, you are able to feed each one with some portion of it. Give each heart the portion which is adequate and helpful, so that we may be released under the power of Truth and set free, and we may grow into the grace of God. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

This teaching continued on

Bread and Fishes I (God's Questions III, Provision)  
 Bread and Fishes II(God's Questions IV, Provision, cont.)  
 Fruition (God's Questions V)



BREAD AND FISHES I  
 (God's Questions III)  
 John Wright Follette

1. I was just praying how often we are only CONSCIOUS OF SURFACE DISTURBANCES, because we live so on the SURFACE OF LIFE. We don't penetrate down into the depths: "out of the heart," that means the LOWER LEVELS. The LOWER LEVELS of your being, the LOWER LEVELS of your thinking, the LOWER LEVELS of your whole Spiritual set-up. THERE are the issues of life, but they come "poking" their way up, sometimes they are released, and it takes days, weeks, and even months, and some even YEARS, before it reaches the SURFACE, where it is MADE MANIFEST. And so I often say, "Lord, I am HUNGRY, and I am in NEED, but perhaps I am only concerned with a SURFACE DISTURBANCE, which is ANNOYING ME, NOW. Perhaps THAT has it's origin down on the, I call the "ocean floor" of my being. You see, we are like a Trinity. Down on the "ocean floor." So sometimes He has to go down there to REVEAL TO US the REAL REASON for this disturbance up HERE. Or, even the "HEART HUNGER." Now sometimes when we analyse what we call the "heart hunger," we will be quite amazed. It isn't just a desire---"I want more of God!" THAT'S all right. That's all right. We won't talk about THAT, but that isn't it. The whole BEING; we are a TRINITY in the structural law of our being. And as our old church fathers said so pointedly, "The heart was MADE for God. Neither shall it find REST till it rests in HIM." Now he isn't just talking about my SOUL finding salvation. He was NOT talking about that; that's included. But I am MORE than a soul. The soul content of me is only ONE aspect of my being. The WHOLE BEING is to brought under the powers of the REDEMPTION. Spirit, soul, and even body. Now God takes regard even to the BODY. Never become "so Spiritual," that you lose all consciousness of body. No. Even in the resurrection, God is going to tamper with this old body, sure as you live! Well why not! Because it's the COMPLETION of the redemption of the whole concept of my life, and your life. Spirit, soul, body.
  
2. Well now, sometimes this URGE TO LIVE; I'd like to read you a poem that God gave me on the "Eternal Urge," it's rather heavy...I don't know, but sometime I might dare to do it. The eternal urge; this terrific urge that is birthed within everyone of us. It does seek EXPRESSION. LIFE seeks it; it is the first law of life is to become expressive, to live. Well, now since that is true, that urge to live relates to three departments of your being and my being. It actually does, to make the personality a COMPLETE concept. It HAS to be. If I disregard, or become ignorant of any part of it, how many see my salvation is LIMITED? The RESPONSE is only PARTIAL. And God is only? PARTIALLY glorified in the redeemed, and in the redemption of the WHOLE BEING. Spirit, soul, and body. He's concerned with your Spiritual life. He's concerned with your soulish life; your psychic, soulish life, He's concerned. It's A PART OF YOU!!! It's a PART OF YOU!!! Don't be "shying off" on it! And think you are "just a Spirit." No. This great field of what we ARE. Sometimes when I'm freed and lecture "in the millenium, I'm going to talk on some things which are very wonderful to me. I'd like to give you a real analysis of WHAT WE ARE as God created us; I'd like to do it. Not from the sense of a scholar in psychology, not THAT, I KNOW that field, I've had my courses in it, courses in experimental psychology...I KNOW that---THAT IS NOT IT! It has a certain BACKGROUND and a certain FUNDAMENT, but there's NO ONE in the world but this MYSTICAL SPIRIT OF GOD that can "get in there," AND DO IT! And He is so wonderful in the delicacy of His dealings. He can get in there.
  
3. Now sometimes the URGE may rest in one department, the NEED, perhaps in another. As we found out, we know that from just ordinary, one, two, three psychology that most all of the elements that REACT in you flesh and body are mental and spiritual. They are. Jesus knew it too, and He dealt that way with us. He dealt that way. He's the most gifted psychologist and psychiatrist that has ever lived. Ever lived. And any of you that have allowed Him to give you a "treatment" have found it out. But DON'T ASK HIM UNLESS YOU MEAN IT! I WARN YOU, DON'T ASK HIM UNLESS YOU MEAN IT. He may take you at your word! I've heard people say, "O Lord, show me my heart! O, just as it is!" I say, "Don't pray that, you'd DROP DEAD!" Well, it's TRUE, I'm not laughing. I say

that with all seriousness, because we ARE NOT ABLE TO RECEIVE even a GLIMPSE of it. In one of the chapters in one of my books; I hope some of my books with come before the meetings are over, you'll find a chapter there, "Deep Calleth Unto Deep." I want you to read that; I want you to read that quietly with the Lord. Not because it's a bit of Truth, but read it quietly with the Lord. "Deep Calleth Unto Deep," the two great, profound depths which are discovered. The DEEP in the chaotic ruin of the human race. That's one of the most profound depths that people would ever want to dig into. What is the other deep? THE DEEP IN THE HEART OF GOD. That DEEP YEARNING in the HEART OF GOD. That DEEP PUSHING in the heart of God like this, down to broken humanity. And One Deep calls to the other deep continually. GOD IS CALLING, and broken humanity is calling in ten thousand voices, and a thousand million voices. All CREATION is calling. This lovely country, clouded with judgment; how many know it's still calling? Why? For it's REDEMPTION. Redemption isn't just "saving my soul," and taking it out to a place called heaven, with golden streets, and "hand me a harp." I say, "Thank you, but put the harp down. Where's the LORD." Well that's the way it will be with me. I don't think a harp will ever intrigue me. If you are frustrated HERE, and you having never had certain longings, and urges, and desires satisfied HERE, DON'T MAKE HEAVEN A PROJECTION OF THOSE FRUSTRATED THINGS, liberated, in a "glorified" state. How many get that kind of a heaven, or don't you? Do you get it or don't you? "I got shoes, you got shoes, all got, all got shoes..." How did he write that? What in the world made a slave write that? "When I get to heaven, I'll put on shoes, and I'll walk all over God's heaven!" Well, now what provoked that? Do you know? The slave was conscious of a terrible LACK that he saw provided for in his master and the household and all the OTHER people. So he COMFORTED HIMSELF because that was DENIED. That was not forthcoming. There was FRUSTRATION here. So what does he say? "Well heaven TO ME..." Will be what? "...lifting this thing UP into a NEW REALM where it can be SATISFIED...on the golden streets, on your golden slippers, golden slippers..." How many get it? Oh, just about half of the heavens that I ever deal with with people, are just about on that level. They ARE. Now don't say you don't have a heaven! I want you to all HEAR, so I don't get out with that! I'm MISQUOTED all over the continent, and I know it! Because people don't know what I'm driving at!! Now they'll go out, "Don't you believe in a heaven?" Now LISTEN everybody! I, John Wright Follette, I DO BELIEVE IN A HEAVEN! Now how many got it! Now don't say you don't, or you'll be lying! I get very TRIED in my Spirit because of these things. People don't know WHO I AM, they don't know WHAT I'm doing. The PREACHERS yet, even in Pentecost, don't know yet WHO I AM, OR WHAT ON EARTH I'M DRIVING AT! And I've been trying to get this thing in for 25, 30, 40, and even 50 years, and they don't know it yet!! And if I dare to let out a bit of real, Christian philosophy, REAL CHRISTIAN TEACHING...well "is he orthodox?" I wish you could take my place, just for a little while dear, I just certainly do. I just wish you could. Do you wonder why I "hibernate" in the woods back up in New York, and they dig me out once in awhile? Well, you get in my shoes, and you'll know just exactly why. You'll now just exactly why.

4. No, there was a DISTURBANCE. So heaven will be to many people, a SATISFACTION of all the things which were not able to attain, aquire, possess, or experience HERE. Heaven will be to the majority of people, a release up HERE, where it CAN BE. How many get that or don't you? How many know half the hymns are written on that basis? Well now, I believe in heaven, and harps, and golden streets, and all this business; that's all right, but it never intriues me at all. Ten thousand golden harps, and I can play on seven at once, and one of them with a thousand strings, as somebody said; do you know that seems so strange to me? WHERE is the wonderful LORD in all that? Where is a DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF HIS HEART? Where is there a DEEPER COMMUNION? Where is the RELEASE?...Where will there be at least a RELEASE for that adoration, and the GLORY WHICH IS BECOMING TO OUR GOD? If I could only stand before His high and holy altar, to lift my hands in the ADORATION AND THE PRAISE...not even praise--"I thank you FOR," ---NO. No, it's the ADORATION that's birthed of the Spirit of God, who once more wants to possess INSTRUMENTS THROUGH WHOM THAT MIGHT VIBRATE BACK AGAIN TO THE THRONE OF GOD. That ADORATION. I think we'll HAVE a beautiful heaven, don't worry. It's going to be

very beautiful. But I want to find THERE, something that God has been SEEKING all thru time. HE SEEKETH THEM TO WORSHIP HIM...IN SPIRIT...AND REALITY,...that's your word... that's REAL. But then it's all right if you want a heaven that's limited to that (harps, etc.) I'm not quarrelling about it. But that isn't the point. He wants the whole TRINITY OF THE BEING SATISFIED. Redeemed. Released. Redeemed. Brought back again, that even the body in which we live shall partake of His power, that strange, wonderful power, that can TRANSFORM us. And we shall have a GLORIFIED BODY in which to LIVE AND MOVE.

5. Well come back to this idea of the hunger, or the thirst, or the thrust. That's a POTENTIAL thing; it belongs to us. It's a part of our set-up, it's a part of the creation. Now God is the ANSWER. He doesn't mean just that He is the answer by having salvation so that my desire for salvation is answered in Him. That's true. But He means that the WHOLE BEING is to find it's perfect and adequate ADJUSTMENT AND SATISFACTION IN HIM. I believe that with all my heart. I believe it reacts in the body. Sometimes I feel just nothing but...LIFE...like I could go that way, get out of it. I don't think that's fanatical. Here I am 75, I'll be 76 in a couple of week or so, and I feel as if I were 40. I feel as if I were 40. These are all my own teeth, I can eat and sleep, and carry on, and do; why shouldn't I? Well, He lives in me dear. I don't feel as if I have to go, like an old man, trembling around. I'm not that. That isn't who I am. I'm a VIBRANT, LIVING SPIRIT that's alive forevermore. It shall NEVER DIE! I'll never die! No, YOU won't either, if you only KNEW it! No.
6. Well now come back. This urge, this desire; don't let be become too LOCAL in any ONE certain field. But remember, YOUR WHOLE BEING IS CRYING OUT TO GOD. Your whole being is crying out to God for it's redemption. And so we WILL HAVE our heaven, of course, we are going to have a beautiful heaven. I remember speaking, not along this line, one time, that heaven for some of us, would not be just merely a satisfaction of a frustration here, and a desire that has not been satisfied; a urge that never found it's release HERE, but heaven will be lifting up there and finding it. And somebody heard me talking like that and she says, "Oh there goes my heaven!!" As if I had "knocked the heaven out of her!" Right out she put up her hand, "There goes my heaven!" I don't want to take anyone's heaven away this morning, dear. I want you to have the sweetest heaven you can have. Isn't that generous? I really mean it. I'm not taking anyone's heaven away. I'm only letting you sense some of the things that God HAS. And He hopes that we too may have it, to hold it.
7. Now we were going to get at these QUESTIONS; we'll never in the world get through! We had two yesterday. The one...can you remember them? You see, I'm an old schoolteacher, I'm a graduate teacher, and I used to teach before God got ahold of me. It's in my blood. How many can remember some of the points of this? How many remember that first one: WHERE AM I? Your POSITION, lets get that one, your POSITION. A fallen, broken down, creature. In need of help. Unmasked; all the leaves of our artificial covering are stripped away.(Adam and Eve) All the MASKS are taken off, and there we ARE, and so He says HERE I AM. Well, now do you remember the other one; that's going on a little bit, after you have come on past that FIRST phase of your living. This is a picture of your experience in God. These are all pictures of what happens to us as we MOVE INTO God. This Bible isn't just stories. It's one of the most profound and marvelous, and amazing revelations of TRUTH that you could ever half. It's all hidden away there in picturesque, dramatic, form. But don't become involved with THAT. Now afterwards we found another QUESTION. What was it? Can you, before God, answer the question? When He says, "What is your name?" Now, I said yesterday, the NAME SPELLS YOUR CHARACTER. The name, the name always indicated the CHARACTER OF THE PERSON. It was given because the person carries certain characteristic marks which were all summed up by a word which would cover it. JACOB! What is that? JACOB means "a deceiver," a "crooked one," a "liar," a "deceptive, subtle one." And so this man, Jacob, could NOT GET THROUGH TO GOD nor could God get thru to HIM, until he could make that CONFESSION. Just ONE WORD.

"What is your name?" "What are you?" Now don't bring out your CAMIFLAGES; don't do that, it's an OLD trick. No..."Jacob." My, He says, "That's all." Do you remember how the QUESTION provoked an ANSWER, the ANSWER became a CONFESSION of a PLATFORM upon which the BLESSING will always fall. Now that's a PRINCIPLE; I found that, nobody told me about that. God showed it to me, and I have traced it all the way through my experiences. How many know, even from salvation to the end? THAT will be the process. "What ARE you?" A sinner. All right. My CONFESSION of being a sinner, does what? Makes a PLATFORM for God to come down with His SALVATION, but He can't come UNTIL WE SAY IT. You take that all the way through. It's a little principle that's found in there. In some forms it's rather dramatic and alive, and other times, the LAW of it is still there, if you want to analyse and go into it.

8. Now we'll get those two bits of your set-up straightened out. Now I want to talk about two other questions which are asked, and both of them are asked when the Lord knows exactly ALL ABOUT it, and yet He goes and asks it. And as we found yesterday, there is a REASON WHY He should DO that. NOT for HIS benefit. It isn't to satisfy HIS ignorance. But it is to do a MIRACLE in everyone of US. Now this next question has to do with PROVISION. We've had POSITION, CONDITION; now our third is of our PROVISION. And in John, if you want the story, 6:5 you'll find it. I'll read it to you, so you don't want to fuss around with your Bible, I'll read it. I read the same kind of Bible you do. Well some people don't believe it though, sometimes when I say it's in such a text, they all "grab" to see if I'm "lying" or not. I don't know what else it could be. And so I am often disturbed with them doing it, because I have a one track mind. I believe I have some mind left! Sometimes I "wonder" if I have. But it's one track sort of a thing. This popular idea of "the gifted person." Why I've know<sub>n</sub> to sit down at the breakfast table and he'll be eating the breakfast and reading the newspaper, listening to the "blare" of all the latest news on the radio, right over here...his wife is talking to her "deary" about the things of the day, and he's trying to solve the problem before he gets to the office! How many see him doing five things all at once? Now he's what I call "highly gifted." When I want to sit down to listen to music or anything, I don't want somebody "chattering" at me all the time. Now I go into homes, I hope I won't hurt anyone's feelings here...if you do this "naughty, bad," thing, don't do it anymore. The minute someone comes in, and you feel like you want to visit with them, then WHAAAAWWAAA...that thing (TV) begins; the everlasting, tormenting thing, and NOBODY ON EARTH LISTENING TO IT!! How many ever got caught in a mess like that!? Come on! Now don't you ever do that again! That's a horrible thing to do! Is your conversation WORTH listening to? If it is, then TALK! If it isn't, then put something on that CAN talk! Don't do those things! They're horrible! They're horrible! You say, "Get to your message... .." I'm getting to my message, but I want to give you something PRACTICAL, so you don't think I'm too etherial. I'm very practical. No, the minute you get in, put on the television, so that this thing is going on in front of you, and they're talking to you, and you're saying, "Good afternoon dear!!" Don't do things like that! When I hear fine music, I don't want somebody chattering at me. I don't want to be looking at things. I want to get the music; I want the Spirit of it. I want the "texture;" how many know there's great texture in it? And it's subtle, and it's lost. Here's this artist just pouring out his soul, and they're talking about "beans." Well. Do you get it or don't you get it? Please don't do things like that. If you don't know enough and you're dumb about it, somebody else may not be as stupid. So I'll tell you for the sake of appearing as if you know something even if you don't. My grandmother used to say, "Keep still and people will think you're intelligent anyway, don't say anything." Isn't that good advice? Yes.
9. Well, here's this little story. "When Jesus then lifted up His eyes and saw a great company come unto Him, He said unto Philip, 'Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?'" How many got your question already? "Whence shall we buy bread?" And He's so GOOD to TELL us this on the side. "And this He said to PROVE him, for He Himself KNEW what He would DO." Isn't that exactly what I've been telling you for the last two questions? Exactly what I told you. He KNOWS. THIS He did for his (Philip) sake, not for Jesus'

sake. "This He did to PROVE him. Knowing Himself what he would do." Well, of course. Then why not let Him DO it? No. You can't. You've got to "fuss" around. "Gettin' hold of God," and "prayin'," and tearing up the....don't get into that confusion. By the SPIRIT, penetrate in PAST that thing, and come into the POSSESSION. He has that. But He is going to ask this question, and now listen to his answer. It's so very TYPICAL. We're going to discover another little principal that's going to run from Genesis to Revelation right in this little story. A little PRINCIPLE. "Philip answered Him, 'Two hundred pennies worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that everyone of them may take a little.'" Do you see something or don't you? How many see now that he's reverting to his NATURAL, LIMITED RESOURCES, right away, in the presence of the WHOLE LOAF OF THE BREAD OF HEAVEN---is talking to him. Isn't it? Isn't He the GREAT LOAF OF LIFE? Isn't He the LOAF OF THE BREAD OF HEAVEN? Certainly. And here is the LOAF OF HEAVEN, ALL SUPPLY, ALL SUPPLY, for ETERNITY, is saying, "Now what will we do?" He (Philip) can't see ETERNITY; he can't see the ETERNAL SUPPLY. He can't see even Jesus in His miracle power. He is too yet CENTERED: how many get him---CENTERED in what? In HIS OWN LITTLE INTERPRETATION OF THE PROBLEM WITH HIS LIMITATIONS. Do you get it or don't you?

10. What is he doing? Well, he's COUNTING. He's counting. So instead of saying to the Lord, "Oh Jesus. We have seen You work before. This is quite impossible to us. Will YOU be the host and FEED us?" Wouldn't it be nice if he could have done that? But he CAN'T DO THAT. He's not ADVANCED enough yet to do that. He has to "twiddle around" with this FLESH. With his NATURAL PROCESSES. With his COUNTING. And so he say, "Well, this is only a hand full of bread, two pence worth of bread. It's not sufficient!" And the Lord, smiling, says, "Certainly it's not. We all KNOW that Philip. We all know that." But then he's going to "help himself" out of this difficulty of his limitation. How? One of the disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother said, "There's a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fishes." Now FALL DOWN...FALL DOWN. Yeah---"But what are they amoung so many?" How many see them always FALLING DOWN on the LIMITATION POINT? Both of them. Right away. Answers to both of them fall right down. "But what is two pennies worth, even if you add fish and bread; what is that to this multitude?" Do you get it or don't you? They are too SELF-CONSCIOUS of their LIMITATION. And they become that way because of their RATIONALIZING. "Now let us COUNT it." I wish I dared to open up the types in here. The figures of it. How many notice there are SEVEN items? FIVE loaves, and what? TWO fish. Five and two make what? Seven. All right. I don't want to get in there, but it's good eating in there. That's really good. SEVEN is your COMPLETION. It HAS to be five and two. It can't be four and three; it has to be five and two. But I won't go in there, but that HAS to be that way. It has to be that way. The story won't reveal the Truth that's underneath here; it won't be Spirit and Life vibrating coming up if we had four and three. "Well don't four and three make seven?" Surely does, but it doesn't HERE. Five and two make seven.
11. And so he says, "We have this supply." So they begin to COUNT. How many times you and I have had to do that. I don't do it anymore. The Lord 'thrashed' me out of that some-time back. I tell you the BENEFIT of my "thrashings." He just digs me out, and AFTER I get out, I say, "Oh thank You,...Oh my dear Lord, does anyone want to know this?" He says "Yes. I have a few people who would like to hear it. Now you go out and 'peddle" it." So I go out and sometimes out of 150 to 200 people, I get 5 people. Well that's good. It bothered me at first, and I said, "Well dear Lord. Ive ministered to all this great group, and all I'm conscious of, and they have touched my Spirit, and I know they have touched me in Spirit...they have come physically and spoken. I got FIVE out of a hundred." He says, "Don't be disturbed. Of all the thousands, I had twelve. And one of them was a failure." Do you see the ratio. How many get your ratio? So I said, "All right Lord. If all I get is four people out of this camp meeting, I will be happy. The ratio is very tight because your PRICE is very tight. So he says, "Five...two..." Well, when you COUNT, con't FALL BACK UPON COUNTING FOREVERMORE YOUR LIMITATIONS. "Now I have this... and this...and this...and that...and this...now that group...and this. But I can't make it come out to feed a multitude." You NEVER will. Do you know why? You have counted

your LIMITATIONS five thousand times and NEVER counted IN the LOAF OF BREAD which was standing right by your side. You get it? He's not so concerned about their limitations. He's concerned with the fact that they would RECOGNIZE HIM. HE IS THE GREAT LOAF. Now the next time you're tempted to count you limitations, count them in His PRESENCE, and then look up, just so happy, and say, "Thank You, Lord. I'm counting YOU in on this." How many know you'll get some where? Yes you will. Yes you will. Now don't be AFRAID to do that! But if you take COMFORT, a subtle, psychic comfort, in falling back upon the LIMITATION, because it brings a certain REACTION, psychically in you; I know that.. ..now don't DO that. There's sort of a little sense of JUSTIFICATION in "feeling poor." And "poverty stricken." You know? How many know that some people are only happy when they strike a not like that so that SELF-PITY can come in? "I feel so sorry for myself." You know, that will damn you quicker than "plugged tobacco." Sure will. The next time you count, YOU COUNT HIM IN. HE IS THE LOAF.

12. I like it the way that it's given over in here, in Matthew. It adds some little touches that I like very much. "And when it was evening, His disciples came to Him saying, 'This is a desert place, and the time is now past. Send the multitude away that they may go into the villages and buy themselves vittles.' But Jesus said unto them, 'They need not depart. Give YE them to eat.'" NOT---"Let ME feed THEM." Oh, you want to get by by saying, "Let Him feed them?" No, He didn't say that at all! He said, "YOU GIVE THEM TO EAT." He didn't say, "Now I'll feed them; don't worry." No, He didn't say that because He couldn't! He TELLING them something. He says, "Give YE them to eat." Why is it, that the instant the need is REVEALED, the disciple always has an ESCAPE, some way of getting RID OF IT? By PROJECTING it off here, there, and yonder. He says, "Send these hungry groups, send them to the villages that they may buy bread." No. No, you can't DO THAT. What are the villages? How many know WHAT THE VILLAGES ARE? Do you know what the villages are, that often you have sent the HUNGER OF YOUR HEART, THAT URGE WITHIN YOU; you have sent it to strange places for it's SATISFACTION? THOSE are the villages where you THINK you might find the SEQUEL, THE ANSWER, THE SUPPLY, FOR THE THING THAT'S HERE. The HUNGER IS IN YOU.....And YOU have to do the GIVING. But He has a nice arrangement for it. A very sweet and beautiful arrangement. But STOP sending them to the VILLAGES.
13. This VILLAGE business is always an ESCAPE MECHANISM for people. On the way to Emmaus, why were those discouraged disciples so happy to leave Jerusalem, and make their way to Emmaus? Because Emmaus is an escape mechanism, so that they don't have to live in the atmosphere of Jerusalem, where they feel they have met defeat and failure. Do you get it or don't you? Yes. Jerusalem is where they have had all of that glorious idea of a Kingdom, that exploded. And the Messiah that they are following DIED, and leaves them. Well who would want to deal with a more depleted wreck than that? A little handful of disciples, completely reduced. All hope, which was on a NATURAL basis is swept out from under them. All the things that they desired WRECKED! Then Jesus goes away up in heaven and leaves them. How many think THAT was a nice position? He MAY DO IT TO YOU SOMETIME. Don't be scared. He may dare to do it. He does to some souls; He dares to. But NOT to many. ANYBODY can take a blessing and stand it. But FEW can take a DEFEAT AND LIVE. Because you don't know HOW. Your REACTIONS are not right. Your reactions are too terrifying and you fall down under it. That's why God doesn't always TRUST some souls with GREAT SUFFERING AND GREAT TRIAL AND GREAT DISCIPLINE. He can't. Because they're NOT TEMPERED TO IT. He can trust the MULTITUDES with the BLESSINGS. Well who couldn't take a blessing? But so FEW that He can say, "Will you WATCH WITH ME AN HOUR?" He tried it with three of His disciples, that very thing. "Can I trust you three to watch with Me an hour? I'm going thru one of the most terrifying experiences in my whole living." He couldn't trust that with a bunch of people; He could take His disciples into it. He couldn't! He had three that He felt were fairly well tempered. He says, "Will you watch with ME this hour?" "Oh I'll go where You want me to go...." Put your hand down! I get so tired of that stuff in our meetings, I really do! Because it's so shallow. There's no real DEPTH to it. There's no real significance. It's a HABIT! A RELIGIOUS HABIT. Makes me smile. You condemn order in a Episcopal service, which is ritualistic, and beautiful. I don't know a more beautiful service for worship than the ritual in the

Episcopal church. It is beautiful. If you can have SPIRIT in there, that is all that you need. It is beautiful. Don't condemn it and go out and make one of your OWN. How many know...we have our little crazy FORMS too, right in Pentecost? NOTHING BUT FORMS! "Oh but we are so free...!" YOU ARE NOT FREE!!! You move CONTINUALLY in a PATTERN!!! And you carry it out in your service. You wouldn't know how to have a service without it! I know it. You fall back upon the TECHNIQUE of that, and condemn someone who worships in a beautiful place in the presence of the Lord. I can worship in ANY church. I can worship in a Catholic church. I could worship in the high Episcopal church; I can worship anywhere, because my worship doesn't consist of THAT. I can see through the TYPOLOGY of it and the SYMBOLISM of it, and I can get the SPIRIT. But people say, "OH! That's FORM!! And HE says to worship in Spirit!" Well, now, let me straighten you out on that. When He said to worship in Spirit and Truth, He was NOT condemning any kind of FORM. HE WAS TELLING YOU THE MOTIVATION IN YOUR HEART IN YOUR WORSHIP! That's what He was talking about. How many know the OT is "packed" with RITUALISM. Where did they get it? The Devil? How many know GOD ORDAINED IT?! God ordained that wonderful worship. How many know He did, or do you think the Devil got in there? Oh no, no, no. God ordained that; it had it's function, it had it's place. And God could bless it and He used it. "Why they even burned incense..." How many know they burned incense? How many know it had it's significance? Well, when He said, "Worship in Spirit and in Truth," He was not talking about FORM, present or absent. He was talking about the MOTIVE OF YOUR HEART. "Let YOUR HEART, in Spirit, WORSHIP IN REALITY. If you need a FORM, if that will help you, well...that's all right!" I'm not "condemning" that, if that's a little crutch that can carry you. He didn't condemn THAT. He was telling us that the MOTIVATION OF THE HEART in the ATTITUDE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE should be...what? LET IT BE DONE IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH. He wasn't saying A THING about "form."

14. Of course that ate up our poor dear Quaker brethren when they broke out; how many know when they broke out? They wouldn't have A THING that looked like the Catholic church, ANYTHING! So they let the Catholic Church run off with the CROSS. How many know the Cross belongs to us as much as to anyone? Do you know that or don't you? Well, some of them were "dead scared" to see one. You can hardly stand it to see it on your Bible. Why, it's a HANGOVER of the prejudice that has been in people for these hundreds of years. It's a hangover of a miserable, little PREJUDICE. PLEASE get away from all those bondages; please do it. Please do it. It will WRECK the real thing that God is after. It will WRECK it. So, the Quaker said, "No! We will NOT have a priest to stand with a black robe and talk. We will put him in a long coat with 72 buttons down the front. And a big, black, square hat that looks ugly." How many can see it or can't you? Do you know what that is? That is an INNER RESISTANCE to a form that they didn't understand and didn't like, lest it would creep in and upset them. So they said, "Not a beautiful church, but one with board seats!" Well, do you know that you can worship the Lord on a cushioned seat as well as a board seat? Now some don't. You have to have it just as crude and as plain and ugly and distorted, so that you feel that's "more holy." No. God's the author of BEAUTY. He is. He's the author of beauty. Well, why not include beauty in the thing? They can't. Now I come from a Quaker stock, so I know what I'm talking about. My mother's grandfather was Quaker; we come from a long line of Quakers, from Hemstead, Long Island, where the early Quakers were. Now I have a "branch" of Quaker in me. I love much of it; the quietude, the simplicity of it, I like very much. But when they go to extremes, and say that you can't have a robe on when you preach, but put on a black coat, those long Pennsylvania coats with about 72 buttons down the front; how many remember it? As stiff and awkward as they could be, and a big black hat plopped on. Did THAT make them any HOLIER? Why...No. Holiness is not in EXTERNALITY. Don't be caught in THAT. Why...people can look like that and be full of the Devil. And, even BE PROUD OF THEIR HUMILITY! Yeah, they're so HUMBLE, they're PROUD OF THEIR HUMILITY! Well, you might as well be proud of something that's decent as to be proud of your humility. That's the way people are; that's the way people are MADE. I meet them. I see them all the time. But you see, we have to have charity with all of God's children, because they aren't all made alike. They aren't all made alike. So we have great charity. I'm just as happy with one as another. I go to all denomin-

ations. I've spoken at Catholic churches. A priest asked me to come to address 150 students in the Catholic church. Well, I said, "Father Callodine, you know I'm Protestant." He said, "I know all about that. You have something I wish my students had. You have something. You have a slant on Christianity; we have talked out and thrashed out our Christian doctrine together. I want my students to get a slant on this now. Will you come?" I said, "I'll come if you'll pay the consequences." Well, he says, "We'll take the host off of the altar, and not have the presence light, and when we do that, the sanctuary is turned into a general hall for any speaking. But you can't minister with that." So, out they went. The Virgin Mary was on the one side, and St. Joseph on the other, and I just had a lovely time. Neither one of them said a word to me. Do you know why? Well, they were made of plaster. So you see, I get in everywhere. It's good to be liberal enough to do that. Move in any group.

15. Now here, He says, ...they're first way of getting rid of this thing is to send the hungry multitude AWAY TO SOME VILLAGE. Think of the "villages" to which you have sent your HEART, your MIND, your SPIRIT. Can you think of some of them? I hope you can. EVERYONE is guilty. Everyone is guilty. You have tried to project that thing into another field, LEST IT WOULD COST YOU SOMETHING TO HAVE IT FED PROPERLY. And you would like a SUBSTITUTE. So you say, "I'll send them over there." In my first hungering for Truth; I was born and brought up in the Methodist Church, we didn't have too much. I was saved; I'd gotten that far, but not too sulubrious an experience, but it was enough that if I'd die, God would have taken me. I was quite certain of that. But I never had the general plateration of it, you know. I never had that. But I'm saved, now don't doubt it. How many believe I am, will you believe it? Well, I was hungry, and I thought that if I, people advised me, the minister said, "Well what you need is a good training in school, college, and theology, and all that." And I thought that would satisfy it. How many see me pushing into a VILLAGE? Sure. That was my village. I went over there with this HUNGER IN ME. Pushing this hunger into a village to find FOOD. I didn't find it. I found a most interesting village, but I NEVER found my food. I EXHAUSTED it and came back from the village---HUNGRY. Hungry.
16. Well, He says, "You don't NEED to send them to these villages. Give YE them to eat." Well...now wait. "Give ye them to eat." HOW can this be done? Well these people had the same little fault of counting their LIMITATIONS, so listen. But Jesus said unto them, "They need not depart. Give ye them to eat." And they say unto Him, "We have here but 5 loaves and 2 fishes." Here's where the LOVELY thing comes. "BRING THEM HITHER TO ME." Isn't that sweet? Isn't that lovely? How many see an entire, absolute, SURRENDER, and DETACHMENT, FROM EVERYONE OF THOSE THINGS WHICH YOU HAVE POSSESSED, and you've put them into the hands of the LORD. Do you get that, or don't you? "Bring them to ME. Now STOP counting them. I know who you are; I know your possibilities, I know your potential; I know ALL OF THAT. I knew you, really before you were BORN. You haven't come into any kind of real consciousness yet of ENTITY. But I know." Many Christians don't come into those realms of consciousness at all. They're saved, filled with the Spirit, and have a glorious time, and go to heaven, and have never come into what I would call a real, inner consciousness of the reality. They don't. And you dare to push in there to speak a little with them, how many know their face gets as blank as a goat? He says, "You don't have to do that, you bring that to Me. Do you DARE to SURRENDER TO ME? Would you dare to surrender ALL OF THAT to Me? Now that's all that you have to count on, isn't it?" "Well, it's really all I have in my life!" "Well, IT'S ALL I WANT. Now you dare to put THAT into My hands; that's ALL I ASK. And I will be so grateful for the ENTIRE SURRENDER of your being without any of these ATTACHMENTS, WITHOUT ANY OF THESE LITTLE VILLAGE EXPERIENCES, without that---let that be cut ABSOLUTELY OUT!" It's a STRIPPING that few will take. He says that if you dare to do that, I can do something. I can do something. But I CANNOT, as long as the consecration is only partial. But it has to be...just as He TAUGHT. "If you want to follow MAMMON--GO AHEAD! If you want to follow ME, this is the way!" How many know He's very, very, explicit about those, and very DRASTIC. I like Him because of it. One thing I love



about my Lord Jesus is because He was a RADICAL. I admire Him for it; I love Him. I just "pull for Him," all the time, because He was a radical. These "flimsy" ideas of Jesus, walking around with a white dress on, and things...sweet honey...I get very tired with them. He was a MAN. He was NOT effeminate, He was a MAN. I love His manhood. I love His daring. I love His bravery. I love to see Him go in and EXPLODE the thing right in the midst of the Pharisees, I just love to see Him do it. I love to stand back and say, "Goody, goody, Lord, You can do it, I can't, but I'm rooting for You for all I'm worth." I do. I just stand back there and say, "Go to it, Lord! Go to it! Give it to them!" Well why? They DEMANDED it. How many know they got the treatment they asked for, like children. Ever see a child just itch for a thrashing, or haven't you? Well, you know, I know plenty. I know more about half the children folks have than they do. I'm an old bachelor, but I can tell them plenty.

17. Now listen. Do you know why? Because a child is merely the projection of your own being. And therefore, it is impossible for you to get at a vantage point far enough away, because you are still conscious of that ATTACHMENT. But let a person who has not that attachment stand over here; how many know that he will get a perspective that you could not possibly get? You CANNOT get it! That's why old bachelors and old maids "know so much." I'm "rooting" for them now! How many get it? Do you see it? Why certainly! A father or mother, they cannot help it, because the child is a projection of themselves, and no man has yet hated his flesh! That's TRUE. But, if you dare to have a DETACHMENT...that's why we have to get OUT of this CENTERED thing. One of the signs of MATURITY is that you have POWER IN GOD to become DETACHED. That's one of the FIRST signs. But if there is still any CLINGING, you are only going to WRECK THE THING. It will only be PARTIAL. He said, "Bring them to ME." "Well, here's one little fish that doesn't look very good, I think I can keep..." "Bring them to ME!" "Well, this little loaf looks kind of scorched, and I don't it will do..." "Bring them to ME!" "Well, this loaf looks..." "BRING THEM TO ME!" "But..Lord. This loaf..." "BRING THEM TO ME!" WILL YOU PLEASE STOP YOUR ARGUING WITH GOD?! Please stop it. If He says, "Bring them," then BRING THEM. He says, "I knew you before you were born. I know all that. But please BRING THEM TO ME." That's all He wants. That's all He wants.

BREAD AND FISHES II  
 (God's Questions IV)  
 John Wright Follette

1. One of the signs of MATURITY is that you have POWER IN GOD to become DETACHED. That's one of the first SIGNS. But if there is still any CLINGING, you are only going to WRECK the thing. It will only be PARTIAL. He said, "Bring them to Me." "Well, here's one little fish that doesn't look very good, I think I can keep..." "Bring them to ME." "Well, this little loaf looks kind of scorched, and I don't think it will do..." "Bring them to ME." "Well...this loaf looks..." "Bring them to me." "But...Lord...this loaf..." Bring them to me." WILL YOU PLEASE STOP YOUR ARGUING WITH God? Please stop it. If He says, "Bring them," then bring them. He says, "I knew you before you were born. I know all that. But please bring them to me." That's all He wants. That's all He wants. I never KNEW what that meant, because it HAPPENED to me, but I couldn't RELATE it. You see, I was not born in Pentecost, I had never seen it or heard it. I never had seen a person baptised in the Spirit when God baptised me. I'm so glad I hadn't. There wasn't anyone standing over me saying, "Say glory! Glory! Glory!" No one was "fussing" over me, thank God. No. Not at all. I had never seen anyone filled with the Spirit. Never had seen anyone baptised; I had never heard a Pentecostal sermon in my life. But you know, the Lord has a way of ISOLATING you, when He's after you.
  
2. Before He could fill me with His Spirit, before He could fill me with this marvelous Spirit of Life and Light...before---He put me thru a most grueling, terrifying, consecration. This was BEFORE. He was preparing the soil. People often say, "Why doesn't this person go, and why doesn't...they've all been baptised." I say, "Listen. Don't you know God has to have something to baptise when He baptises." Don't you know He does? Yes, He has to have something to baptise. He couldn't baptise me if I had come along that way. No. He shut me up till about three or four o'clock in the morning on the floor. I had never seen anyone get on their knees and get down and pray. Methodists don't do that way. But you know when the Spirit moves on you, how many know it doesn't matter about the posture of your body. You can be flat on your back or on your stomach or almost anywhere. When prayer goes on in you. And here was this "awful" groaning for God. I was SAVED, but God wanted to do something IN ME BEFORE He could really fill me with the Spirit. And do you know what it was? It was just this, I had never really related it before in my life. I had experienced, but I didn't know it had any relation to anything in here. All thru that evening until two or three o'clock in the morning, down on my face before the Lord, I was conscious of the Lord; I never knew He could TALK to people, because I had never been taught that. I didn't know about that, but I knew that if there was ever anything real in my whole life, HERE was the presence of God dealing with my immortal Spirit. And when He began to deal with me, it was not concerning sins, and failures, and all of that. THAT had been taken care of, I was a Christian already. He was beginning with all the legitimate issues of living. All of the RIGHT THINGS, ALL OF THE CORRECT THINGS, AND ALL OF THE GOOD THINGS to which I might become ATTACHED in some way. FAMILY---why during that period of those three, four, five hours that I was on the floor before God, I BURIED everyone of my relatives. I wept all my tears for them RIGHT THEN. My heart was broken for them RIGHT THEN. And I buried them. I never had any of that anguish when any of my loved ones go, because all of that's gone. That's all been taken care of. That's all been taken care of. My sister was the first one to go in the family, and I was off in college, away from home. They sent the telegram. I felt God so wonderful. They said, "Would you like to see Mabelle?" I said, "Yes." And the first thing that I did was to stand and sing. Wasn't that "strange," I just sang to the Lord. There was such a sense of victory and triumph. The undertaker came and took me by the shoulders; he thought that I was demented or something, wanting to take me out of the room. I said, "Brother. If you only knew what I know now. You wouldn't even touch me. Well, He did that--all the LEGITIMATE things. I liked SCHOOLING. I like schooling. I was born from folks that like schooling, my father was teacher at the time; my grandfather. We all liked intel-

lectual things. He said, "No. That isn't IT. You are to SURRENDER that." I surrendered that night, things in scholarship that Pentecost today is all yeowing to get, and I can't understand it. I can't understand it. Maybe our PATTERNS are different. But when God dealt with me, to separate me until Himself, to fill me with His Spirit, He swept all of that thing completely OUT OF MY LIFE. Now, I "HAVE" THAT, I don't belittle it. I like my degrees as good as anyone. You've never seen me use a degree have you? You NEVER will. "I'm a college man..."---you'll never see me use that, God doesn't want any of that in my life. He doesn't want it at all; not at all. Not long ago I came across a little box of some of my credits, my college credits, and here were all my credentials. "I could have two degrees easily by now, you see..." "No," He says, "You don't NEED them NOW. I going to do something with you where THAT will never figure at all. You're coming OUT of that. You're coming OUT of that. I don't want you mixed up with it at all." And when I find our people going over into that sort of a thing, I don't understand it. I really don't; I don't understand it. Now, I'm not DEPRECIATING education. I think it's splendid if you could have it and keep it where it belongs. But if it's going to become a substitute in any way of a BUILD-UP where God is dropped out, then I say, "Don't do this." I am afraid of it; I'm afraid of the result of it.

3. He took my social life. Now you'd like to get into my romances. Well, never mind, dear. I don't parade those things publically. I'm very human, and very normal, and very natural. I had my friends too. And I would have liked to have had a HOME. IN THE NATURAL. But He said, "You're not going to be in the natural, see. Now you surrender all of this to ME. Let it be DETACHED. I don't want any of these things IN YOU. I WANT YOU." And for at least an hour or more, the only thing He said to me, as I lay there upon the floor was, "Will you fall into My hands? All I want is to POSSESS YOU. Will you fall into My hands? All I want is to POSSESS YOU. Will you fall into My hands? All I want is to possess you." That's all He ever asked me. He never asked me to preach, or to teach, or to sing, or to dance or pray. He never asked me any of it. Those things have come AUTOMATICALLY as a result of something. But it was never an issue. No. "I want YOU." If God could actually get ahold of people in this room, this morning; actually get ahold of them, without some of this RELIGIOUS COLLATERAL, how many know we wouldn't need to pray for a revival? It would be present. It would be present. I would be present, dear. It would be beautiful, Spiritual, revival. Not one which has been MECHANIZED.
4. So, you see, THAT preceeded even my baptism. What was He doing? He was doing THIS: HE WAS DETACHING ME FROM ANY VILLAGE EXPERIENCE. "You need not go to any village. You bring LIFE." Bread...Fish...the Potential. "You bring that to Me and let that get into My hands; that's all I ask of you. Will you let me possess it?" That's ALL He ever asks. And when I surrendered, and I felt this, I said, "This is the most REAL thing I've ever found, though it's wrecking my life, and absolutely taking everything I've ever thought of, completely OUT. I was as empty as a barrell with both ends knocked out, actually was. When then I said, "Well all right, now what?" So the next night, He filled me with the SPIRIT. How many see He had something to work on then? He had something to work on. So since then I've never dared...dared? I don't WANT to. If you really glimse reality, how many know there's no temptation to go into anything else, you just don't want it. There's no temptation. You have SEEN REALITY. You have SEEN REALITY. So with this He says, "Let me...let me...take this PROVISION."
5. Well now, listen, get this, what did He DO with it? He accepts it, He blesses it, He BREAKS it; that's a terrific thing. He took it and He blessed it and He broke it all to pieces. Well, WHO wants their life wrecked? Nobody. Self preservation is too present. NOBODY wants that. But He says, "I can't feed unless it's broken." And so He breaks it all to pieces. And then on top of it, He passes it out to a multitude. Isn't THAT something? Yes. Now, get this. When He started to feed those people, He asked for this CONSECRATION AND SURRENDER, which is ABSOLUTE AND ETERNAL, and the LIFE is put into HIS HANDS. How many know He uses THAT SAME BREAD AND FISH....do you get it

or don't you? How many see that He said, "Now you've given Me the bread and fish, that's very pretty. Presto! Here's the bread of heaven!" He did NO such trick as that. He used the IDENTICAL bread and fish which YOU GIVE. But it is no longer living under the POWER AND IMPULSE OF THIS CREATURE. This bread and fish which is put into the hands of God, it is a CONSECRATED BIT OF BREAD AND FISH. And THESE CRYING MULTITUDES within you...now let me help you. These URGES and these DESIRES, fundamental, "right" drives, clear, and beautiful, and in the Spirit some of them are tremendous, the vast drive that it has. Now listen. That RADIATES from this bread and fish. Do you get me or don't you? How many know, He didn't have something else to feed them, He fed them with THE BREAD AND FISH! He will bring a satisfaction in your heart and life if your heart and life can be CONSECRATED, SEPARATED, and filled with the Spirit of God; He can bring the satisfaction out of the very elements that you HAVE. Absolutely can. Absolutely can. He DID it here. He didn't bring or introduce any other element. He used the identical elements. But they were BLESSED of God. They had become HOLY. They were sacred. They were the medium He was going to use, but their in HIS hands. Our hands are OFF. He breaks it. I don't tell about the tragedies, that's no one's business. You don't publish your suffering. You MASK them. Is that deception? No. It's scriptural. If you FAST, if you FAST, if you are DENIED, if you are compelled to GO WITHOUT, if God calls from you a DENIAL, that's fasting...if your soul is exposed to fasting....I'm not talking now about fasting, going without bread and butter! If you, in Spirit, are called upon to FAST, to be denied, to go without, legitimate food, proper food, GOOD food, NOT SIN...GOOD FOOD! GOD-ORDAINED food! If you are called upon to FAST, let your fasting be done here. When you come out, annoint your face with oil. Do you get it or don't you? How many see the mask or don't you? You don't come out and say, "I'm almost killed!" No, you come out and say, "Isn't the Lord wonderful!" People say, "How do you get things from God? How do you know about the Lord?" Well, I said, "See, I come out. But you don't see me at home...OH GOD!!! Oh Gooooood! You don't hear all THAT going on. It comes out here, 'The Lord is beautiful.'" How many get the point or don't you? Do you think I get things to "peddle out" to you by sitting in a little trance and saying, "Come sweet Jesus, talk to me, one, two, three, bumble bee!" No. I don't do that. You have to learn to wear a MASK. How many know it's a HOLY mask? It's a legitimate mask.

6. But you see, He didn't introduce any OTHER ELEMENT at all. He used the very same bread and fish. He will use what YOU OFFER TO HIM, that God can so work in your heart and life that these things that are in you will be satisfied in there by the VERY THING that you offer. Do you get it or don't you? It's a strange analysis, but it's there. How many are getting anywhere this morning. I'm plowing a little bit, but you have to plow once in a while. I want you to get in there to see it.
7. So here is this...I must write it on the blackboard, because this wouldn't be teaching if I didn't. What did we call this one? I call this one PROVISION, didn't I? Yes. How many are getting something about PROVISION this morning? How many know He didn't say, "Presto!!!" And down came some bread. He didn't. He took you, and He took me, and He wrecked our lives. He just WRECKED them. Do I cry about it? Oh no, I've got something to sing about brother. I have something to sing about which I could not exchange for all the world. For all the world. I don't want anyone's sympathy. Ha. I'm not crying. "Poor Brother Follette!"
8. PROVISION. Now where will this be? This will be in John 6:5. That's where He says, "What will we do to feed them?" Oh, I forgot what time it is. I got a few minutes. I want to read you something. This PLOWING business. I want to read you a poem God gave me one time when He had been PLOWING me. And you see, we have to be plowed to get anywhere. I was brought up in the country of course, and I've walked in the furrow from the plowing more than once with my bare feet, because I went barefooted so that we could have shoes in the winter. Don't wear them all out in the summertime. Go barefooted. That's the way it is in the country and I lived on a farm and I went barefooted. And Dave was our man who helped dad on the farm. And he used to plow and I thought it

was so wonderful to walk along behind him in that furrow. How many can smell fresh ground when it's plowed? Put up your hand. God bless you, I love everyone of you! How many know we have a little secret that alot of folks in the city don't have? Sure. That lovely, fresh, soil that turns to the sun.

9. Well, now I had walked in those furrows many times. I noticed the soil that he would have to plow. Now sometimes we have in the country what we call running blackberries. How many have ever seen those running blackberries; not the stalk kind, but the running kind. How many know the pricklers on them? They are terrifying. Well, I know them too. So sometimes the plow would have to go right thru a patch of those running, rambling, blackberries, and oh my, did they ever sting. And of course we were awful careful walking in them, barefeet...you watch out after you've been in two or three times, you watch very carefully. So I knew that story too. And so when God spoke to me about ...oh mercy, I HAD the poem here... I had it here...dear Lord help me find it. I want to read it to you, because it's what really happens to us. Here. Now in order to gain any HARVEST in you and me, how many know you'll have to be PLOWED? That's HARD. Well there's all kind of plowing. How many know what a plowshare is? You know the "point," the "point" of the plowshare? Yes. How many know you have one for LIGHT plowing, and one for GARDEN plowing? How many know you have for the SOD? How many know when one strikes you, or don't you know that? How many know PEOPLE are plowed like that, they have a SURFACE PLOWING, a SEMI-DEPTH, and a DEEP PLOWING? And I found that out because of the plowshare. So when He had plowed me, I knew, because I had been IN IT. So He gave me this one day, just...when I write, I don't sit down to study. The Spirit of God releases me and I sing. And I sang this out in just a few minutes:

God's plow struck deep within 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 self-hood lay a field set free.  
 I felt Him walk each furrow plowed,  
 I knew He felt the briars sting.  
 The field was His, it was His joy,  
 For lo, I heard the plowman sing.  
 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 at 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 morn the loss of earthy things,  
 To be thus striped 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.

10. Do you like that? How many fell God's in it? Well God's in that. That's TRUTH. That's TRUTH. To do what? Watch for my harvest? To have it published abroad? To be counted as this...? NO. No. That's all God's business. That's all God's business. If he buries it, HE WILL BRING FORTH THE HARVEST. "I covet now no sweeter thing," than what? "Wait the harvest day. And in the meantime, hear HIM sing." How many know He will sing over you? He rejoices; He said so, He sang over Jerusalem; rejoiced over it. He does that.
11. So with this PROVISION; I can't go too far with it, but are you getting something? Do you get it? The PROVISION. What have YOU OFFERED for the provision? Now I'm NOT talking about your SERVICES! He's not too interested in the things you are doing, but that's very disappointing to some people very much. HE'S NOT CONCERNED WITH THAT. HE'S CONCERNED WITH YOU AND WITH ME. He's not after your WORKS, He's after YOU. He has ten thousand million angels who can work! But He has only ONE of you. Whom He may be able to PLOW and bring a little harvest unto His glory. Now don't FRET because you can't get results that other people have. Be willing to be PLOWED, AND LET HIM GATHER IN THE HARVEST WHEN HE SEES GOOD. I think that's only

right.

12. Now why isn't He too concerned with my DOING? He has never asked me to preach. He has never asked me to teach. He's never come and said, "This, that..." He never does that. He only just comes..."I want YOU....I want YOU." I'm glad it's that way. I'm temperamentally made so that I couldn't take it any other way. I just couldn't. I'm glad He keeps it on that level. "I just want you, that's all. That's all." Why DO we serve? Why do I teach? Why do I preach? Why do I write? Why do I publish books? Why do I DO that? Well, I'll tell you. It's a part of the TECHNIQUE which He has established by which an immortal Spirit may be RELEASED, cultured, educated, trained, and disciplined. For HIM when He wants him. That's all. I will stand before His judgment someday; so will you. He will never say to me, "Follette. How many souls did you win?" Well I'd say, "I never kept track of them, I suppose they're half back-slidden, but then..." He'll never ask me that. He'll never say, "How many churches did you build?" No. He'll never ask me, "How many books did you write?" No. Never. Never in the world. Do you know what He will do? He knows THAT already. Do you remember how all the churches in revelation all do that same thing? What was His first salute to EVERY church? "I KNOW THY WORKS, NOW SIT DOWN AND LISTEN. I HAVE SOMEWHAT TO SAY TO YOU...we aren't talking about your works." How many remember that or don't you? Why? Because that's the natural, normal, thing. "What have you to SHOW for your Christian experience? What have you to SHOW for this? Let us now have a great SHOW!!!!" No. He's not after SHOW. He's after HEARTS. He's after HEARTS. He's after people. The churches didn't know that, so He had to sit them down, the very first, EVERY church....why? Because that's the normal, natural, thing. "Oh God. I have lived for you. I have won souls; I have built churches. I've written books, I've preached. I...I...I..." I?!!! I?!!! I?!!! "PLEASE...sit down. You couldn't have down any of that acceptably, only through ME." Did you notice in the parable of the talents that He never thanked any of those servants, or didn't you notice that? I did. I said, "Lord, You don't even thank those people for this generous return." He says, "I can't very well thank Myself for the things which I have done." THAT settled me. I? No. The "great I?" No, no, no, don't do that! Don't do that; you're completely AWAY from the Truth. Completely so. You may be popular, but THAT'S not the Truth. He says, "I KNOW thy works. I know all about that. But I have something to say to YOU." Do you remember that? Each church...something to say.
15. That's the way He will do with ME. He will never ask me to give a "report." Most people think it will be that way; they think that when they come to that judgment, you'll stand there kind of nervous and scared and the Lord will say, "How many souls did you win?" "A hundred, and two of them backslid." And He'll say to the recording angel, "What are souls at?" Well, so many souls=a gold crown! "You'll have two gold crowns. "How many churches did you build?" "Three" "Well, you'll have a gold fence around one of them!" How many see that or don't you? Do you get that or don't you? That's NOT scriptural at all because He didn't DO it that way. He did NOT do it that way. Your reward is NOT GOVERNED that way, nor does your reward CONSIST of a "gold house," because you gave to the missionary cause. THAT is a lot of "funny" stuff that's gotten into religion, and I hate it! Because it's ERROR, it is NOT Truth! He never thanked one of those people for a thing that they had done. Never thanked them. What DID He do? He looked at them. All He will ever do to me, He'll say, "Follette, turn around." I think just the vision of Him...I don't want to see Him. I'll say, "Yes...Lord. Yes, Lord...Yes, Lord...look, ...look." What is He looking for? TO SEE IF ANY OF THE IMAGE OF HIS SON IS TRACED UPON MY IMMORTAL SPIRIT. That's all He will ask for. He says that we are to be conformed to the image of His Son. We'll take that up, maybe, next week, with the methods which are used to do it. He is looking for what? A REFLECTION of the Son of God in you and in me. How? THROUGH THE DISCIPLINE OF THE MECHANISM OF SERVICE. Someday your services will be blotted out!! Forever!!! You'll never even know them; you'll never think of them!!! Former things shall pass away!! But there is something that will NEVER pass away. Whatever is THE LIKENESS OF THE LORD JESUS THAT IS UPON YOUR IMMORTAL SPIRIT--That will abide in the eternal ages. But all the things you ever said and done,

and the glorious, "To the work, to the work..." That will be abolished!!! For it was purely the MECHANICS...by which He wrought in you...one of the most marvelous and glorious miracles that has ever been wrought! The TRANSFORMATION of you and me in CONFORMING US TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON, that He might pick us up someday and release us from the bondages of this flesh thing and project us upon a plane with Him. With what? Something of the IMAGE AND LIKENESS of His Son etched upon my spirit. How? Through the MECHANISM of the things which He has put into my pattern to do. ALL SERVICE IS REACTIONARY!! It is NOT for the service in itself. It is for what He can get IN YOU, and THROUGH YOU, and IN ME, and THROUGH ME---THROUGH THE MECHANICS. Can you get it now or can't you? The philosophy of our early church is quite LOST. That was the philosophy of Paul. That was the teaching of our lovely Lord. It was the impact of Truth under which our early church moved for quite a considerable time. Before these "incroachments" had come in upon them, and diverted. Do you know something? It is much EASIER FOR YOU TO DO SOMETHING FOR GOD THAN TO BECOME SOMETHING FOR GOD. Now there's a sermon in a nutshell. You know it? To DO, doesn't call necessarily from you the STRANGE PLOWING AND SEARCHING, but to BECOME WILL CALL FORTH A DISCIPLINE which is NOT necessary always for your services. Do you know you can "get by" with alot? Sure. Don't I know it. YOU can get by with plenty. But He will never ask about that. He will say, "What did THAT DO TO YOU?" Not, "What did you DO FOR ME?" He'll NEVER say, "What did you DO for Me?" "What did you do for Me?" HE KNOWS ALL OF THAT! He WILL say, "WHAT DID THAT DO TO YOU? WHAT IS THE REACTION IN YOUR MAKEUP BECAUSE OF THAT?" He said to those servants, "Let Me see you." And He looked at them, and He looked at them...and do you know what He said? "Oh, you have done wonderfully well! I never could have gotten through, had it not been for you!" Now if any of you feel you are INDISPENSIBLE, PLEASE, crawl in a barrel and close it up! No. No, He didn't. He didn't. He said, "Well done good and faithful servant!" How many see the emphasis is upon the SERVANT, or don't you get that? He doesn't say a thing about their reward. He does not. He can't! He concerned with the SERVANT! So He says, "Through all of the MECHANISM, under the power of the Spirit, but the mechanics, under the Spirit, it has wrought IN YOU something. What is it?" "Well done, good and faithful servant!" How many see those are all abstractions, and not material crowns and feathers, and "gold houses." No. Why? Because they are CHARACTER ATTRIBUTES.

16. I never read this in a book, children. How many know I didn't? No, I didn't. I read it in life. I read it in my heart. I know it. I know it. What did He do? He looked at them, and He found that here were three things that He could say. "Well done... ..good...faithful servant." Come on in." "Well Lord, what about all my churches and all this..." He says, "THAT was the MECHANICS which the Holy Spirit used. We're not dealing with that now. That's going to pass even out of your memory." Former things will be absolutely washed out; you'll never even remember it! But this is one thing you will eternally carry with you: "The testimony which I now speak to you." I said, "Lord, what is that?" He said, "'Well done' means the work has BEEN CORRECTLY MOTIVATED. AND WROUGHT IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT." How many see it? CORRECTLY MOTIVATED AND WROUGHT IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT. Then God says, "Well done," not "MUCH done." Well done. "Good?" He says, "That (good) is from the same root as 'God.' Meaning a "God likeness" has been wrought in you. A "God likeness" has been reflected in you. Something like God, like a fragrance...have you ever been near people, you "felt" God, or haven't you? Was it because they were handsome or good-looking? No. I've been close to a colored person that radiated God. He says, "I see that in you. A God-likeness has come into your life and being. Your character has partaken of the essence of that. And THAT'S what I see in you NOW. THROUGH the PROCESSES OVER THERE, which I used the Holy Spirit to do. It has wrought in you the miracle that I want for still another age. Well done." How many know you can be FAITHFUL, when you can't be what the world calls SUCESSFUL? But you can be so FAITHFUL. Faithful.
17. So He says, "You have been faithful over a few things..." Now He's not dealing with the THINGS. The THINGS were the thing that provoked the FAITHFULNESS! How many get that or can't you? How many can see that the doing of the thing CAUSED a FAITHFULNESS in them? Do you get that or don't you? These servants did not have these qualifications

when He put them in the field. They certainly didn't. This was all ACQUIRED, built up, built up, built up IN them, through the processes. Now He says, "THROUGH that, an element I call FAITHFULNESS IN YOU has been manifested. I will take that element called faithfulness, and will lift it up and push it over here on another plane, and you shall be faithful over MANY." Do you get it or don't you? How many see it MULTIPLIED? How many get it? How many see it isn't gold houses, or crowns, or any thing like that? It isn't that at all. CROWNS are not souvenirs. They are WON. Now He says, "That will be lifted up and put over there." Now perhaps another one had other elements which He is dealing with in the construction and the making of the new creature in Christ Jesus. We talk about "translation" and the bride of Christ, and all this business, and I... I don't know...I don't know. It seems to me that about half of it is about 4000 miles off the beam. It hasn't anything to do with what God is doing. But it is the traditional thing that you can "get blessed," "Hallelujah...oh ho ho!!!" You can do ALL of that, and get NO WHERE ON EARTH. NO where on earth. Let alone in heaven. No. He takes that element and multiplies it. How many see the reward was an ABSTRACT thing? How many see the reward was a CHARACTER QUALITY. "Faithfulness" was the reward. "And I can multiply it now, because the thing that I am after was that element. Now I can lift it up and put it over here." And He does, in the ages yet to come.

18. So, as we go to dinner, let's try to remember...oh, we didn't get the fourth one. Well, I'll do that another time. That's real good too. But how many see, there's the MULTITUDE. What are you going to do with them. What are you going to do with your MULTITUDE? Have any of you learned anything this morning? I want you to. I covet you. I pray for you. I love you like...spirits. People to me are not just flesh and blood. I see potential possibilities in SPIRITS. In people. I know them. And some of them, I just covet. I say, "Oh, don't wreck this thing! Don't wreck it! Don't wreck it! Let God have it." But some can't do it. Well, learn to pay your price. One of the young men who went to college with me; and I knew him very, very well, trained to be a missionary in the foreign field. We shared everything together. He was a wonderful spirit. Well, the day came when we dropped out of school, and we finished. The Lord filled me with His Spirit. And I let him know it. And here he was; he was president of one of our colleges in the United States here. You'd probably know his name if I told it but I don't want to talk about people. We were both working on degrees together. So he had finished, and he knew I was in Rochester at the time, teaching. And he was going thru to be married. So he came to see me. Spent the day visiting. I knew that he knew what we had. Here was Pentecost. And we had a very good service. And I prayed, "Lord, now don't let somebody go off the handle now." How many know how you feel about some-things? I thought, "Lord, it's probably the only chance He'll have of seeing or know-ing anything about the Spirit...now don't let somebody, one of your sweet, precious, children, but ignorant, go clean off the beam with something and upset it." How many now how that goes? There are places I can't take my people because they just do that. But the Lord kept it, had a beautiful Spirit. So afterwards, we sat down and we just faced this issue. I said, "Why don't you come with us?" He said, "I KNOW it's the Truth. I KNOW it's the Truth. I know this whole Pentecostal thing is the Truth." And he said, he called me by my old nickname, "I'm so glad YOU have it. I rejoice in it; I'm so glad YOU have it. Go on with it. Go on with it. THIS IS GOD." Well, I said, "Why don't you come in with us?" Do you know what he said? The most pathetic thing. He weighed it in it's balance, considered it...and looked at me sort of wistfully and said, "I CAN'T PAY THE PRICE." How many get it or don't you? He was making a CHOICE right there. "I can't pay the price." Did he go to hell? No. He went on into this "popular swing." He became quite missionary minded and became the president of one of our colleges. And he's having his "flair" and he's having his day. And it's all GOOD, and it's all in the name of the precious, beautiful, Jesus. And it's ALL for dear God's sake, and of course he doesn't get anything out of it. Of course they never DO. It's "all for Jesus." How many know that lingo too? "All for my dear Lord's sake." And you aren't getting any handoff over here? "Oh no! Glory to God!!" Well, he owned up to it, he said, "I can't pay the price, that's all." And he never has. Now will he go to hell? No, no, no. He will wake up, sometime, to find out that he has missed the



essence of his whole Christian teaching and experience in God. He has MISSED it. He had missed the core of the thing. He has been dealing with EXTERNALITIES. He was building with his uncle a wonderful work in China. A wonderful work. But he'd had his CHANCE. God wanted him. God wanted him. He wanted him. So he goes to ANOTHER VILLAGE with his, do you see. He took it to another village. He didn't give it to God.

19. Precious Lord, we've talked so much this morning, but we pray, and ask that You would bless it to every heart. It's not my word. It's not my Truth. You have given us Truth. You've opened Truth. You've laid it upon us. You have burdened us with it. And we like Lord, to dispense it and give it to those who are able to hear. And may those who have ears to hear, listen in. And if there be needed some Spiritual adjustment in our thinking and our living, make us courageous enough to say, "Yes, Lord." And get ahold of every heart in this auditorium this morning. And don't let us go until we have faced Thee. You have put restlessness even in the religious things upon some hearts, that You might bring a revelation. Don't let them miss the day of their visitation. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

FRUITION  
(God's Questions V)  
John Wright Follette

1. Lord, we just ask You in Jesus' name, our Father, that You would be pleased to break bread to us today, and take up any line of teaching which we have, which you lay upon our heart, and multiply it, and enrich our hearts and lives by it, so that we may be transformed and changed under the power of Thy Word. And Thou wilt thus be glorified. We ask it for Jesus' sake. Amen.
  
2. Now, we've dealt with this development of our life. We are making our way back again to God and we found that He had to deal with our "POSITION," that's the ORIGINAL, and we had to deal with our "CONDITION," which is the ACTUAL, ACTUAL LOCATION OF YOU in your flesh, in your life. Then yesterday, we had something about "PROVISION," for we have to LIVE. Now today I want to read you a story, and see if you can possibly guess what this might be. We have POSITION, CONDITION, PROVISION. Now, John 21:5. Well, we'll start with the first part of the chapter. "After these things, Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and on this wise showed He Himself." This is John 21. "There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didimous, and Nathaniel of Cana of Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of His disciples. Simon Peter said unto them, 'I go fishing.' They say unto him, 'We also go with thee.' They went forth and entered into a ship, and immediately..." Of course THAT is always there, ... .."and that night they caught NOTHING. But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. Then Jesus said unto them, 'Children, have ye any meat?' They answered Him, 'No...' And He said unto them, 'Cast the net on the right side of the ship and ye shall find.' They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes." How many found the QUESTION? How many found the QUESTION? What is it? "Have you any fish?" or "Have you any food?" or "Have you any meat?" Now, they have fished ALL NIGHT. They have LABORED, OH SO HARD! They have tried all the "tricks" of fishing; all the shoves and deep places; all the coves. They knew the fisherman's technique. They have tried all of THAT. But you see, they haven't gotten a thing; not even one little sunfish. Nothing. And so, when they have been brought to this terrible CONDITION OF REDUCTION, the Lord "casually" says to them, "Did you get anything?" And they have to say, "No." Now I call that, we will let it rymn with all these other words. We have first our POSITION, CONDITION, PROVISION,... FRUITION! Have you any FRUITAGE from it? How many get it? Have you got any FRUIT out of this mess that you're in? FRUITION.
  
3. This is FRUITION, that is, what is the RESULT of this episode of your fishing? Did you GAIN anything by it; did you catch any fish out of it? Now you can put your Bibles down and I'll talk to you. How many would rather have me talk than you read? Then you're right with me. I would rather talk to you, and you do your reading later. In order to understand or appreciate this little story, and the conversation, you have to go back a little bit. It's like a little "drama" that's enacted. If you don't have your stage setting, and the scenes and your background, the drama won't spell very much to you. It won't say very much. But when you have that, then you'll see why it takes exactly the turn that it does. The conversation will have to take this turn. Now what is in the background of this whole story? Well, to make it short, Jesus has called these disciples, and He said that He CALLED them that they might BE NEAR HIM. Then a little later, it says, "And He sent them forth." How many get two directions, or don't you? Most all Christian workers FORGET the FIRST one. They always get, "And He sent them forth into the harvest field!" No. He did NOT. He CALLED them unto HIMSELF, that THEY MIGHT BE WITH HIM. THAT'S THE BIBLE!! HOW MANY GET IT?!! How many see something in there? The necessity of that close, personal UNION AND FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM, before they are at all safe to venture out FROM HIM. He's GOING to send them out later. But everytime He does they ALWAYS COME BACK AGAIN. Because they don't BELONG there. But the AGITATED SPIRIT always has to MOVE. So He says, "Well GO ON! Go on! Till you're EXHAUSTED! You'll have to come back again. You'll have to come back...you'll have to come back. But you can't take anything now, so RUN ALONG!" "To the work, to the work, to the work!! Clang

and fly the banners, and shout the song!!!" And when it's all over, they have to COME BACK again.

4. And so He said He called His disciples that they might "be with Him." THEN He sends them forth. So you see, He's more interested with that Spiritual understanding and contact with the disciples BEFORE He entrusts Him with anything at all. "That they might be with Him." To be WITH HIM. Now many don't appreciate that fact, until they have been THOROUGHLY EXPOSED TO THE ELEMENTS. Get it? Thoroughly exposed to the elements, and THEN they appreciate coming back to be under His shelter and with Him. But many don't know that, and so they get out and become quite WEATHERBEATEN before they ever return.
  
5. Now let's get THIS. What is the general sense of value or appreciation of the things that Christ is bringing to these disciples? What is their approach? How do they value the Messiah and His message? They INTERPRET the visitation of this Messiah, and even His message, PURELY IN MATERIALISTIC TERMS. Absolutely. How many see that? All the way through. They accept it purely on a MATERIAL basis, and they interpret His messages, and they interpret even His VERY MIRACLES purely in the realm of that which is MATERIAL. "Sense."--Until...He has to rebuke them. And then in the LAST time that He speaks, He says, "My kingdom is not of this world!! It is a SPIRITUAL REALM INTO WHICH WE ARE BIRTHED! That's the kingdom!" Well, these poor Jews had come under the "tradition of the elders." And in the day that Jesus was here, very few understood any thing of the OT in it's original; what it REALLY MEANT. Even the LAW. It has been so perverted and changed, and interpreted, and interpreted, by the Scribes and the rulers, that when Jesus was here, very few of them even knew about the OT. They had to have somebody read it to them. Remember that? They did. Even when they came back from the captivity, they had to institute readers to explain it to them, so they'd know what it was all about. Look at the LAW. Just the law. That marvelous instrument of God, which in itself is a SPIRITUAL matter. In itself it is. It's a SPIRITUAL MATTER. It's an arrangement which GOD has made. Well now, that law with the ten commandments, what did they DO with it? They can't leave it as it is, and have the leader who is to preach and to teach, UNDER THE POWER OF THAT TRUTH UNTIL HE CAN GIVE IT TO THE PEOPLE WITH THE SAME VALUE, THE SAME SENSE, THE SAME CONCEPT AS IT WAS BREATHED AND GIVEN. Given to Moses. They can't do THAT! They have to TAMPER with it! So, the next generation that comes along, the old rabbi says, "Now here is the law. This is the prophets. This is thus and so." And he begins to INTERPRET that law to those people according to the LEVEL UPON WHICH THEY ARE LIVING AND NOT THE LEVEL WHERE IT'S WRITTEN! Do you get that or don't you? How many know a difference between the LEVELS ON WHICH IT IS WRITTEN, AND THE LEVEL WHERE IT IS DROPPING? How many know that? So what does he do? He applies and interprets the law to these Jewish people on the level of their NATURAL, and interpreting it continually the way he THINKS it should mean and what it should mean. Is that enough. No...that's not "enough." Your NEXT generation will take the interpretation of that leader and give HIS interpretation of that man's interpretation. And the poor people are put under the yoke of THAT. Until, when Jesus came, when Jesus came, the Jews, who were keeping the law, and keeping the Sabbath, and keeping the feasts, and keeping the...oh, oh, yes, they were all doing THAT...OF COURSE...! They were keeping the law? Do you know what they were keeping? They hadn't the slightest idea of the POWER OF THAT TRUTH at all, and Jesus said so, too. They had the law and the word, but "they know not the POWER OF IT!" Do you remember? They don't know the POWER of the thing; they know the LETTER of the thing! And so when Jesus came, the group of people to whom He had to minister, were living under the interpretation of the interpretation of the interpretation of the interpretation of the interpretation of the interpretation of the interpretation of the interpretation of the original! Seven interpretations! Can you see now WHY it was so preverted and twisted that you couldn't keep it or do anything with the law to save your soul! It was such a bondage; it was such a mess of a thing! And yet that was the thing...and Jesus says "You're putting yokes and everything else on their necks!" I don't blame Jesus being radical with them. "Now on the Sabbath day, you can only walk so far on the Sabbath day, or you will be breaking the Sabbath!" Well who in the world ever told that old Jew THAT? Did GOD tell him THAT? NO!!! No, no, no. God never said that. He never

said anything about walking around on the Sabbath day. But the "tradition of the elders," had built it that way. So that when Jesus was here, they were bound under the law like a lot of "dead" folks wrapped in mummy clothes, sealed up in a tomb of darkness! And "keeping the law!" "A Sabbath day's journey," well where do you get that word? WE say it, "Oh, that's a 'sabbath day's journey' from here." What do you mean? It's an old TRADITION which is very popular and REAL in the times of Jesus, because those poor Jews were not permitted because the rabbi says, "You'll break the Sabbath if you walk farther than that, you've broken the Sabbath!" Well, God never had any lingo like that, did He? How many know He never had such a business as that in the side world?! Not at all! He says, "KEEP the Sabbath." Well, then what does He mean by keeping it? "Well, He means that it's 'so holy' that you can't walk!" Well, now. Well, that's the way people ARE. That Sabbath day, do you remember how FAR they had pushed it, that they couldn't even do a kindness to their neighbor who was SICK? Did you notice that? Did God ever say, "You can't help your neighbor when he's sick on the Sabbath."? No, but they DO. That law was so perverted and twisted and distorted, that He says, "NONE of you can keep it. It's bad enough as it is, but now you have made it a bondage that YOU can't carry and you put it on the necks of these and they can't carry it either." And there they were.

6. Wasn't it lovely of Jesus; I love Him when He becomes RADICAL, I like to see Him; I stand behind the scenes and say, "Good Lord! Just...go at them! Go at them! They are just SO proper, they're just SO holy, just SO good, with their little Sabbaths, you know, and all the stuff they 'poked around' in it!" How many know, Jesus could have healed a man on WEDNESDAY if He had wanted to? How many think He could have healed him on THURSDAY if He "tried?" How many know He didn't WANT to heal him on Wednesday, or on Thursday. What did He want to do? He wanted to heal one on Sunday!(actually, Saturday.) On their "holy Sabbath." And He got right in the middle of their "holy Sabbath," and blew both ends out of it!!! What was their reaction? How many KNOW their reaction? Well, they COULDN'T TAKE IT. They couldn't take it! Well, He says, "If you lose a sheep, you go and find it, don't you? And I've come to find HUMAN beings, and you condemn Me for searching out for a human being. And YOU go and hunt all day for a sheep. Isn't a MAN worth MORE than a sheep?" Well not to some of those Jews! No. How many know they know MONEY? Ta, ta, ta, ta...it's BORN IN THEM, dear. It's born in them; it's born in them. And so He just says, "Here's the Sabbath. I'm NOT breaking any Sabbath that GOD has given. I'm PLOWING THROUGH YOUR MISERABLE TRADITION, that's all I'm doing! And you're just LOADED with them. And I'm PLOWING through them." Don't you like Him when He PLOWS? I do. I just admire Him for His courage. He could have healed that man Tuesday if He'd have wanted to; He didn't want to. He wanted to come right in on one of their little, lovely, holy businesses that God hadn't anything to do with in the world, and BLOW it apart, just like that! Bang! And I stand behind and say, "Good Lord! Do it again! Do it again!" Because I like Him that way.
7. Now, people today can't even take that. So you see, they are BOUND by these TRADITIONAL things. Wholly upon a NATURAL plane. Jesus did NOT come to establish a MATERIAL kingdom. He came to DIE. "I have come to die...no?" "I have come to establish a kingdom? No!" "I have come to give you LIFE, and that more abundantly." Now, Calvary is included in there and all the other things. But He doesn't mention that; He says LIFE. All right, since that's true, they can't TAKE IT. So all of their interpretations of the OT concerning their Messiah; they gather all together concerning every prophecy that will relate to Him as a KING who is coming to reign and rule: A Messiah. A "nice, good, Messiah." They were so pressed; they were so horribly pressed. Every nation had come in and walked all over them, taken what they wanted out of them, until poor little Israel is depleted to a little handful, and they sit up there in Palestine, in Jerusalem, with a Temple, and that's ALL they've got. They've lost their national life. They've lost any national prestige that they've had with the nations. They are just NOTHING but a little bunch of people who have been raked over, and raked over, raked over, for shekels. Syria, Assyria, Egypt, Greece, and now Rome. There were FIVE which have been like a vulture on that little group of people. Raking out their substance from them. They are horribly depleted. And when you get down, reduced like that, and God often

allows it to come in the physical realm, to arouse you to a need which is SPIRITUAL. Did you know that? Yes, very often if He can't reach you in the Spirit, He will reach you in the BODY. How many know He knows how to "put the screws on?" Yeah. And there are some people that He can't get until they're half killed, knocked down three times and dragged out, and finally they look up and say, "Is the Lord in this?" He says, "Yes dear. I sure am." Well, that's like Israel. He's allowed them to be hammered, hammered, and hammered, and every nation walking over them, till they're depleted and a little handful. Now what is their remedy? Their only remedy is, "Where is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? Has He not promised to us a kingdom? Didn't He promise, and promise, and promise?" He says, "Yes, those are all beautiful promises. Yes, now everybody get these precious, beautiful, promises, and lay them before the Lord, and we'll make God come to!" He's "kind of stuck," you know, and if you get a promise or two, and "pry Him loose," He might perform for you! And so some people use promises, purely as a...you know, kind of a "wedge" in to get God "moving." Well, YOU NEVER MADE GOD MOVE. Sit down. YOU NEVER MADE GOD DO ANYTHING. No. You didn't. You have a "satisfaction" to think, "I wrestled with Him! I claimed His promises! And I go ahold of God! And I tell you, after weeks of this, I got Him in a corner, and I made Him own up! And I said, 'God--do this!' And you know, God came right out and did it for me! Hallelujah! I've got the victory!" Well, that's like people do. Not in this lovely state, but in New York where I live! Well you travel around the world with me and I'll show you lots of them. I've been all over the earth, and I've seen them everywhere. And you know, human nature is all the same. Have different hair, and eyes, and clothes, and habits, but basically, they're all the same mud! The same mud.

8. Now, this terrible depletion into which they have come; this declention. They're so pushed up there, they can't even fly a flag. They have no recognition among the nations. No. They're just lost out. So when John comes, saying, "Behold...the kingdom is at hand!" How many see the "ears all going up," like this? Why...they love that word, "kingdom." "Oh, that prophet! I LIKE that prophet! He preaches GOOD! He talks about 'kingdom.'" We all do THAT same thing too. Let somebody come and tell you the Truth and you say, "Uhhh, think so..." But let somebody come along and bless you, and you ALL get the jiggles right away!? Isn't it funny how human nature is? Well, that's how we REACT, you know. Sure. They don't want to hear the REAL TRUTH. They want to have Him to come as a MESSIAH, to reign and to rule, and get on the throne, and establish Israel, and to tell all the nations where to get off! That's WHAT they wanted! And the MOTIVE that prompted them to gather about the Lord was JUST THAT. And the Lord EXPOSED them once in awhile. Do you think that they followed Jesus because He was just such a "sweet Jesus?" "And I just follow You everyday Lord!" Oh, sit down, Sunday school! Phooo! That wasn't in it at all! He told them. Even those who followed for miracles, He said, "You don't follow Me for miracles. The miracle of the reality of this Spiritual thing; you're following for some fish and bread! You can't fool Me." Jesus knew it; says, "You can't fool Me." He was a REALIST'.
9. So when He comes, you watch them. Did you ever watch the REACTION of the disciples, let alone the common people? The reaction of the disciples every time Jesus preached concerning the kingdom? How many ever watched it? Well, you'll tell which way the wind's blowing if you'll watch THAT. "So read it because it's in the Bible and it came to pass that He talked about the kingdom and I think the kingdom came I'm not sure but anyway He told them that God..." No. Period. Don't read that way, please don't do that. Don't do that. READ in there. Get their REACTION when He's talking about the kingdom, and power. EVERYTIME He does, they interpret it on the level of the natural and their flesh; everytime. If He speaks about a kingdom, it arouses that thought, "A kingdom?" That ambitious mother; what "ailed" her, that lovely patriotic mother? With her two sons? And she brought them down to Jesus, and said, "Oh Jesus. I see You have Truth. You have an insight into LIFE. You make life meaningful. It's wonderful! Here are my two sons. Will You let me bring them to You so You can coach them and teach them and bring Truth to them?" Is THAT what she said? Don't FOOL YOURSELVES. No! She's not interested in sll that "Truth business." She interested in getting that kingdom established, and get-

ting one on the right and one on the left hand, isn't she?! Well, can you see through that; how many can see thru THAT? Or can't you? Well, I want you to see REALITY this morning. STOP reading things TRADITIONALLY, like Sunday school charts. Read it as it is in the Bible. She was NOT motivated by the thought that "here is a wonderful Word of Life, moving, and I want my sons brought under it's power and influence." THAT WAS NOT IT. She wanted them in a KINGDOM.

10. He will work a miracle. When His back is turned, and He will talk about His kingdom, His kingdom, what do His disciples talk about? The minute His back is turned, they begin to wrangle among themselves, "Who will be the GREAT ONE IN IT?!" How many know THAT is in this HOLY BIBLE? It is RIGHT in the Holy Bible. What are they talking about? Are they saying behind His back, "Isn't this wonderful! This prophet. This Messiah! The MESSAGE that He brings. Oh, I wonder if we can really get it? I wonder how much of it we can really take? How much of it are you able to take? I'm getting it..." NO!!! They're wishing to heavens that He'd STOP talking about this business and get to WORK on the throne where "He belongs!" That's what they WANTED. And He had to rebuke them FOR IT. And when they began a little sacrifice, one of them, Peter said to Jesus, "We left EVERYTHING to get in on the ground-floor of this thing, now what are You going to do about it?" How many remember THAT one? Well, I'm EXPOSING these things, because MOST of you never read them! Now, that's ALL in the Holy Bible. What is it? It is a expose', it is an EXPOSURE, a terrible unmasking. Of even the DISCIPLES. And when Jesus, even in the shadow of Calvary, said, "I must go up to Jerusalem and suffer this death, and rise in three days..." Oh!!! Peter gets right ahold of Him and rebukes Him! In the Greek, it's STRONGER than that! It means to take a person like THAT! That's what it really is. And Peter actually took Him and said, "No Lord! Be it far from Thee!" What's the matter with Peter? Does he love Jesus so tenderly, that he doesn't want to get Him hurt? Oh, sit DOWN. I'm tired of that. Not at all. Peter is afraid the bottom is going to fall out of his boat; that's all that ailed him. Can you see that? I want you to know that Paul and all these people were human beings? We have them all "glorified" now, and images, and halos and...well terrific looking things, some of them; but how many know they were all HUMAN? They were all human. I like the MISTAKES that they all made, Paul and ALL of them. "Paul, make a mistake?" Yeah, I could figure one of them out for you right now, but I don't want to. I nice "fat" one too. Yeah, it's in the Bible. Sure. Why? Peter was saying, "Oh, you Messiah. We don't want a DEAD Messiah! We've got You going along pretty good so far, and You're telling about the Kingdom, and now, for mercies sake, don't go and die on our hands! We want a LIVE Messiah!" Isn't THAT what he was saying? That's what he was saying. Jesus turns to PETER, not, "Jesus turned and said, 'Get thee behind me Satan!'" But He turns to Peter and says, "Get THEE behind Me Satan!" And He's talking to PETER. I'll explain THAT in another message. I'll explain that in another message. Now He's not calling him the DEVIL. But He's resisting the power of the enemy that would PUSH THROUGH even a human personality to destroy even the thing that God wanted. And I'll give you a message along that line some other time.
11. Keep this now in mind. They are CONTINUALLY expecting from Him, even to the last breath, that He would establish a KINGDOM, and bring to pass the things THAT THEY WANTED. They wanted Israel ESTABLISHED. That's a "nice national" felling, isn't it? Sure it is. And now that they've got this Messiah, why can't the Messiah, "messiah" correctly? He's "messiahing" very correctly, isn't He? Sure. But if you can't "get the slant," of His visitation, you will still question it. He was doing EXACTLY the will of God, "For I have come NOT to do this that you want. I have COME TO DIE! Now PLEASE let Me alone till I can DIE!" And He was in a straight until He could accomplish it. Never think that He was "scared to death" of CALVARY. No, He wasn't. My Lord never was. "And He got down and was afraid to die...and He said, 'Oh, don't let Me die Lord, take this cup away from Me!' NONSENSE! WOMEN have embraced a CROSS with boldness and courage. Don't you think our little, lovely, Jesus could? I have a Christ that can do THAT. He's NOT afraid of death. He's NOT afraid of Calvary. Of course NOT. Well then why do you have all of this lingo? Half of that stuff ought to be put out of the singing books and out

of the tracts. Because it is NOT Truth. He never feared it. He said, "I am in a straight until it be accomplished. I'm PRESSED until I can get through to it." Did He like to die? Physically, there was torture and distress, but He was not dying just a physical death. HE WAS GOING THROUGH THE TRAGEDY OF ALL TIME AND ALL AGES. NEVER relate it to something physical, because He had pain and some blood. It's PAST that. The tragedy of Calvary isn't colored by blood on His body. That's all there, but that isn't the point.

12. And so, even the Lord has to rebuke His disciples because of their lack of insight. They had no idea, no penetration, to enter into the REAL MOVING OF GOD IN HIM. I think personally, He was the most LONELY person that ever walked this earth. I don't think any of us could fathom the LONLINESS of His heart; I don't think we can. I don't think we can. It's too DEEP, it's too PROFOUND. It...it...it covers such VAST TERRITORY. He was the most lonely being that ever walked the earth. That which said, "Why hast Thou forsaken Me?" WHY? Well, you know, in every crisis in which Christ was brought, GOD COULD ALWAYS SOMEWAY BREAK THROUGH AND SUFFER HIM. The HORROR of that temptation; how many know at the end HE FED HIM. There isn't a crisis but that God the Father, Who loved the Son...NO ONE knows the love of the Father but that Son. No one knows it. He could always BREAK THROUGH in any crisis. He came to Calvary, and HE IS MADE SIN, NOT JUST BEARING SIN, BUT HE IS MADE SIN. How many know the Father's face HAS TO BE WITHDRAWN? And what did He say? In the original, in the Aramaic, in the old language it's this: "O Father, why have You left Me on My own?" Isn't that lovely? "O Father, why have You left Me..." not just ALONE, but "on My own?" How many get THAT? Up to this time He'd NEVER BEEN THERE, but NOW He is.
13. Now we'll come back. Now these disciples can't enter into anything like that. How could they? Well, TRADITION won't allow them to. They are warped, baked, dried. Petrified! In the traditions of those elders till even the presence of the Lord Jesus in their midst couldn't seem to break through. It is what we call a FIXATION. So, HE DOESN'T SATISFY THEIR DESIRES. He doesn't make a kingdom. He does not establish a kingdom. What is their reaction? Of course they are all DISSAPPOINTED. They're all dissappointed, they think, "What is all this about? We've given everything to follow Him, and we've watched it all, and now look at it! Now He's verging right up to a death!" How could you ever interpret a thing like that. I suppose those disciples, behind the Lord's back, must have had a terrible time trying to piece this thing together. Well, if you are still under certain TRADITIONAL PATTERNS, you will NEVER piece together the Spiritual values. You NEVER CAN. Spiritual values will NEVER mean what they should if you are still "poking" around under certain TRADITIONAL PATTERNS. Not sin! And wickedness!! No!!! RELIGIOUSITY!!! RELIGIOUSITY!!! Traditions have to be PUT ASIDE. You can't get into any SPIRITUAL REALM OF RREALITY with a lot of these funny things hanging on; you can't do it! It's not supposed to be that way. They couldn't enter in either. And so Jesus goes ahead and says, "I'm going to DIE." "Ooooh..." "I MUST die." He DIES. He's placed into the tomb. God the Father raised Him from the dead. He never raised Himself, don't get that, "And He got up and pushed the bars of death aside..." He did NO SUCH THING. GOD THE FATHER, BY THE ETERNAL SPIRIT, RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD. Some more "singing book stuff." The Devil doesn't care it those things are in there, because it DETRACTS FROM THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S WORD! And sound SENTIMENTAL. No. Leave our lovely Lord in the place that God puts Him. He is the most marvelous, unique person that ever touched this earth. Leave Him as GOD has arranged it.
14. So God raised Him from the dead. And He APPEARS to them, and He blesses them, and He breathes the Holy Spirit upon them and said, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit." And they received the Holy Spirit. He COMFORTS them. He discusses the things of the kingdom with them. God takes Him home. Now come to the story. THIS was all background. What happened? WHEN A SEVERE JOLT COMES TO YOUR FAITH, A SEVERE DISSAPPOINTMENT OF A THING WHICH YOU HAD HOPED SO MUCH TO REALISE; THE THING WHICH YOU HAD PLANNED, AND PRAYED, AND HOPED FOR FOR YEARS, IS NOT FOR YOU, AND GOD IS SAYING, "Take this step of faith with Me over this situation, THIS is not for you, THIS IS for you." AND GOD WANTS TO

SHAPE BEFORE YOU SOMETHING OF REAL SPIRITUAL VALUE AS A DIVINE SUBSTITUTE FOR THE THING WHICH YOU THINK YOU MUST HAVE OR DIE---You won't die! He doesn't WANT you dead! He wants you ALIVE. He wants you ALIVE. You may THINK you will die in the process, but you won't. I said the other day, "Folks like that never die. They always live to upset everybody else." That's right...people come to me, "I'll just die!"..."No," I say, "You aren't FIT to die, you aren't going to die...you've got the hysterics. Sit down five minutes and I'll help you! Now be calm. Drink a glass of water..." No. Well, what would they do? If God says, "Here's this lovely thing. It's FOR you. It BELONGS to you. It's your NEXT STEP. It's the next ISSUE from a crisis to which I am building you. I'm building you now to a CRISIS. I'm been weeks, months, and even years building this up to a CRISIS. Now, don't be upset. I'm going to let this whole thing CRASH, just like that! Because it's in the way of this, that I have FOR you, right there. Now THAT'S for you. That's FOR you. I want you to HAVE it."

15. Well, THEN He LEAVES you. How many of you have been LEFT after He'd said something and it's something terrifying. You wondered if you had a dream, or if the Devil was after you, or if you imagined it, and all the "imps" it seems, of the PIT, are out. Did you ever have that? Yes...anybody who walks with God WILL HAVE IT. Now what is your NEXT STEP? IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, AND YOU DON'T HAVE FAITH, TO STAND STILL...just...STAY PUT! "Well...I don't seem to be getting..." Well...STAY PUT! "He...said..." STAY PUT! BE QUIET! Everything isn't done in ten minutes. When He shows it and you get a "whiff" of it every little while, just a...like a mirage...sometimes I see it, and I almost feel as if I've been in it. No...you're not. Not yet. Not yet. He's going to have a little TESTING going on in here. But THAT is the eventual. That cometh. That cometh. Now, don't be afraid. Now. WHEN YOUR FAITH IS NOT ABLE TO BRIDGE A CHASM LIKE THAT; YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE "GEARED" TO IT; do you know what you will do? Automatically, YOU REVERT TO YOUR OLD, NATURAL POSITION. It's more COMFORTABLE THERE, because you are kind of "used" to that, but you are not quite "adjusted" to THIS. How many know the DISCOMFORT OF ADJUSTMENT? How many know the ease of "slipping back" into the thing that you DID know? Isn't that so? Yes, that's so; we've ALL had it. How many times, God is ADJUSTING me, and I said, "Lord, this is pretty terrific. I think it's easier this way." You know? It isn't BAD. But it isn't THAT. But I'm hoping for "THAT," but I can't get "THAT" for "THIS." How many get me now? This is rather mixed, but how many follow me? Four of you? The rest of you will see it in a thousand years and you'll say, "My heavens sakes, that man was right, and NOW I see it!" That's what you'll say a hundred years from now. Everyone of you Don't because it's I, but why? Because it's the TRUTH. Now you will REVERT to YOUR OLD ORDER. The thing with which you are rather FAMILIAR. It hasn't really "let you down." And, it carried you quite a ways, didn't it? How many know that? It CARRIED you quite a ways. It didn't REALLY "let you down," but you know "secretly," inside, IT ISN'T YET THAT. How many get me now? It isn't really THAT. And God is building you up to IT. He's building you up to IT. Then He VANISHES. And you PRAY, and you CRY, and you claim verses, and you read the scripture, and you consult everybody under the sun, and there you are. Have you ever been "stranded?" It's terrible.
16. I talk out of my heart to you. I preach everything I go through, I'm telling you so when you have to do it, you'll know what to do. See. I don't "charge" you extra for it because I love you so much, I say, "Oh, child. Don't do it that way...don't do it that way. Don't do it that way. Do it this way." "But...Follette..." "Now, don't 'but' me, or don't 'but' God, you just DO it. Now be QUIET." No, he (Peter) can't STAND THERE IN FAITH. He isn't BUILT TO IT yet. So what does he do? HE FALLS BACK TO HIS NATURAL. That FROM WHICH God is all the while calling him. And he says,...I can imagine his conversation. I feel in my whole being that this is his heart attitude. "Well brethren. We've had three years of wonderful experience with this wonderful Messiah. He's called us, and I know He's called us. And we've listened to Him. But evidently, we've missed the bus somewhere down the line; we haven't got on the thing. He's so spiritual and mystical. He talks about the "realm of the Spirit," all all the stuff like that, and in a little while He'll say, 'The kingdom of God is likened unto,



and enter into the kingdom'..and goes and shows all the power under heaven for a kingdom and He never operates in it. There's something 'funny' isn't there?" "Peter... don't you think..." He says, "I've STOPPED thinking. I've stopped thinking. I can't put this thing together at all. James, do you have any light on it? Thomas, what do you think?" Thomas says, "I always was a doubter. But I don't think you can get much out of me. What is MY reaction?..." I think they POOLED their interests; I really do. I think they pooled their interests and put it together like that. And they said, "What will we do?" Well, Peter says, "I'm the robust, sanguin, type. I'm an extravert. And I don't know if I was made for anything as mystical, and spiritual, and wonderful as this whole affair. I guess I wasn't made for a Spiritual turn at all. I know FISH! I know TANGABLE things! I know a good fish when I see one, and I know boats, and I know THAT life. And I went and LEFT it all for this...and now where is He...dead and gone up in heaven...and He doesn't come back, and He hasn't made any kingdom...and...where are we?" And he says, "You can do what you want. I'm going back to my nets!" Now he didn't say that he was going fishing because the sun was bright and he thought he'd catch a fish in the morning. Don't FOOL yourself! This is a very BROAD, inclusive statement! It's a very REVEALING statement. "I go BACK TO MY NETS."

17. And he went. How? Well the ENEMY has a BOAT right there for him. Instantly. And it says there was a boat there IMMEDIATELY. THERE ALWAYS IS. There's always a boat there immediately to get you back THERE. The Devil has a whole LINE of them. And so to reason, "Well...I don't feel anything terrible about this. There are the fish...I can fish. And...I can sell them, and I can do thus and so. Here's the boat. I don't see why I shouldn't fish!" Now listen. You don't know who you might INFLUENCE by such a thing as that. There are a lot of things that I would like to do, but there are people who look to me. I can't SPARE MYSELF for the sake of people. Did you know that, or didn't you know that? I can't. I can't spare myself in a single thing. Why? Because of PEOPLE. Peter doesn't THINK of that. What is it? "And they said, 'WE GO ALSO.'" How many get it, right away? "We'll go along with you." He didn't ASK them. You don't HAVE to. Your ATTITUDE draws them. Do you get it? Your attitude will draw them. And they go along with him too. Now listen. Jesus has CALLED HIM AWAY from this fishing enterprise. He SAID so. He called them OUT from among that group, and He said, "I will make you a fisher of men. I want you with ME, in this new SPIRITUAL ECONOMY that I am establishing. I WANT you. There are potentials in you that I can get ahold of if you ever let Me. Now, you LEAVE these nets. Leave THAT alone." You see, he is now in DISOBEDIENCE: do you get me or don't you? How many know he is in disobedience? No one seems to see that...oh one man is nodding his head. You're awake aren't you dear? God bless you! Isn't it nice to be awake? Yes, that's good. How many of you know that he is in disobedience or don't you? Put up your hand. Praise the Lord! Sure. He is in DISOBEDIENCE because Jesus has CALLED HIM AWAY from this vocation. He is in disobedience. How many see he is in UNBELIEF, IN UNBELIEF RATHER THAN IN FAITH? Do you get it? He is in UNBELIEF, because his FAITH will not carry him. He "slinks" back in unbelief and even in disobedience. So he says, "One thing I CAN do, I can fish!" And so away he goes. In the boat. There's a boat; it says "immediately" in the boat. That's right there.
18. Now, he can RATIONALIZE this. Lovely you know. He can say, "See. I'm in the will of the Lord...He's provided a boat for me...and my friends are all with me; going to get right in the boat with me!" Now how "delicious" that would be. "And...let us SAIL!" No. No. ALL THE BOATS IN THE WORLD WILL NOT CORRECT YOUR DISOBEDIENCE OR YOUR LACK OF FAITH. It won't. THAT is a substitute. THAT is something that you "rest" in, you see, because you don't want to say, "I can't stay put!" So, he goes out to fish. How LONG does he fish? An hour or two? No. He fishes ALL NIGHT. Well, it's ALWAYS NIGHT THEN. Isn't it. Isn't it ALWAYS NIGHT when you go out like that; it's ALWAYS NIGHT. It's always night. DON'T MAKE YOUR NIGHT TOO LONG BELOVED. THE LORD WOULD LIKE A MORNING. Yes, He would. He LONGS for the sun to break. He LONGS for the daylight to come. But YOU PERSIST IN HOLDING ONTO YOUR NIGHT. A lot of people do that. I meet people all the time that are in night. "I wish...God..." Well, you won't LET Him come! "I...wish the sun would SHINE in my soul..." He WANTS the sun to shine in your soul, BUT YOU WON'T

LET HIM. You PROLONG the dark night. So he fishes, and fishes, and fishes. And he tries all of the "tricks of the trade." He tries them ALL. He knows them ALL. Well, you know, NONE of that will work. Did you ever hear of people trying to "bless themselves?" I think one of the most hopeless things I've ever seen, is a person trying to "bless themselves" when the Lord doesn't bless them. Do you know that or don't you know that? Well, they know the certain technique, that if they do certain things they can stir up a certain EMOTIONAL REACTION which is purely psychic, but they don't know it. So finally they say, "Oh Hallelujah!! Ha! Ooooooh!" And God isn't within a million miles of them. "Well, I'm going to bless myself. If God doesn't bless me, I'm going to bless myself! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Glory to God! Glory to God! Oh! I feel it almost coming now!! Glory, hallelujah, glory! Glory! I believe that it's coming soon now! Glory!" How many know, by and by, that you can strike a real "peak?" Sure you can. I know lots of people that bless themselves. Because they don't know what it's all about. Isn't it "nice" to be DUMB sometimes? They say, "Let the ignorant folks alone, where ignorance is bliss, tis folly to be wise." But I'd rather be wise if I fell down, wouldn't you? Sure. Be wise and fall down and get up go on.

19. So they fish ALL NIGHT. Well don't you think the Lord knows about that? The Lord knows SO MUCH about it He's down on the shore waiting, longingly to contact them if He only could. But they keep dabbling around in the boat and the nets and everything. "Aren't they TIRED yet? Aren't they TIRED YET?" "No...no...I'll try once more. Ohhh...NOW let's FAST AND PRAY! Let's get EVERYBODY TO PRAY! Now let's fast 72 days and see if it won't WORK!" No. It won't WORK dear. NONE OF THAT WORKS. NONE of that stuff "works." THE ONLY THING THAT "WORKS" IS TO COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANY FISH. And, that's a "terrible" conclusion to reach! And THAT was the question which the Lord asked. How many know what He asked them? He just looks over, "Did you get any fish?" He knows ALL ABOUT those fish. Is He asking for information? Why, He knows every nail in the boat and every scale on the fish! He isn't asking for information at all. What is He doing? The little principle that I put up here at the first lesson. Do you remember what it was? A QUESTION ASKED, PROVOKES AN ANSWER; THE ANSWER BECOMES THE PLATFORM UPON WHICH THE BLESSING IS RELEASED. How many remember? Will you ever forget it or won't you? Always remember. He will ASK you. YOU answer the question. And the answer makes a platform, and upon that He will pour a BLESSING.
20. Now, He doesn't start REBUKING them. That would be fatal. "Well, I hope you're satisfied! You've been out there fishing all night! Will you believe Me NOW!?" They'd say, "Oh no. Let's go back farther out; I don't want to go anywhere near Him!" How many know you'd drive them right away with all that stuff? Did you know people are like that? That's why God can't deal with people all alike. He does this so gracefully; tenderly, artfully. If I had a morning here, I'd like to go into that. But it's in my book. How this conversation turns, you see. How it turns. The conversation is so delicate and so beautiful. So He says, "Did you catch ANYTHING?" In other words, "Now you've had your FLING in self-will, unbelief, and disobedience, because YOU WOULD NOT STAND STILL UNTIL FAITH COULD BE BUILT UP IN YOU TO BRIDGE THIS CHASM. I'm GOING to bring you into this thing. I promised it. But can't you wait a day or two...can't you wait until I can come back and work with you? Can't you wait until I pour out My Spirit upon you, and all this whole thing will take an entirely different 'swing.' Because it will be like a PIVOT upon which the whole thing will change. Can't you wait with Me? Can't you watch with Me one little hour?" They NEVER can. FLESH can't. Flesh can't DO THAT. That's the way we're MADE. Until we come to a PLACE IN GOD where we say, "Lord, for heaven sake, deliver me!" That's the way we ARE. So He says, "Now you've had your 'fling.' What did you get out of it? Did you catch any fish?" I know people in the work today, preachers and ministers, who are ENACTING this all the time. Or didn't you KNOW that? I know preachers who are enacting this very thing all the time, and some of them come to me for advice and counsel. I have alot of preachers who come. I have some who you'd know right by name if I dared to mention them. I wouldn't mention the confessions that they bring, because I live up in the woods where nobody knows me and they

dare to. I know, I know. I know HOW THEY ARE MADE. I know people today, who are yet FISHING, because they don't have FAITH and COURAGE and the strength to say, "By Thy GRACE, Lord. By Thy grace. Strip me! Take the last thing that You want! By Thy grace, hold me." They can't! They have to get in one of their little boats and go teetering out...no. Don't do that. PLEASE don't do that. I just beg of you NOT to do it, you'll only end in DISASTER.

21. "You've had your fling. Did you get anything?" Of course--NOTHING. What is it? N..O--- --NO! One of the hardest words to pronounce in the English language. "No" is one of the most difficult words. To make a CONFESSION and to look up to God and say, "You know it anyway, Lord. No, I didn't. I didn't get ONE fish. Oh, God. Help me!" How many know, that gives God the greatest chance in the world! That loveliest opportunity. Well, what does He say? "Well NOW act in OBEDIENCE. Cast your net on the right side of the boat, and you shall find." They had cast their net in UNBELIEF AND DISOBEDIENCE. NOW their going to cast their nets in what? FAITH AND OBEDIENCE, BECAUSE GOD HAD SPOKEN TO THEM. The Lord had SPOKEN. Now get this. People think you have to have a CHANGE OF ENVIRONMENT, and a new fresh set-up, and an entirely NEW PROGRAM to get the thing going. No, you don't. You stay in your SAME little, old boat, in the same water, and there's the SAME fish, and the SAME net. The set-up is exactly, identically, THE SAME THING. There's only ONE THING that makes a difference. NOW in OBEDIENCE, you're still in the SAME boat; most people say, "I'd like to get into another kind of a boat!" How many see everybody wants to transfer to boats and things. Who wants to stay in his boat? My heavens, I wish some of the wrecks that have happened to my boat would have taken the whole thing out, but He still keeps me alive. I often wish, dear Lord, to pass on would be so much better than this terrific, terrifying thing that You bring me into. But how many know we HAVE TO GO INTO IT? I couldn't feed you this morning if I didn't go in, so SIT STILL. No. It's the SAME boat. It's the SAME fish. These are the SAME fish that couldn't possibly get into the net. They were swimming around there. He didn't make anything new in the situation at all. You want everything CHANGED. A new sort of a CHANGE, some way. No, stay right in your same old plug. Do you get it? You who have been praying so long to have ANOTHER boat. STAY in your own. ACT IN OBEDIENCE. "Even thou it slay me, yet will I trust Him." Even though He slay me, yet will I stay put. I REFUSE to go fishing. I REFUSE this. "Well, here's a boat!" The Devil has a whole fleet of them. Now STAY PUT.
22. All right. Now He says, after he answered Him...I hardly know which verse, because I get in here and then I hardly know how to get out. But I want to give you what's in here. "As soon then, as they were come to land, they say fire of coals there, and fish laid there on. And bread. Jesus said unto them, 'Bring of the fish which you have now caught. Don't be too interested in this miracle that I've made of having some fish here, but let's deal with the thing that you've caught. Let's get what you have found; what you have discovered. Let's work with THAT. I can make plenty of fish. But I'd like to work with the fish that you have caught. You have been obedient with Me, until you have produced this lovely effect in life in your Spirit, in your moving, in your living. Let's deal with that.'" Jesus said unto them, what they had caught, "Simon Peter went and drew the net up to land, full of great fishes. 153. And for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken. Jesus said unto them, 'Come and dine.' And none of the disciples dared to ask Him, 'Who art Thou?,' knowing that it was the Lord." They're not going to come out with a big confession, don't worry! They're going to be MASKED as long as possible.
23. "This is now the third time that Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was risen from the dead. So when they had dined, Jesus said to Peter, 'Simon, son of Jonas, dost thou love Me more than these?' He said unto Him, 'Yea, Lord. Thou knowest that I love Thee.' He said unto him, 'Feed My Lambs.' He said unto him the second time, 'Simon, son of Joses, Lovest thou ME?' He said unto Him, 'Yea Lord! Thou knowest that I love Thee.' He said unto him, 'Feed My sheep.' He said unto him the third time, 'Simon, son of Jonas, Lovest thou Me?' Peter was grieved because He had said unto him the third time, 'Lovest thou Me?' And he said unto Him, 'Lord, Thou just knowest everything!'

Thou knowest ALL.' Jesus said unto him, 'Feed My sheep.'" Now I want to take that up just for a minute. I think I can help you with it. The beauty of this thing has just been absolutely RUINED because of poor words in your translation. This was spoken originally in Aramaic. It was put over into Greek, and from Greek it was put over into English. So you have to go back to find out what He said to him. It used to bother me because I thought it was one of the funniest little verses that could possibly be. "Lovest thou Me? Yeah, Lord, Thou know I lovest thou...Feed My sheep. Lovest thou me? Yes lord, feed my sheep...well feed my little sheep." Well, I used to think that's such a funny thing! What in the world are they talking about, lovest thou Me, ta didilly dee? Of course I let it go for years because sometimes you have to let things go for years before you get any light on them. So finally, I got some light on it, and I want to share that with you. Now the beauty of this whole conversation is in the subtle, lovely, hidden way in which He handles a proposition. Do you notice that He asks him 3 times concerning his love and devotion? Lovest thou me? Why? Well, the beginning of this chapter tells you. "After these things, Jesus..." brings in this dramatic picture. After WHAT things? You never will understand WHY this takes the flair that it does unless you find out it's antecedent. "After these things..." Jesus has this little episode with him. How many commence to see something? All of this little drama reverts to something that happens before, "after these things," well what ARE they? Well, I'll tell you. THREE times Peter has declared his love and devotion to Jesus. Three times. And every time he measures it by the law of love and death, and surrender, and "Although all forsake you..." How many remember, this is what I call the "testimony extravaganza." That's what I call it. It was the most extravagant thing that he could say, "Yea, Lord! Though ALL forsake Thee, I won't!" Another time, "Yea, Lord, I'll follow Thee, even unto death!" How many can see Peter standing up here, with this great "gusto?" "I wouldn't forsake You Lord, for the world! I'll die for You!" "Oh? Will you? Tomorrow afternoon, two o'clock, you'll be so ashamed of your lying and swearing and everything else, that you'll want to hide your face. But I won't tell you that just NOW Peter."

24. No. Three times he has declared his love to the Lord. Now in your Greek text, we have TWO words for "love." They are both translated, "love, love, love." But not in your original, and not the way He spoke it. In your original, you have TWO words for "love." "Agapo," and "phileo." "Agapo," is your stronger word. It is NOT an "emotional" word; "phileo" is an emotional word. "Phileo" is "I am very fond of you. I love you, in the sense that you are very DEAR to me. You are very precious to me." I "love" you; it is an EMOTIONAL word. I love you in THAT sense; that's "phileo." It is LESS than "agapo." "Agapo" is the strongest verb that we have to express LOVE. Why? Because the word, "agapo" in your Greek, is the word that expresses love measured by SACRIFICE EVEN UNTO A DEATH. It doesn't say, "And God loved the children on earth, so dearly, that He gave His Son." He DID NOT say that. He says, "God so loved the world--agapo!" "That He GAVE His Son..." How many see that a SACRIFICE is included? A sacrifice. You can't USE your word, "agapo," unless it is measured by some law of sacrifice. It's a SACRIFICIAL word. LOVE, in it's strongest form, that is only measured by a law of sacrifice, even unto DEATH. That's "agapo." "Agape" is your noun.
25. Now, when Jesus talks to this man, I want you to see how clever He does it; how very sweet He is in it, you know. So He says to Peter, "Peter, lovest thou Me more than all of these?" And He's talking of these other disciples. What WORD does He use? AGAPO. The word that Peter had used, you know, "I'll go die for You," AGAPO. "Agape! My love!" "All right," Jesus says. "Do you really LOVE Me more than these other disciples?" What is his answer? He's beginning to "crack." He's beginning to CRACK; he's beginning to see the LIGHT. How does he answer Him? "Yeah, Lord...PHILEO...Thou knowest I am very FOND of You." How many see a difference, don't you? See how CLEVER that is? "Yeah Lord, Thou knowest that I am very fond of You; you're very DEAR to me." All right He says. Now, I can't go into that about the sheep; He doesn't call it sheep. There's a classification in there. A classification. He speaks the very first thing of His LAMBS. "Feed My little lambs." Do you know why? Because it's the psychology that the Catholics use. Taking the child when he's YOUNG. You can't do much with an old sheep.

But you CAN do something with a little LAMB. His FIRST concern was not with those old sheep. You got all your patterns fixed, and your philosophies settled. Your REACTIONS are all ESTABLISHED. He didn't, "Sheep talk." Not "feed," but "graze!" Oh boy, I want to get on that old blackboard with this because it's so rich. He has three classification for the people He's fed, and two words that He uses for their feeding. GRAZE and FEED. To "graze" means the shepherd has to pay attention to the food which is distributed. The shepherd has to go ahead and find a place where these little lambs and sheep may FEED. How many get that or don't you? It depends upon the SHEPHERD. God's WOE is never upon His sheep. His WOE is always upon the shepherds who lead the sheep. It is a VERY DANGEROUS THING to be any kind of a LEADER with people, do you know it? Terrifically dangerous. I NEVER sought it, He had to bring me into it. I try to be FAITHFUL. He's taught me never to "thrash" my sheep. But to FEED THEM. For me to THRASH you---"WHERE is you faith!? ROARRRRRR!" How many know that will NEVER feed you in God's world? In the end, you will be scultified in you Spirit. You will get a certain REACTION IN emotion that would want to put you on the ground, and cry and everything, but how many know THAT isn't yet of God? No, it isn't. I'd like to take one of the Psalms and show it to you, because David knew it in the OT.

26. So He says, "Peter, (agapo) Lovest thou Me?" That strong word! "Yea Lord, Thou knowest that I am VERY FOND OF YOU." Ha, ha, but that isn't what He ask him! How many get it? He didn't ask him THAT! No...He didn't ask him that. But Jesus doesn't mind, He rides right over it, He says, "Now you take care of My lambs, because a LAMB is a potential SHEEP." That's why young people should be taught NOW. Do you know our young people should be taught? NOT after they've skipped five, ten, twelve years, and then come back and want to RETRACE it! I'm giving TRUTH here that every teenager ought to have to start with! It's not too heavy; you'll get SOMETHING ought of it! I'm sorry, but personally, I'm dissappointed. Because I would like to share what God gives me with every Christian. I would like every teenager...how many know, I give enough for even a teenager to get some if he wants it? Sure. But I can't get a teenager in here. I can't get a PREACHER in here, maybe THREE. How many know all the people I should love to reach? They're never around. There's always something GOING; there's a BOAT out there for them. They're always in a boat somewhere else. Well, I get used to it. It's rather disturbing in my Spirit, because I don't think it's the way.
27. So He says, "GRAZE My lambs." THAT means the shepherd has to take the responsibility of the FOOD, of the DRINK, of the CULTURE, of the CARE of that little lamb, because he can't of himself. And he puts that burden on him. So He turns again and says, "Peter,...." (agapo, again. He going to "rub it in," you know, gently. How many know He has a way of pressing things in very gently? How many know the Lord can "kill you with kindness," or didn't you know that? He can just KILL you with kindness. I've had Him be good to me, when I say, "Lord, why don't you thrash the daylights out of me!?" You says, "I don't want to, I love you. See this?" Oh, I could hardly take it! Because He has a technique with us, you see. So He says the second time, "agapo," Lovest thou ME? More than these? Poor Peter. He's "getting it" for sure! He looks up and says, "Yeah Lord, Thou knowest that Thou art very DEAR to me..." Ha. He can't quite reach the "peak" you see! Well, He says, "Feed My sheep." That's the older ones, feed My sheep. Feed them, that's about all we can do with them, give them something to eat. I can't do much with them. So He tries him a THIRD time. He says, "Now Peter, you precious, dear, Peter, ..." Now Jesus comes down to where he is, because He can't bring Peter up to the place where He dares to say it again. So Jesus says, "Now really Peter, am I really very DEAR to you? Are you really FOND of Me?" And Peter says, "Oh Lord! You just KNOW EVERYTHING!" Isn't that NICE? How many see him all, all broken all to pieces? Just broke him all to pieces! "Yea Lord. You just know everything." That's right. Now, GRAZE again, "Graze my little sheep." Those who are BETWEEN the lamb, the little sheep, and the sheep; MILK, MEAT, AND STRONG MEAT. How many get it or don't you? Sure. That's all HIDDEN in there. And so He reinstates Peter beautifully. Do you think that those disciples listening in go the drift of that whole thing? Don't fool yourself! They just thought, "Well isn't it funny that He's still dealing with Peter, and now He's telling him to go do this and

everything...doesn't He know what Peter is!? Reinstating him NOW, and giving him authority, and a command to feed the people! Oh dear! Do you suppose the Lord really knows?" Ha. How many know the Lord knows EVERYTHING? Sure. And wasn't it sweet, how the Lord could do that so cleverly, without those beautiful, pious, disciples, who never did a bad thing in the world, could sit by and say, "Well, we've got Peter set up again!" I'm very happy Peter got reinstated, aren't you? But I think some of them had a little, funny feeling inside, "Well, praise God! I never had such a thing happen to me! Lord, forbid that it should!" "Wait a minute. Two weeks from now, you're going to be in a hole WORSE than that!" Well. He doesn't tell them THAT. I've talked overtime, but how many of you got anything this morning? Did you get something? You won't forget it will you, for awhile? No? And we are going to committ you to the Lord, and you have about 7 minutes to get down there so they don't "get on my neck" for keeping you so long. Somebody will come and say, "You've held up the dinner." They've only done it once to me, but that was because we had a misunderstanding as to the time. So I'm not going to ride out on that. I want you to go to save my neck, you see. So go in just as decoriously, and as calm as angels, into that dining hall.

28. Precious Lord, we thank Thee. We thank Thee, Lord. We glorify Thy precious name. That you are the same, now, with everyone of us. Thou art aking, "Have you caught anything?" Help us, Lord, that we shall answer Thee, and make a platform upon which You can come and bring in these nets full of fish, and maybe quietly, speak the word of comfort and strength, as You did to Peter. Without them knowing it, because You are so gracious to us. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.