

THE PRODIGAL

# A GREAT WAY OFF



ENCOURAGEMENT FOR BELIEVING MUMS

# **A GREAT WAY OFF**

### **NOTE TO READER:**

The scripture tells us to comfort others with the comfort the Lord has comforted us with. If you've picked up this wee booklet to read, chances are you have a much loved prodigal in your world.

This is a collection of scriptures, quotes from Brother Branham, excerpts from sermons of Message preachers, and other encouragements I've gathered along the journey.

Because many of these were gleaned over years and originally only intended for my own personal encouragement, some are poorly referenced or may be unreferenced. My apologies go to these writers, and I will happily update with correct references if anyone concerned can provide them.

May the Lord be your comfort and confidence as you continue to pray and believe for your loved ones.

With love from,  
*Another mum*

*freebiblestoriesnz@gmail.com*

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Guide them in their little bark, down through every  
whirlpool. Every time it gets stuck in the bushes,  
may the Angels of God push it off into  
the flowing currents of God's love.  
Grant it, Lord.

And at the end of the road, may they find a loving Home,  
and their mother and their loved ones there in Glory,  
where God stands in the gate to welcome, that day.  
Grant it, Father.

*56-0513 - Teaching On Moses*

# A DESPERATE WOMAN

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## HAGAR

Genesis 16:13 -14

And she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, **Thou God seest me**: for she said, Have I also here looked after him that seeth me?

Wherefore the well was called **Beerlahairoi**; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.

Genesis 21: 9-20

And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking.

Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac.

And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son.

And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.

And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed.

And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away: and she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

And the water was spent in the bottle, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs.

And she went, and sat her down over against him a good way off, as it were a bow shot: for she said, Let me not see the death of the child. And she sat over against him, and lift up her voice, and wept.

And **God heard the voice of the lad**; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What aileth thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is.

**Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand**; for I will make him a great nation.

And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink.

**And God was with the lad...**

There was Hagar,  
In an empty wilderness,  
Weeping for her son  
He'd mocked the promised seed.

They've left the protection of Abraham  
Now her son is suffering, thirsty, dying  
In a desert place.  
She knows that without water  
Death is nigh.

She turns away  
In fear.

Then from the boy there comes a cry,  
A cry heard by God Almighty.

An angel from heaven calls to Hagar,  
"Fear not, lift up the lad,  
and hold him in thine hand."

God opens her eyes,  
And shows her a well.  
She remembers another day and another well,  
She remembers Beerlahairoi  
And she knows once again she has a God who sees  
And she draws from the well  
Filling her vessel.  
With the water from that well  
She brings life to her boy.

There are many Hagar mothers  
Whose child of Abraham,  
Didn't recognise the presence  
Of the Promised One.

The child is driven into the desert of life,  
Out from protection  
Away from the water of life,  
Looking for something which is not,  
And they thirst.  
It's a thirst that drives them,  
Torments them, and they suffer.

The hearts of the mothers go with them,  
Turning their faces  
Fearing  
Weeping.

The struggle goes on,  
But in final desperation  
There comes a cry.

A cry from the child,  
Lonely in an empty world.  
And God hears.

Still comes heaven's call  
To weeping mothers.

It says,  
"Fear not,"  
For you have a God who sees,  
And whispers,  
"Lift up the lad,"  
Before God on your knees.  
"Hold him in thine hand,"  
He needs love and compassion.

And God will open your eyes  
To the fountain of life  
He's provided.  
Draw from His well –  
It never runs dry.

Fill your vessel  
With His Holy Spirit  
And bring water to a thirsty child  
Crying in the desert.  
And that everlasting fountain will bring  
Life to their soul.

For,  
"I will restore,"  
Says your God.

Joel 2:25a

And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten...

Psalm 86:15-16

But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, long suffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth. O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant, and *save the son of thine handmaid*.

Esther 8:6

For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?

Lamentations 2:19

Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart like water before the face of the LORD: lift up thy hands toward him for the life of thy young children, that faint for hunger in the top of every street.

Revelation 22:17b

And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

2 Kings 20:5b

Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears:

#### THOUGHTS FROM BROTHER BRANHAM

There's a broken hearted woman wanting something, patiently standing before a Master of circumstance, and saying, "Every hope is gone, but in You, there's nothing too far gone. You're the Son the of God. I don't care how many's making fun of You, or whatever about it; I believe that You're God's Servant, His Son."

I believe she'd read the Bible, and see where that Shunammite went to Elijah, fell down at his feet, for she knew that if she could ever get to that prophet...And they tried to make her leave. And she said...He said, "Go, lay this staff (like Paul laying handkerchiefs), lay this staff upon him."

But she said, "As the Lord liveth and your soul never dies, I'll not leave you." She stayed right there. She knowed that God was in His prophet, and he was the Voice of God there on the earth, 'cause he was God's

prophet in that day. There was none like him on the earth. And she stayed right there with him. So he went. And she got what she asked for.

*54-1205 - We Would See Jesus*

He careth for you; Through sunshine or shadow, He careth for you. Say, "Brother Branham, I got loved ones. I've done this, that." But He cares. He cares just the same. "I've had a lot of heartaches, Brother Branham. I've got children that's out in the world. I've got loved ones that..." He careth...(He sees every prayer, every tear.)

*61-0903 - Let Your Light So Shine Before Men*

You've got the covenant. It's written to you, swore by God. You can't fail. That makes the devil mad, sure does, when you realize who you are. Don't fear about the child, sister. God has made so...don't fear about the baby, sister. Don't do that. Just say, "God, I now accept that. It's my personal property. I am a believer. I fill out this check and say, 'In Jesus' Name, I accept that.'" That's all.

*54-0306 - The Unconditional Covenant That God Made With His People*

He's the inexhaustible Fountain of Life. And every man that's planted in Him can drink, and drink, and push out, and push out to every redemptive blessing that God has promised belongs to you and it's your personal property. And the devil hasn't got any tie to it at all. He hasn't got any legal rights. His legal rights was spoiled at Calvary.

*53-0507 - Expectations*

## ENCOURAGEMENT FROM OTHERS

When I cannot understand my Father's leading,  
And all seems to be but hard and cruel fate,  
Still I hear that gentle whisper pleading,  
God is working, God is faithful, only wait.

*LB Haines*

*If I don't draw from the fountain,  
How can the thirsty drink from me?  
If I don't keep my eyes on Jesus Christ,  
Then the blind will never see.  
To lead someone from far away,  
I need to walk close to Him each day.  
If I don't draw from the fountain,  
How can the thirsty drink from me.  
-Lafontaine*

I will restore. You say, 'My child's way out there and I don't know if there's any hope'. I will restore. (...) There will be something in every believer's heart if we're in the exodus, we're going to act just like they did in the first exodus. I'm not leaving a hoof behind. I'm not leaving a son, I'm not leaving a daughter, I'm not leaving a grandchild.

*Timothy Pruitt*

Love divine has seen and counted  
Every tear it caused to fall  
And the storm which love appointed  
Was its choicest gift of all.

*Anon*

# THE PRODIGAL SON

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Luke 15

**<sup>11</sup> *And he said, A certain man had two sons:***

The prodigal son was always a son.

Notice, look at the drama now, there's an old-fashioned, country home, let's just fix it in our minds for a moment. I can see, living there, a lovely, old couple, worked hard all their lives and had two sons. Of course, the son always falls heir to the inheritance. And then this younger son, perhaps...Let's say they went to church every Sunday, and they loved God, and they served God with all their heart.

But one day, this younger son, let's say he would start going out with a group that he had no business going to. Listen young man, here this afternoon, young lady, just as soon as you get out from under the Christian influence, you're in bad hands, you're on your road back, right then. Remember that, just as soon as you get from under the influence of the Holy Spirit, I don't care who the boy is or who the girl is, if they're not saved, keep away from them. That's exactly right. And men, you, too.

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

**<sup>12</sup> *And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me.***

The sequel shows that we may be thankful that the Lord does not always give us what we ask for.

Well, first thing you know, I can see him now, he's going to ask his daddy and his dad is getting old, and his mother is getting old. When he comes in one day, and gets tired, gets to sassing his mother and his father, first thing he said,

"Father, I want you to give me my portion. I'm tired of laying around the house here and doing these things. All I see on Sunday is go to church. And the rest of the boys, they live this way, or that way, they're all out going, have their own way. I want to do as the rest of them does."

Don't you never follow the crowd, you follow Jesus.

But that's the attitude of young people, isn't it? "I want to do like the rest of them does." Don't never you pattern yourself by them, pattern your pattern by Jesus.

Then I hear him say,

"Well, you..." I hear the father say, "Well, son, this is the only way I have of making a living, this is your only livelihood."

"Well, I have an inheritance, you give it to me. My right!" What is your right? I can see the poor old father, it bothered him very much,

"Well, what are you going to do, son?"

He said, "I'm going down to the city, and live like the rest of them."

Said, "Well, can't you stay with mother and I? We love you with all of our hearts, and we want to be good to you, we've done everything we can."

But that wouldn't satisfy, Satan got a hold of the boy. So, he was going down to the city to live like the rest of the worldly people.

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

***And he divided unto them his living.***

His father let him go free. God lets us go free in order that we will come back to him of our own free will.

*Timothy Yung*

Then I see his father tell the mother, say,

“Mother, you know what’s happened? Our boy has got with the wrong crowd. He’s a young man now, so he’s asked me to sell the farm, and take all that I have and divide it among he and his brother. I can’t talk him out of it.”

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

This old mother, I can see her in our story this afternoon, see her go to her son, and say, “Son, mother has washed over the board, and ironed, to try to do everything she could for you.”

Now, I can hear him say, “Mama, if you would get all away from that stuff! That’s old time, I don’t want nothing like that, I’m going to have my way. I’m nearly of age now, I’m going to have my way about it.”

I can see her put her arms around him and hug him. She would hug him, he turned his head...?...He don’t want a kiss in public. No affections...?...The Bible said they would be this way, Paul speaks it, without natural affections. That’s the way it is today. The child rules the home now, instead of the father and mother. They’re the one who does the talking. It’s a shame! Without natural affections. I can see the mother pat his cheeks.

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

<sup>13</sup> *And not many days after the younger son gathered all together,*

Then, I can see him put a sale sign up, sell the old farm, get all the goods together, and divide it up among the boys. Mother, dad will just live as long as their portion lasts, maybe, and then it'll be over.

Notice, I can see when they divided the portion to the young boy, got his money in his pocket, he said, "Now, I'll have a good time."

The next morning, I can see him go and say to his mother,

"Old lady, pack my clothes now, I'm going to leave in the morning." Oh, my! How that poor old mother will go away, get the little things that he wore when he was a little boy, tuck them away, look at them. I can see her pick up a little pair of shoes that she... You know mothers like to keep things like that. Mama has got my old shoes that I wore when I was a little baby, she's got the long dress like they had the babies then. It's a treasure to a mother's heart.

I can see this old mother take these little shoes, and set them up on the organ, get down there, and pray, and say, "O God, take care of my boy. Leaving me now, I..." How many of you here have an old-fashioned mother like that? Let's see your hands. Oh, aren't they lovely and sweet?

"Take care of my boy, he's gone out with the world, and I don't know what will happen to him, only take care of him, Father." Praying.

Did you ever have your mother pray for you? Oh, when my little, old mother, I've seen her go back in the room to herself when we would be without food, and kneel down on her knees, and cry out to God! God give us some more old-fashioned, praying mothers like that. That's the backbone of our nation, that's right, good God-saved mothers.

I can see her crying out to God, "God, take care of my boy." No matter what you ever do, she's forgiving. Her heart is always ready to forgive and come back.

Then I can see the old dad, he's just worrying, walking back and forth, up and down on the outside, from the barn up to the house, back and forth. I can hear mother go at the door, and say, "What's the matter, Dad?"

"Oh, I don't know, Mother." You know, our parents, if they're good, God-saved people, they worry about their children. I'm a father myself, and I got a little boy setting here, listening at me right now, God knows I love him. I'd...If one of us had to die this afternoon, "Let me die ten thousand times to his one." That's right. Let him stay. It's a love that we have for our offspring. That's the reason God so loved the world, His offspring, that He came Himself to die that we might be free, paid the penalty Himself.

I notice, this father, weary, walking back and forth, up and down. The next day when it come time for the boy to leave, I can see him pack his little suitcase and get out there, I can see him go round, say, "So long, folks," and start off.

Mother say, "Just a moment, Honey. Before you go, let's have prayer one more time." Kneel down on the floor, I can see the old mother and dad with their arms around one another, praying to God, "God, we've raised him and took him this far, he's gone out from away from us now, wandering. Please, Father, take care of him."

I can hear him say...Oh, just restless while they're praying, they didn't want to hear them prayers of mother and dad no more, he had other things on his mind. That's the reason sometimes we're impatient, just can't wait a few minutes, can't pray, can't wait for a prayer. But there'll come a time, friends, you'll have all Eternity to think about it. Pray now, be ready now to meet the Master.

I can hear them pray and get up, mother try to hug him, and he turn his head. His dad put his arms around him, he cries, "Oh, you all go on off!" and start off went over the hill.

I can see father and mother standing there, with their hands, arms around one another, waving good-bye to him as he went off over the hill, down into the city to be with the rest of the world. And this parent, I can see them return back into the house again, weeping, crying, praying.  
*50-0827A - Prodigal*

***and took his journey into a far country,***

He wanted to go away from his father's prayers and influence.  
*D.L.M*

***and there wasted his substance with riotous living.***

Oh, God, how true that is. You care for us, Lord. We're not worth caring for, but You care just the same. You cared so much till You gave Your Own Life that we might be saved.

Around the altar tonight is children, middle-aged, teenage, older age. You care for all. You care for the little ones. You care for the teenage. You care for the old and infirmed. You care for the young mother, the young father, the old mother, the old father, for the little boy, the little girl. You care.

You care for the uncareable, those who have not been careful in life, wasted our lives with riotous living. We've done everything that's wrong. We're not worthy of Your grace, Lord. But, God, we're hungering.  
*61-0903 - Let Your Light So Shine Before Men*

<sup>14</sup> ***And when he had spent all,***

I can see him get with the big crowd down there, and as long as his money lasted, he was a good fellow. That's the way the world treats you, as long as you got money, you got friends, but when your money is gone, your friends are gone; that's dry-weather friends.

I know a Friend Who will stick by you if you haven't got a penny, Jesus Christ, the Son of God. I've been to a place where I had not a cent, He loved me. He loved me just as much if I wouldn't have a penny as if we'd had a million dollars, He loves you just the same. That pure, holy, unadulterated love, comes from God alone down into His people. That's the way we should love one another with that godly love.

Notice, and I can see him in the great, in the places with gambling devices, and halls of ill-fame, and so forth. And after while his money was gone, and his friends was gone. He was a popular boy, he could have a date with any of the girls, but when his money was gone, they were gone with the crowd. That's just the way the devil leaves you, as long as you got money, and popular, all right, but when that time wears out, you're finished, that's all, before the world.

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

***there arose a mighty famine in that land;***

Famines and other miseries are messengers God sends after His wandering children. *Unknown*

***and he began to be in want.***

The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply.  
Psalm 16.4

When you go on, or are about to go on, a path not ordained to bring you to the image that God has foreseen of you, unseen forces are ignited. Angels receive orders and actions are initiated appropriate to the situation.

Strange and inexplicable things start happening on your job, in your home, among your associates, and in your life ... all designed to bring back to what you're supposed to be. This is the grace of God.

*Jason Watkins*

But we have to have faith in that offering that Christ made, that He made us this kind of a promise, that "Whatever you ask the Father in My Name, that I will do. When thou prayest, believe that you receive what you've asked for, and you shall have it."

Now, if I am praying that God will save these teenage children, and I believe with all my heart He will do it, see that's the same way Job stood. Say, "Oh, look at this kid, how he's doing." I don't care what he's doing or what she's doing, I still have put that child in the hand of Almighty God and my, "me, and my house shall be saved." See? Because I...

Even though I may pass on before they do, but somehow, before they leave here, God will twist them right, down on the trail, I believe that, somehow another He will make it so miserable for them, till they have to do it. See? And that's the way I believe, it's, "Thy, and thy house shall be saved."

*61-0808 - Thy House*

**<sup>15</sup> And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.**

Then I can see him, he had to get himself a job, so he went to a citizen of the country, a hog raiser. Look where he dropped from now, a Jew, not even supposed to put their hands on the carcass of a hog. And he was in need, he was starving, and he had to take a job, and they give him the worst thing. That's the way the devil does, just as soon as he can get you started down the hill, he'll tramp you with everything he's got. (...)

And he joined himself with a citizen of the country, and the citizen give him two big slop buckets to go slop the hogs. Think of the place, a Jewish boy out there slopping hogs in the pigpen, away from mother, away from religion that he once had to keep away from hogs, now he was rooting in it.

That's the way the devil will do, he'll get you to smoke your first cigarette, telling you there's no harm in it, and after a while, you're a cigarette fiend. He'll tell you there's no harm in taking a sociable drink.  
*50-0827A - Prodigal*

**<sup>16</sup> And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat:**

There is never a famine of husks. It was not a famine of swine flesh. But there was a famine of that which was clean and fit for a Jew to eat.

There is never a famine of husks. You will always find plenty of devil's food for hungry souls but it will not satisfy.

*H.M.*

What if we were out tonight, out of the Ark, and didn't know just where we were, wandering souls like the raven that was turned out of the ark? He was satisfied with living upon the dead carcasses that was floating on the water yet. But like the little dove had to find its way back to the ark and knock on the door, or, the window, until Father Noah let her in, and we're so happy, tonight, to know that Father God has let us in this Ark.  
*62-0124 - Have Not I Sent Thee?*

The first thing you know, we will see them...The first in the ark: There was a dove, and there was a crow. Both of them of them was birds; one could fly just same place the other one was, and both set on the same—same roost, perhaps, on the same floor, the second floor of the ark, both of them birds. One could fly where the other one was. One of them the

spirit of Christ, and the other one antichrist...The only way you could tell them, was test their diet. They turned the crow out, and that crow was satisfied with eating old dead bodies, flying from one to one, and clawing around. He come...He was satisfied to be out there in the things of the world. But when the dove flew out, she couldn't find no rest for the soles of her feet, and she come back again. Brother, I'm telling you, if you're ever once borned of the Spirit of God, the world stinks to you, and the things of the world are gone. That's right. You can't stomach any more. Why couldn't the dove eat it? Because the dove is one bird don't have a gall; it couldn't digest it.

*55-0607 - The True Vine And A False Vine*

***and no man gave unto him.***

With all his banquets and rioting, he had not gained one true friend.

*Unknown*

*If - in dealing with one who does not respond, I weary of the strain, and slip from under a burden then I know nothing of Calvary's love.*

*If - I cannot bear to be like the father who did not soften the rigors of the far country: if, in this sense, I refuse to allow the law of God (the way of transgressors is hard) to take effect, because of the distress it causes me to see that law in operation, then I know nothing of Calvary's love.*

*If - I have not the patience of my Saviour with souls who grow slowly; if I know little of travail (a sharp painful thing) till Christ be fully formed in them, then I know nothing of Calvary's love.*

*Amy Carmichael*

But only thing the devil wants you to do is to start, and he'll take you on, get over on his ground one time and watch him. You know what it means to do wrong, but there's an influence of the power of darkness, the prince of the power of the air that leads you trapped into these things. You've

got to stand up, separate yourself from the things of the world and come out and live for Christ. That's right.

And I can see this child, now he's feeding hogs. Here he is down in the pigpen, slopping the hogs and eating from the same slop bucket, feeding the hogs. Think of it: what he had left, and what he had then. And the portion that he had spent was really his father's that he had earned. But here he was in the pigpen, all he could hear was the grunting of hogs.

That's the way it is tonight, or, today, there's a many a mother's boy now, out in the roadhouses, drunk, out in hall places of ill fame. Many young ladies, prostitutes on the streets. Why? Because they got away from home, got away from God, got away from the Bible, got away from Its teachings, went out to live with the rest of the world. You stay away from the world.

The Bible said if you love the world or the things of the world, the love of the Father is not even in you. Stay away from it. And as long as that desire is in your heart to do that, come back to the altar. Amen. Stay there until it's all gone. Oh, my! That's the kind of old-fashioned religion that I'm speaking about, the kind that takes the desire out of you.

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

***<sup>17</sup> And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!***

His will took him away. His wants brought him back.

*Unknown*

If a sparrow cannot fall in the street without You knowing it, how much more do You know when a child of Yours lifts its hand towards heaven for bread.

*59-1004E Why Cry? Speak!*

Now, I can see the chap down there now, laying in a hog pen. Nighttime, that ol' place would stink, so I suppose he was left in the hog pen, lay down by the side of the hogs in the trough.

One night, I see a restless mother and dad begin speak about their boy...?...Hear mother say, "I'm just so restless, Dad, I don't know what to do. I just keep thinking about our boy. Wonder where he's at, wonder if he's got something to eat."

I hear dad say, "Well, we've always been taught that all things work together for good to them love God. Let's pray." I can see them get down on the floor and begin to praying about...?...I can hear them pray, "O God, take care of our boy. Wherever he is, whatever state he's in, take care of him, Father, and send him home." Where's he at? Down in the hog pen, going to the hog pen.

The Angel of God come to him, "Boy, wake up." Talked to him, said, "Oh, what about you just get back home to them.

"Think of my father that has all the wealth that he has and all the things that he has given to me, here I am laying here, dying of hunger, laying in a hog pen, eating..."

The Bible said he came to himself.

And that's what the church needs to do today, is come to themselves, to realize Who is your Father, for sometimes we act as though we have no Heavenly Father. For all the goodness of Heaven belongs to the church, Divine healing, salvation, freedom from worry or anything, all belongs to the church. Jesus died, and we are, we inherit all that God has through Him, heirs of the Kingdom, rich. My Father is rich in houses and lands, He holds the wealth of the world in His hands!

That's how we are, if we would just come to ourselves. Oh, I can see him as he begins to come to himself and say, "Oh, if I could just go home! But I've sinned, and I'm no more worthy to go home. So what can I do?"

And he...I can think of it here, time when he was a little boy, when he was sick, his mother rocked the cradle to take him back and forth, up and down in the room and love him and care for him, and now there's nobody to love and care for him, he's out in the cold world to shift for himself. All he hears is grunting of those hogs.

And I can hear him begin to sing an old song, maybe that his mother knew. I believe it goes something like this: If I could hear my mother pray again, If I could hear her tender voice again! How glad I would be, would mean so much to me, If I could hear my mother pray again.

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

**<sup>18</sup> I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,  
<sup>19</sup> And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.**

I can hear him say, "I'll arise, and go to my father." (...) Here he comes, at the rising of the sun across the fields, shoes off his feet, clothes tattered and torn, staggering home.

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

When the prodigal son came running back into the arms of the father, there was nothing left that the son had to offer. In fact, he had lost everything that the father had given him and was now broken and spilled out. But this condition is exactly what compelled the father to run to his son and not even wait for him to come to him. This broken and empty state was exactly what the son needed to realize the full beauty of grace, freely given to someone who does not deserve it.

*Our Daily Strength*

**<sup>20</sup> And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off,**

His father waited. Never force a bud to open. It will in its own time. To force it will destroy it.

*Timothy Yung*

***his father saw him,***

Love is far-sighted

*Unknown*

Then I notice down there again, I can see father get real restless, get up and pull his coat and walk out through the gate, a moonlight night, looks down across the path, wondering, "Where is my boy?"

An old song my dad used to sing when we first...? ...old father singing like this. I used to see dad, he had an old, red handkerchief, he used to get out and stick it halfway out of his pocket. He used to get up and sing this song: *O where is my boy tonight? O where is my boy tonight? My heart overflows, for I love him, he knows; O where is my boy tonight? Oh, my!* Looking down the road to his boy who is far away.

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

***and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.***

No depths were too low for the father's love to reach. This is the only place where we read of God being in a hurry. He did not run to create a world, but He ran to put His arms around the neck of a poor prodigal.

*H.M.*

The father and mother, down through the gates they went. No matter what he had done, he's coming home now. Run, threw their arms around him, and said, "Go, kill the fatted calf, let's make merry, this is my

son that was dead and is alive again. He was lost and now he's found. Put a ring on his finger, shoes on his feet. Put the best robe you got in the house on him." That's the attitude of the Father to every sinner here this afternoon.

*50-0827A - Prodigal*

***<sup>21</sup> And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.***

When you pray, your heart treasures up good things. You will need a heart full of good thoughts when the prodigal comes down the dusty road dragging his baggage.

*M.Pearl*

What if he tried to say, "Wonder if I've got some money I could pay dad back (what I spent in running) with?" But he knowed the nature of his father, and he said, "I will arise and go to my father."

The father never said, "Wait a minute, son! Are you bringing my money back?" No. He never charged him for his sins. He was glad that he was coming back. He was glad that he had come to himself, because he was his son. He was his own child. He was glad he was on his road home.

Now, he didn't endorse his sin, but he was glad when he come to himself and said, "I have sinned before my God, and before my father. I will arise and go to him."

*59-0802 - Without Money Or Without Price*

***<sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:***

***<sup>23</sup> And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:***

***<sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.***

Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments, despise our persons - but they are helpless against our prayers.

*Sidlow Baxter*

And remember, where Jonah went, God was in the boat; God was in the storm; God was in the fish. He went on being right along with Jonah until His perfect will was done. That's right. And if He's ever after you, you might dodge over here, and dodge over there, but you'll be miserable until you come back and do the thing you started out for Him to do at the first place. See? Don't go, run from the Presence of God.

*65-0217 - A Man Running From The Presence Of The Lord*

And many, there'll be many there that we didn't even think would be there. For, you know, it's at that time, that I believe that "the bread that we have cast upon the human, troubled waters, will return to us on that Day." When we see the effects of our testimony, on people that we didn't understand their action towards It, will probably be there. What a Day that will be! And then, also, the seeds that we sowed, not even thinking that what they would do, but here they are. They brought forth precious fruits, and we'll see them on that Day, the wayward loved ones and relatives.

*59-0510M - Mother's Day*

## FLEEING FROM YOU

Fleeing from You,  
nothing he sees  
of Your preceding  
as he flees.

Choosing his own path  
how could he know  
Your hand directs  
where he shall go.

Thinking he's free,  
'free at last,'  
unaware that Your hand  
holds him fast.

Poor prodigal!  
seeking a 'where' from  
'whence,'  
how does one escape  
Omnipotence?

Waiting for darkness  
to hide in night,  
not knowing, with You  
dark is as light.

Ruth Bell Graham

*From 'Prodigals and Those Who Love Them'*  
Used with permission

# A SON IN EGYPT

## OR, WHAT IF MY FAILURES CAUSED THIS?

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Romans 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 42:16

And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.

### JOSEPH

Genesis 37:3-4

Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours.

And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

***Excerpt from: 'For the Purpose of Saving Life' - Pastor Dean Gilchrist, 14 June 2020***

Notice that this story begins by setting the scene of Joseph's brothers hatred for Joseph, and it seemed that they had a good enough reason to hate him because firstly, he told their dad about all the bad things they got up to in secret, and then on top of that, Jacob happened to love Joseph more than he loved them, and then Jacob made Joseph a coat of many colours, (three things), and so that made them all jealous, and they ended

up hating him because of all these things . That is just the human nature that we are all born with, that is why we need to be born again with another nature – the nature of God.

So we notice that even though there were bad family forces at work against Joseph, God was actually in all of this because this background hatred of his brothers was necessary in order for all the other events that followed so that God could bring about all the events of his life for the purpose of saving them and their offspring.

If this family situation hadn't been this way, then the rest of the story and events could never have taken place – it's a paradox.

Genesis 45: 4 - 8a

And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest.

And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God:

***Excerpts from: 'For the Purpose of Saving Life' - Pastor Dean Gilchrist, 14 June 2020***

In other words, by Joseph's brothers hating Joseph, and throwing him in a pit, and selling him as a slave, and sending him to Egypt to be sold was actually a part of the plan of God's great deliverance for them. So if God

dealt like that for that family, and if he is the same yesterday, today, and forever, then we know that that is how he is also dealing with us even when everything seems wrong and messed up with our lives also – but we must also come to realise like Joseph, that it is not all the wrongs of life at all, but it is God in control all along.

So when Joseph gets to the end of the story of his life (from the prison house to the right hand of Pharaoh), he begins to look back on the events of his life and realises that all the “bad happenings” of his life were not bad things at all, in fact they were all working together for his good, and they were all designed by God for the purpose of saving life – and if we could only realise and understand that ourselves, all the things that happen to us that we think are so bad, but are actually purposed by God to bring about the saving of life for us and our offspring also, because God can’t act or deal any different with your life than he did with Joseph’s because he’s the same yesterday, today, and forever.

And so when we study the life of Joseph we know that everything that happens to him in his experiences is for the purpose of saving life. And so that is revealing the nature of God of how he deals with us in the experiences of our lives.

So when it seems like everything goes the opposite to how you think it should go, then you can be certain that God is on the job in your life, because that is the way it has always been in the scriptures concerning the elect of God.

They needed Him. We need Him. How He dealt with them, is how He deals with us. There’s no difference. Their family dynamics, and some of our family dynamics and things, got messed up in their family, messed up in our family. God’s in control of it to bring us out - all at the other end. So we’re taking courage by that - for the purpose of saving life. (...) Joseph’s brothers hating him was for the purpose of saving life. It doesn’t make it right, but God takes what’s wrong and makes it right. That’s what we can have confidence in Him, for that, for our own personal life.

***Psalm 139:5***

***Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.***

For we are told in our Psalm that He “besets” our path. We have some of us known what it was to be “beset” by unwelcome and unpleasant people or things. But we never have thought, perhaps, that we were beset by God, that He loves us so that He cannot leave us alone, and that no coldness nor rebuffs on our parts can drive Him away. Yet it is gloriously true! And, moreover, He besets us “behind” as well as before. Just as a mother does. She goes after her children and picks up all they have dropped, and clears away all the rubbish they have left behind them. We mothers begin this in the nursery with the blocks and playthings, and we go on with it all our lives long; seeking continually to set straight that which our children have left crooked behind them; often at the cost of much toil and trouble, but always with a love that makes the toil and trouble nothing in comparison to caring for the children we love. What good mother ever turned away the poor little tearful darling who came with a tangled knot for her unraveling, or refused to help the eager rosy boy to unwind his kite-strings? Suppose it has been their own fault that the knots and tangles have come, still her love can sympathize with and pity the very faults themselves, and all the more does she seek to atone for them.

All this and more does our God do for us from our earliest infancy, long even before we know enough to be conscious of it, until the very end of our earthly lives. We have seen Him before us perhaps, but we have never thought of Him as behind us as well. Yet it is a blessed fact that He is behind us all the time, longing to make crooked things straight, to untangle our tangled skeins, and to atone continually for the wrong we have done and the mistakes we have made. If any of us, therefore, have that in our past which has caused us anxiety or remorse, let us lift up our heads in a happy confidence from henceforth, that the God who is behind us will set it all straight somehow, if we will but commit it to Him, and can even make our very mistakes and misdoings work together for good. Ah! it is a grand thing to be “beset” by God.

*Hannah Whitall Smith*

# THE PRODIGAL OF A PROPHET

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*Excerpt from Billy Paul Branham's testimony  
'Generation - Remembering the Life of a Prophet'  
by Angela Smith*

Before I was saved, I loved to play cards and gamble. Sometimes, I'd play cards all night, and I was good enough that I would get to play in some of the big games.

One night I learned that there was a big poker game coming to town. A group of gamblers from Chicago were coming in for this game, and there would be a lot of money involved. Of course, all of this was very illegal, and when I walked into the back of the pool room where they were playing, there was a guard at every door, watching for the police.

Normally, everybody knew everybody, but on this night there was a new dealer at the table, and he said to me, "This is a closed poker game."

I said, "I play here all the time."

He said, "No, this is a closed game, you can't play."

The man that owned the place said, "Oh, he's okay. He plays all the time. That's Reverend Branham's boy."

The dealer said, "Oh, so you're Reverend Branham's boy?"

Oh my. I said, "No."

But the owner spoke up and said, "Yes he is."

I said, "No, Reverend Branham wouldn't have a boy like me." I couldn't stand the thought of connecting him with the mess that I was associating with.

At that time, I didn't go to church very often because I was ashamed of my life. Instead, I would sit across the street from the church at Uncle Doc's house. One night I went over to the church and sat on the back row. Dad came out to preach and I don't know if he even saw me, but it didn't make any difference. He took a text from the return of the prodigal son. There he was, talking about the boy that had been away from God, and how his father looked up and saw him and said, "Go get the fatted calf and the best robe, my boy's come home tonight."

Oh my! The Lord was dealing with me, but I was resisting the Spirit with all my might. A couple of deacons who were standing in the back came over and began to encourage me to go to the altar. I didn't make a scene, but I didn't want their attentions, so I got up and left.

I was living at my grandmother's house, and a couple of days later, Dad called me and said, "The fish are biting; I'll be by to pick you up." When we started fishing, we were spread a good ways apart, but slowly he kept getting a little closer, and little closer.

Finally, he was right beside me, and he said, "Dad was glad to see you at church Sunday night. I hope you didn't think I preached that message because you were there."

I said, "No, I know you wouldn't do that."

He said, "The Lord laid that message on my heart a few weeks ago. I saw the brothers come up and start dealing with you. I want you to know that I called them into the office after you left and I told them, 'I really appreciate it that you have a burden for Billy. Don't ever stop praying for

him, but don't you ever do that to my boy again. God doesn't work like that. He works on both ends at the same time."

Not long after that, I gave my heart to the Lord.

Looking back, I can see that the relationship between Dad and me was both unique and amazing. When I was away from God, he told me, "No matter how bad you think it is, no matter how deep in sin you go, I will always be your daddy and I'll always be your buddy. But I won't compromise with you on that sin life. When you're out there and your buddies give up on you, remember, Daddy will always be there for you." That's the way he was.

#### THOUGHTS FROM BROTHER BRANHAM

Don't try to push anything on anybody. Just be salty; they'll long to be like you.

*64-0830E - Questions And Answers #4*

There by the grace of God that cruel-hearted hunter, after seeing that display of real genuine love, it tore the heart out of the hunter. The love that the mother deer was displaying, she couldn't help that; she was a mother. Let me tell you, brothers and sisters, when the people who belong to the church of the living God will display the real Christian love, it'll conquer more sinners than all the other things you can put together.

*57-0310E - Hear Ye Him*

That's the way you win a loved one, is by being loyal. Being loyal is the way you win loved ones. Stay to your conviction. Be sure that you're right with God, and then ever remain there. Just stay right with it. Nothing can ever move you from it if you'll just stay right with it.

Now, we are all going to make mistakes. Just remember. And when you're looking at one another, don't look at the other person's mistake. See, don't do that, because, remember, you make mistakes, too. But look to Christ who is guiding this person. And if they need some help, then you pray for them. That's the way we get along, see, pray. And, remember, when you are praying for somebody else in that kind of a fix, God will honor and heal you when you're praying for somebody else. That's right. That's what Christianity is based upon, to help one another, do for one another, be kind to one another, understanding to one another.

*61-1015M - Questions And Answers*

Always remember, friends, love changes things, just love. It'll do the work. Now, love Him when you come.

*55-1009 The Way to Have Fellowship*

And as he was standing there, and the gray hair, I thought of my daddy. I thought, "If daddy would have lived to be about this age, he would have been about the same age, man as this, around sixty-five or seventy years old." And I entered into a love of that man, the way that I thought. "Maybe he never had a decent meal, in his life. Maybe he never sit down at a table, in his life." And all this, and then walking along in darkness.

Then Something come into my heart. God be merciful! He's a man. He's a brother. Then, when That strikes, there is something anoints. There's a creation moves around, and you're...It's projected to this person. In a few moments, I heard him hollering something over my shoulder. And he was hollering, "I can see. I can see."

What was it? Divine love. Sympathy had been projected, by the Holy Spirit, into this man. And by that, at the end of the road, where he couldn't...Nothing could be done. And love had taken its place, and love had met love, then sovereign grace went to work. And God, through sovereign grace, restored the sight to the man. See? First, you have to enter into that thought.

That's the way you have to do to a sinner. Many people pray for sinners. That's all right. But that's not the way to win a sinner. It's your business to win the sinner. You don't win him by praying for him. You win him, win him by talking to him, and introducing to him, Christ. That's your business. That's your duty, is to win sinners by talking to them. And projecting to them the love of God, through the Word of God, that wins the sinner. Someone say, "I wouldn't go to church. I sure like that woman. I like that fellow." See, because you are winning them. If you stayed home and just prayed for the sinner, never went to contact him, there is very little can be done. But you've got to pray and then go. That's right. Go and do it. Now, the projecting of this love.

*56-0826 - Divine Love*

You that's got sickness in your home, you that's got a wayward boy, have you talked to him, a girl that doesn't obey God, have you talked to them, put your arms around them, or have you just neglected it expecting the Sunday school teacher to do it? God gave the child to you, it's your duty to talk to them.

*59-0706 - Thinking On Our Ways*

They have the change from a boy to a man; from a girl to a woman. About sixteen, seventeen years old, they get like a bunch of just fly-by-nights. And if you can just suffer with them during that age. I got a daughter in that age right now, Rebekah. Pray for her. And Billy, oh, every one of us, we come through that little frantic age. And so we must suffer with them, realizing it's something that they have to go through.

*63-0707M - The Indictment*

And I took Meda about a hour. I said, "Meda, take your hands off." "Me? That's my kid!"

I said, "Isn't it mine too?" All right. I said, "If she was dying this morning, you'd have to commit her to God for her eternal destination. Why can't we commit her to God now for her earthly journey?"

And she said, "Well, that's my kid!"

I said, "It's mine too." I said, "Now, can you take your..." "Me not say nothing to her?" I said, "I never said that. We'll quit scolding her, just advise her. She needs a buddy, and you're the one to be her buddy, you and I. We're her parents."

These kids today needs a buddy. If they had a mother and father would stay home and take care of them, instead of out here in a barroom running around all night and things like that, wouldn't have—wouldn't have a juvenile delinquency. See?

They got away from the Bible; they all went to church and made bunco games and things like that and...See? You're trying to polish up like Satan's ground out Hollywood's. You could never bring Hollywood into the church, you've got to...I mean bring the church into Hollywood, you've got to bring Hollywood to your grounds. See? Not go on their grounds, let them come over here. We got something they know nothing about.

So we there got down on our knees and committed it to God. I said, "I know she's eighteen years old, will be in a few days, and she...and a girl that age will think about boyfriends, and we've kept her in." I said, "I never wanted to see her get married. I want to put her in the office here, do the work. I want to see her filled with the Spirit and live like that." Well, we all wanted that.

She said, "Well, we can't do that." Said, "She just won't listen to it."

I said, "Wait a minute! We've raised her all we can, now put her in the hands of God, commit her." And I said, "Then when she does anything say, 'Becky, darling, mother don't want you to do that, but I'm your pal; I'll

stick by you.' See? Let her know that you love her. She's going to get somebody to love her, and it might be the wrong woman." See? I said, "You be the woman does the loving." I said, "Honey, that sounds kind of crude, but people come everywhere, and set on personal interviews, and things." I said, "I'm so common; we're common to one another, because we're husband and wife, but we never let that happen. You must remember, this is the Name of the Lord!"

So she said, "All right." We got down and committed it to God. Said we'd take our hands off it.

That afternoon she come in; she said, "Well, I guess you're still saying I ain't going over there!"

Meda said, "No, I never said nothing about it." Said, "You know, Mother don't want you to do that; and you know that it liked to killed your daddy when he heard you up there playing that boogie-woogie music, ever what it was, with that girl." Said, "Now, he didn't want you to do that, and we don't want you to do that, Becky, but we just committed it to the Lord. I want you to know we love you. Whatever you do, we still love you."

She hollered, said, "I'm going anyhow!"

Said, "All right, Dear." So went ahead. Said, "All right, I'll have supper ready when you get back." She never did go! No, she's never went since. See?

Not long after that she met George; George is a Christian. That settled it then. She was trying to tell Mrs. Wood about it the other day. She said, "Oh, I got awful wild." Said, "Daddy and Mother committed me to the Lord." Said, "Awwful wild." But that was wild to us; we don't want to get any wilder than that. See? Just let it go like that. All right.

*64-0823M - Questions And Answers #1*

You ought to put that child that's in need down there, and read the Bible, lay your hands over on their head, call out to God, "God, be merciful! Spare my daughter, my son."

*55-0501A - Fellowship*

And I said, "Well, then, when you find out what Intelligence that tells that sap in that tree to go down in the root to hide, to come back again, and bring up something to benefit somebody, I'll tell you the same Intelligence was what told me that that woman was laying over there dying with a cancer, and if she'd obey the commandments of God, she'd be healed."

He said, "You're not that preacher?"

I said, "I am."

"What's your name?"

I said, "Branham."

He said, "That's the guy. Can you prove it?"

I said, "Well, I guess I could." And there under that apple tree, with that simple little thing, Life, I led him to Christ.

Last year I was down there again, I walked up to the tree, and a woman was setting over behind there, his wife, peeling apples. I asked for him, he was gone on.

She said, "Mr. Branham, God ever be with you." She said, "Year after year we tried, we done everything, but that simple little story about this apple tree, brought him to Christ."

So life is so simple, but yet, it's so great. Let's just put what we got, so that we'll have a resurrection someday, and not only us, let's bring forth somebody else with us when we come to that day. That all right? Can we pray?

Heavenly Father, You made life so simple, the way so simple, so plain. Let it be far from us to try to ever twist it in such a way to bring in our own, what we think, intelligence. Let's just take the simplicity that God has placed before us there, use that to win souls for Christ.

*62-0719B - Life*

One time this little woman had received the Holy Ghost. She was a very sweet little person. Well, she'd had a hard life, and her husband was an alcoholic. And so, she just kept on; she bore with him. He says, "You want to go to church, Honey, take off!" But now, he went down to the saloon, down at the old Brown Derby, down here. Going on. So they hung out down there all the time, used to be Bonifers. Many of you old-timers here remember when Bonifer had there on the corner of...It's called Brown Derby now, I believe it is.

So, hanging around down there, and the first thing you know, one night come up a question about church and about Christians. One of the old drunks setting there said, "There ain't no such a thing as Christians anymore. And there is no such a thing. All this bunch of hypocrites," said, "you see them out here smoking, drinking, doing the same thing that we do, and," said, "call themselves Christians. There is no such."

This one drunk raised up and said, "Just a minute! There's one that I know about."

Said, "Who is it?"

Said, "It's my wife." See? She'd become salty. He was catching it all the time. He said, "I bet if she was put to a squeeze..." He said, "No, she's still a Christian; I'll prove it to you." Said, "I tell you what let's do; let's go up home, and I'll show you whether she's a Christian or not." Said, "Let's go up home, and now, let's really be drunk. We're going to act like we're really drunk."

Knocked at the door, come in staggering over everything and..."Why the chair setting around this way?" and everything. And she set them all a

chair and (his guests, you know)—and tried to make them just as welcome as could be. Said, “I want you to fix us some supper.” And so they...She went out and fixed some. Said, “We want ham and eggs.” He knowed they had it, so they fixed the ham and eggs. When he got there at the table, he looked at them like that, picked up his plate, and slammed the stuff on the floor, said, “You know, I don’t like my eggs like that. Come on boys let’s get out of here anyhow,” like that.

They went out and set down like that, you know. And she come out; she said, “Dear, I’m sorry I didn’t get them fixed; I’ll fix some more for you.”

“Oh, nonsense, you knowed I didn’t want them that way in the first place,” just carrying on like that. They went out there, and set down, and act like they was drunk. They heard her in there kind of snubbing to herself, singing real low voice: *Must Jesus bear the cross alone, All the world go free? There’s a cross for everyone, And there’s a cross for me. This consecrated cross I’ll bear, Till death shall set me free.*

One drunk looked at the other one, said, “She’s a Christian; she’s got it!” And that little woman led her husband, plus these others to Christ that night. See? Why? See? Just be real sweet.

*64-0830M - Questions And Answers #3*

Friends, I’m not no little boy no more.  
I’ve seen a many test, but I’ve never seen nothing  
yet could override love. It just takes everything out of the way. Love  
conquers wild animal. Love conquers.  
It’s just the most conquering force there is,  
because it’s God.

*55-1115 - Blind Bartimaeus*

# THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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Psalm 119:176

I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments.

Ezekiel 34:16

I will seek that which is lost, and bring again that which was driven away...

Matt 18:11-14

For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

Mark 6:34

And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

Ezekiel 34:12

As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep *that are* scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

Luke 15:4

What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

#### THOUGHTS FROM BROTHER BRANHAM

Now let me show you some love of God. But when a sheep was lost, He didn't use His finger, He laid him upon His shoulders, and He took His whole Being, hands, sheep around His shoulder. The strongest, most powerful part of man is across his shoulders and back. You know that. For all of His arm muscles and muscles move out, and He taking the whole sheep; put Him upon His shoulder and here He comes, not with His finger, to cast out a little, old devil, but here He comes with His...all of His muscles of His leg, all the muscles of His arm, moving through the wilderness, packing the lost sheep on His shoulder.

*54-0103M - Questions And Answers #1*

Now, another thing you notice about sheep and the shepherd. You know it's a disgrace for the shepherd to lose one sheep. Did you know that? It's a reproach on the shepherd. Now, I'm going...Now, hold wide now. Oh, my, yes, sir. If the shepherd loses one sheep it is a disgrace on him. "All the Father has given Me will come, and none's lost." See, that's..."All that comes to Me..." All right, the shepherd can't afford to lose the sheep. That's the reason, you backslider tonight, He's still honking—haunt—hanging around your heart, trying to draw you back to the fold, because He once kissed you, and you kissed Him and told Him that you loved Him and raised your hands and praised Him, and you backslid and went out there, and got all butchered up and wounded up in your spirit. But He still holds around you all the time, "Come on back, wandering sheep. I just can't afford to let you be lost." Maybe the little sheep that He had to go way out on the mountain to find, all through the place, maybe you're

that sheep tonight, laying out there wounded somewhere. But the shepherd can't afford to lose one sheep.

You know how the shepherd knows his sheep from other sheep? The shepherd knows it, if you'll notice, that all the sheep are branded. Aren't you glad you're branded? You know out into the west we used to brand the sheep all the time. And that brand...You know, sometimes when you brand a sheep or a cow, it's not very pleasant while you're branding, but he's sure branded after he gets through. We used to...I would work on a cattle ranch; we'd rope these cattle, and then, what we call bulldog them a lot of times, or throw them. And as soon as you threw them...My job was to pack the iron. I was too little to throw the steers, so I'd had to pack the iron, keep it hot and run over there. And they'd take this iron and slap it down on top of that cow or sheep that they were branding. And, oh, my, you talk about burning. But, brother, he was marked for the rest of his time. So sometime when the Gospel is preached, harsh, hard, It burns, and stings to the core. You have to leave a lot of things that you once held onto, but you're marked, brother. Don't worry.

And when the sheep was marked...Here's the beautiful part. "Oh," you say, "that's all right, preacher, but how about all these marks then?" All right. Everybody we're marked. One marks this way, and one marked the other way, one Orthodox and the other one Episcopalian and this. But wait a minute, the shepherd bore the mark of his sheep in his hand. If you want to know what sheep that that...See, the shepherd's got the mark on his hand also. And how appropriate that is tonight of our great Shepherd marked. He said, "A woman might forget her—mother might forget her little suckling babe, but never will I forget you 'cause your names are written in My hand." Marked, the shepherd carries the mark of his sheep. "I know My sheep and My sheep know Me." They mark the same mark.

*56-0403 - Shepherd Of The Sheepfold*

If you notice, a lamb is one of the most unusual animals, that lamb cannot find his way back when he's lost. I've raised sheep, and let a sheep get lost, he'll stand there and bleat till he dies, he cannot find his way back,

he has got to have the shepherd to lead him back. And we will never find our way back through any other way but through the Shepherd.

*60-0805 - Lamb And Dove*

The old shepherd story that was told there in Jerusalem, in the holy lands, of a shepherd, was packing a sheep. And he said, "What's you packing it for?"

Said, "It's got a broken leg."

Said, "How'd it do that; fall over a cliff?"

Said, "No. I broke its leg."

He said, "Why, you're a cruel shepherd, to break that sheep's leg."

Said, "No. I loved it." And said, "It was going astray, and I couldn't make it mind me. So, I broke its leg, so I could give it some extra attention, so then it would love me and follow me."

*55-0109E - Beginning And Ending Of The Gentile Dispensation*

\* \* \*

There were ninety and nine that safely lay  
In the shelter of the fold,  
But one was out on the hills away,  
Far off from the gates of gold—  
Away on the mountains wild and bare,  
Away from the tender Shepherd's care.

Lord, Thou hast here Thy ninety and nine;  
Are they not enough for Thee?  
But the Shepherd made answer, "This of mine  
Has wandered away from me,  
And although the road be rough and steep,  
I go to the desert to find my sheep."

But none of the ransomed ever knew  
How deep were the waters crossed,  
Nor how dark was the night that the Lord passed through  
Ere He found His sheep that was lost.  
Out in the desert He heard its cry—  
Sick and helpless, and ready to die.

Lord, whence are those blood-drops all the way  
That mark out the mountain's track?  
They were shed for one who had gone astray  
Ere the Shepherd could bring him back.  
Lord, whence are Thy hands so rent and torn?  
They are pierced tonight by many a thorn.

But all through the mountains, thunder-riven,  
And up from the rocky steep,  
There arose a glad cry to the gates of heaven  
Rejoice! I have found my sheep!  
And the angels echoed around the throne,  
Rejoice, for the LORD brings back His own!

*Elizabeth C. Clephane*

# A MOTHER WHO BELIEVED

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## JOCHEBED

Lord, grant me the faith of Jochebed. Faith that trusts you when I see my child in the swirling waters of life, faith that trusts you when the crocodiles of sin are snapping, and faith that you direct the currents of life and will bring them to the throne room of the King of Kings.

Help me to always cover my child in an ark of prayer, trusting your mighty hand to bring them to the desired haven. And if they should make a wrong choice and run off into a desert, if it takes 40 years and I never see their return, give me confidence that my prayers are still before you, that you haven't forgotten, that you will never forget, and that you will fulfil your promise over my child.

Deuteronomy 30:4

**If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee:**

Promises, though they be for a time seemingly delayed,  
cannot be finally frustrated...

The heart of God is not turned though His face be hid;  
and prayers are not flung back,  
though they be not instantly answered.

*Timothy Cruso*

Many time, a ol' boy will come up there that's been rough all of his life, he, fall down on his knees and go to crying, get up, say, "Well, I had a dear ol' mother, oh, if she's in Heaven tonight, I know she looking down, and she is glad to see me at this altar." See? What it is, that ol' mother prayed and believed. See, she's gone on long ago, but here is them prayers, because the righteousness, see, "Thy, and thy house shall be saved." God knows how to work, He knows how to do, He knows how to do everything just right.

*61-0808 - Thy House*

\* \* \*

***Excerpt from: 'A real mother's faith' - Pastor Steven Shelley,  
13 May 2024***

I believe she laid on that little baby's head and prayed him into his purpose. And therefore she didn't have to worry about a crocodile because she knew there weren't enough crocodiles in the Nile River to keep him from meeting his purpose. If you have thoroughly covered your children with prayer, you don't have to worry. There's not enough crocodiles in the river to get them out of their purpose forever. They may be pulled in one direction or the other. The Bible says raise up a child, train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart.

(..) But I want you to know, it doesn't matter where they are. They may be somewhere nursing the biggest hangover of their life this morning. They might not of wanted you to see them looking like they look this morning. But I want you to know, that if you have thoroughly covered them in prayer, and you are in agreement with God's purposes for their life and you have prophesied that into eternity, you may never see them, brother, you don't have to see them to have great influence in their life, because a mother has that gift to be able to pray prophetically, if she'll yield to it, and I want you to know that destinies are corrected when a godly mother stands in faith. She cannot be moved by what she sees, she cannot be moved by what she hears. She's got to have her faith anchored on the solid rock and no matter how they live, or what they do, or

what they say, when they're away from God their words can be so harsh, and so cutting, and if a mother lets her heart be wounded by that, she'll loosen her grip on her faith. Don't you. You Pray. I pray for you right now, that God will so protect your heart and so shield your heart that you would realise it's not your children, it's a spirit that has taken a hold of them. They're not in rebellion against you. They're in rebellion against God and God knows how to get them. He knows how to draw them to His self. You don't be moved by what you see or hear. Keep your faith anchored in that solid rock, and God knows how.

\* \* \*

It was Jochebed, his mother, who took her darling baby, the prettiest baby in all the world, at the time, a sweet little fellow; and put him in an ark and shoved him out into the Nile, where the crocodiles was fat on little Hebrew children, 'cause they had been feeding them to the crocodiles. And she took her baby and shoved it right out in the jaws of death, knowing this, that God's purpose could not be defeated. "God of Abraham, take care of my child, and bring him to the purpose that You have brought him for." There wasn't enough water in the Nile to drown him. There wasn't enough crocodiles in all the world could have swallowed him. He was God's chosen.

And as he was God's chosen, for that purpose, we are God's chosen today, who believe in the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And there is no bombs, there is no hell, there is no nothing else can destroy God's purpose. We've got to go in the resurrection. It's a promise we have of God. God's purpose.

And, Moses, when he become full forty years old, a middle-aged man, and he had been trained in school. But God has such a rigged way, sometimes, of bringing His things to pass, that He has promised. How that He took Moses back at the backside of the desert, and let him hear the screams and the haunts, as he staggered in the wilderness. And as back there, alone in the deserts, and the howling winds, the scorpions and the cobras, and, alone, out in the wilderness, till he almost perished. There is

nothing can defeat the purpose of God. God had brought Moses forth, and Moses had to do what God told him to do, 'cause God's purpose cannot be defeated.

*58-0406S - I Know My Redeemer Liveth*

And mother made the little blanket, and put on it, and little pillow. She put it on there. She said, "My darling little baby, God bless you." "Sh-sh-sh! Now, God will take care of that. Don't you worry." Closed the little lid down. And the first thing you know, father begins to pull off his coat, take off his shirt. Here he goes, wading out into the water.

What do you think is going on in Heaven, about this time? Hallelujah! You know, when things goes on down here, there is something going on up There, too. Amen! I can see God raise from His Throne, walk over, say, "Gabriel! Gabriel! Where are you?"

Gabriel say, "Here I am, Lord."

"Come here! Going to show you something!" Said, "All you Angels come around here, a minute, I want to show you something. I got people that believe Me. Yes, I got people who trust Me. Come here, a minute! It's good for all you Angels, take a look at this. Look!"

"Where is it at?"

"Right down there. Look out."

"Yeah, yeah. Yeah, I see it."

"Look right down there. See the edge of them bulrushes there, them flags and things?"

"Yeah."

"See there!"

"What is it?"

“There’s a man with his hands up in the air, on his knees, calling on Me. There is a crying mother, and two little crying children. They’re trusting Me to the very end. Gabriel, you remember when you went in? You remember that man?”

“Yes, I met in the room that night and talked to him. Uh-huh.”

“He still trusts Me. I got people that believe Me! I got people that will trust Me to the end!”

“See him? Look at him.”

“Yes, oh, isn’t that gallant!”

The father is walking in the water, starts to push the little boat out. I can hear Him say, “Gabriel!”

“Yes, Lord?”

“Call ten thousand Angels to the scene. Give them marching orders right away. Call the hosts of Heaven out. Send them all up-and-down, along the banisters of Heaven, and put them all up-and-down the Nile. I command that no crocodile will touch that cargo! Nothing will touch it! Don’t even let a chunk of wood come near it.” Hallelujah!

Gabriel said, “It shall be done.” My! He sounded a trumpet! Ten thousand Angels come in arm! “The Pilot. Where You going to be, Lord?”

“I’ll be at the other end.” He’s always on the receiving end. “I’ll wait down at the other end. I got a purpose. When people will trust Me, I have something, a purpose; it’ll be all right with them.”

*56-0513 - Teaching On Moses*

You know it was she that had prayed, Jochebed, and had longed for this baby. And when he was born, she was the one who cooed him, and

cuddled him and built the ark and placed him in the bulrushes, when her poor heart breaking. Her only little baby, and it was the most outstanding little chump that was in all the world. And how a mother likes any baby! But to see this special little fellow!

And then, in her heart, she knew that he was born for a purpose, and then to take him and place him into the very den of crocodiles, out into the river. By faith she did that, knowing that God was able to take care of him; and to summarize the love of a mother, and the action of the character of her faith. For faith does not place itself upon the shifting sands of what it can see; faith rests solemnly upon the unmovable rock of God's Eternal Word. "For by faith," says the Scripture, "she did this."

And faith can take its stand on the rock, that the waves are beating the foundations out, and look straight into the face of death and know that it'll be just in a little bit, but faith can look across the sea to Him that said, "I am the resurrection and Life," and fail to even hear the waves a dashing.

That's the kind of faith that Moses' mother had. She taught him and she reared him in the palace of Pharaoh, teaching him that he was born for a purpose, that Jehovah had answered her prayer.

*59-0510M - Mother's Day*

Insist upon believing, in the face of every suggestion of doubt with which you may be tempted. Out of your very unbelief, throw yourself headlong on to the word and promises of God, and dare to abandon yourself to the keeping and saving power of the Lord Jesus.

*Hannah Whithall Smith*

# A REAL MOTHER'S FAITH

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And I thought,  
'If the love of a mother will reach down to there,  
the love of God will go beyond it'.  
That's right, and that's true.  
*54-0722 Whatever He Saith Unto You, Do It*

Nehemiah 4:14b

Be not ye afraid of them: remember the LORD, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses.

2 Samuel 14: 15b, 16

...and thy handmaid, I will now speak unto the king; it may be that the king will perform the request of his handmaid. For the king will hear, to deliver his handmaid out of the hand of the man *that would* destroy me and my son together out of the inheritance of God. “

Isaiah 49:25

But thus saith the LORD, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children.

## AUNT JEMIMA OF MEMPHIS

I want you to know that your prayers not only work in this realm, they have great authority, of course, in another realm and they represent themselves before the throne of God. (...)

I don't believe there is any impossibility when a mother, a real mother's prayer is being offered to God. I think God can do things, I believe God can do things that the world would call impossible. And I think that God would hold all kinds of things in place, do all kinds of unusual things that would affect the world itself to get your prayer answered. I believe mothers are given that special gift of faith to pray for their children and nobody else can take their place in doing it. We join our faith with theirs. (...)

I want to tell you that a real mother's faith can ground a plane. How many of you know that? A real mother's faith can bring a storm, that causes an airplane not to take off, that sends a prophet down through downtown Memphis. Puts him at the right place at the right time...

*Pastor Steven Shelley - Sermon: A Real Mother's Faith 13 May 2024*

\* \* \*

I was crossing coming from Dallas, Texas, from a convention, just recently, about last, about three years ago. I was crossing over and a storm struck us in a plane, and we were grounded. And they put us in a big hotel there. I couldn't afford to stay in a hotel like that...

*54-1206 - Expectation*

And I remember that morning, they called me, said, "Now, the plane will leave at eight o'clock, Reverend Branham." Said, "They'll be by to pick you up." I said, "Yes, sir." And I got my letters ready and was going down to mail the letters. Now, listen closely, I'm going to close in a minute. And I thought, "Oh, my, I'll go down and mail these letters." And I got out and started down the street, trying to find the Post Office.

And I was walking down the street singing that little Pentecostal song, let's see: Telling now, both far and wide, His power is yet the same, I'm so glad that I can say I'm one of them. Brother Ryan, you remember, when you used to sing it. And saying, "We..." And going singing that little song. And after while, I felt something going, "Whew!" got close. I stepped back up behind a great big column there, and I said, "Heavenly Father, what would You have Your servant do?" It kept going, "Whew!" I was real still a minute, and I heard a deep voice say, "Turn, go back."

Well, I turned and went walking back down the street. I walked. And I walked on past the hotel, on down through south Memphis, just walking on and on. The sun was way high then. The sun was up, and it was a beautiful spring morning. The fragrance of the flowers in the air, had perfumed the air. I thought, "How beautiful." Was going walking along there. I thought, "Lord, I don't know. You said, 'Walk.' Here I am. I'm walking." I just kept on walking, walking, walking. Walked out pretty near the other side of Memphis.

And I remember going down a little hill towards where a little creek of a thing ran through this way, a little tributary there at the river of some kind. I just went walking down through there. There's was a little old whitewashed hut down there; a lot of colored people lived down in that way. I was walking down through there, singing—humming to myself, Only believe, only believe.

Satan said, "You're going to miss your plane." I said, "I'll walk." All things are possible. Don't let him tell you a lie. He's a liar. When God is a leading, you go do what God said do. Yes, sir. He tells you you're healed; believe it, and just start walking on. And I just kept on like that, singing, Only Believe...?...

I was noticing, leaning across a gate like this, there was a typical old Aunt Jemima, great big heavysset colored woman with a man's shirt tied around her head. She was leaning out across there. I kinda quit singing, humming, when I was far as that wall from her. I just went walking on by.

And when I got there, she kinda looked at me and laughed, and those big white teeth showed, and her tears streaked face like that. She said, "Good morning, parson." I turned. Now, "parson" means "minister or reverend" down in the south. Said, "Good morning, parson."

I looked around. I said, "Good morning, auntie." I said, "Say, how'd you know I was a parson?" She smiled and wiped her eyes. I thought, "Here it is. Something's going on." I could feel the Spirit. I'd walked far enough then. My, when I think about it, my heart leaps.

I turned around; I said, "How'd you know I was a parson?"

She said, "Parson, did you ever read in the Bible about that Shunammite woman that had that baby by promise?"

I said, "Yes, auntie. I've read that a many a time. I preached on it not long ago."

She said, "T's is that kind of woman, too. And I told the Lord if He give me a child, I'd raise it for Him." Said, "Parson, the Lord give me a boy, and I raised him till he was in his teens." Said, "He took a road that's wrong, got out with some bad company." Said, "He's laying here dying now. He caught a bad disease, and the doctors can't do nothing for him." Said, "They give him all kinds of shots," but said, "he's a backslider." And said, "He laying in here dying." Said, "He'd been unconscious since day before yesterday." And said, "He don't know nothing. He thinks he's out in a big deep sea somewhere, cold." And said, "Parson, it just breaks my heart to see my boy die like that." And said, "I want him saved." And said, "I prayed all night. And I said, 'Lord, You give me that baby, but where's the Elijah?'" She said, "Now, Lord, will You help me. Don't let my baby die like this." And said, "And the Lord told me this morning..." And said, "I kinda fell asleep there in my chair; and I dreamed that I was to come out here and stand in this gate and I'd see a man coming dressed like you is." Oh, my. You know how that makes you feel?

I said, "Auntie, my name is Branham. Did you ever hear of me before?"

She said, "No, sir, I never heard of you."

Oh, my. I said, "Auntie, I pray for the sick."

She said, "Do you?"

I said, "Can I come in to see your boy?"

She said, "Sure, parson." And when she raised that little old gate back with a chain on it and a plowpoint for a weight, for a weight behind it...I've went into kings palaces, and I went into big fine homes, but I never was more welcome than I was when I walked in that little gate that morning, under that trestle. She walked just as happy. She knew something had to happen; God was on both ends of the line.

So I walked into the room. First thing upon there was a little old sign, "God bless our home," little old chunk stove, that we call it in the south, setting there, and a little poster bed. Here was a great big stout looking boy, about a hundred and eighty pounds, around seventeen, eighteen years old, laying there with a blanket in his hand, going, "Mummm, Mummm," like that.

He said, "It's so cold, mama. Mummm." She patted him.

She said, "Mama's baby." I thought right then of motherly love. No matter what he'd done, how much disgrace; it was mother's still baby. She kissed him on his forehead.

And I thought, "If the love of a mother can go like that, what will the love of God do? When He said, 'A mother may forget her suckling babe, but I'll never forget you.'" I think, "Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me."

Then while she was over her boy there, I said, "Auntie, let's pray." She never said nothing about his healing, she wanted him to be saved. And so before he went she wanted to have a witness that he was saved. And that old saint got down on there floor. I couldn't pray. Hear her pray, oh, my,

she opened up that heart, and the tears rolling down her cheeks, she said, "Lord, if You'll just let him tell me that him going to be with—with Jesus," said, "I'll be happy," and like that. And I just knelt there and held my head down and cried like a baby. In a few moments, she raised up, she said, "Thank You, Lord." And she went over, she said, "Mommy's baby." Patted it like that. And I felt his feet, just as cold as they could be, death was on the boy. And he said...

I said, "Does he...?" He said, "He don't know..." I said, I spoke to the boy, I said, "How you feeling now, young man?" He just kept going, "Hmm."

She said, "He don't know where he's at parson; he ain't been conscious for two days now." And I said, "Let's pray again, sister." And we knelt on the floor, I said, "Heavenly Father, somehow or another last night a storm came up, and You grounded the plane." Don't you believe all things work together for the good? I said, "On my road home to the meeting," I said, "You grounded the plane. And this morning when the sun was shining, I know the hours is passed, the time now for it to leave. But somehow You led me down this way; I don't understand. But I'm putting my hands on this boy in the Name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, and asking for his life to be spared."

And then no more the prayer had been made, I heard him going, "Um," said, "Oh, Mama."

She raised up, said, "What do mama's baby want?" Said, "Mama, it's getting light in the room, getting light in the room." She begin crying; I raised up my hands, begin to offer praise. Up off the bed come that big healthy boy, restored to his normal condition.

A few months after that, I was passing through on a train, and I stopped in to get something to eat; I heard somebody holler, "Parson Branham." He was pulling one of these little old carts around like that, down there at the station working. He run grabbed a hold of my hand, said, "You remember me?" And I said, "No, I don't." He said, "I was the boy you come to that morning, that the Lord led you down there, when mammy was

praying.” Says, “Parson Branham, I’s perfectly whole now, and I’s a Christian now.” Christian, oh, brother, and you know what? That plane never left, something happened to it, it was about a hour late, and I got on the plane and got home in time anyhow. Let me tell you something, “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever.” His power’s omnipotent, He—He can’t fail; He’s the same God that was in Memphis, Tennessee, that night, Fort Wayne, Indiana, is here tonight. Do you believe that? He’s the same, He can’t fail.

*51-0714 - Expectation*

About two months or three months from then, a little later, I was coming through on a train making my way to Phoenix, Arizona. And I stopped, you know how the trains pull in. And I went up there in the little restaurant to get something to eat. I heard somebody hollering, “Parson Branham!” And I looked, and here he was; he was a red cap down there. He said, “You remember me?” I said, “No, sir.” He said, “I was the boy that was dying down there that morning when the Lord sent you down, would answer my mammy’s prayer.” He said, “I...He never only healed me, but He saved me.” He said, “I’s full of the Holy Ghost now, parson.” Hallelujah!

*53-0509 - The Pillar Of Fire*

\* \* \*

God loved that woman so much He honoured the faith of that praying mother so much that he put all of those circumstances in place to give her her son back. Not only healed and whole, but saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. If God can do that for Mammy’s boy, dying with a venereal disease, don’t you know that God can move for your children...

*Pastor Steven Shelley - A Real Mother's Faith 13 May 2024*

And so, a good praying wife or mother,  
can do more for the Kingdom of God on her knees at home,  
than sometimes the preacher can do on the platform.

That’s right.

*57-0727 He Was To Pass That Way*

## HATTIE WRIGHT

What He did for Hattie, He'll do for you.

*59-1115 My New Ministry*

I said, "That same God," hallelujah, "that Jehovah-jireh, He's just as much Jehovah-jireh today as He was on the mount with Abraham." "He can still produce an animal, to His glory. These squirrels was not a vision. I shot them. Blood came out them. I dressed them and eat them. They wasn't visions, they were squirrels." I said, "That same Jehovah-jireh, trying to get His promise over to me, in my thickness and dullness of mind, He could speak my need into existence, the same as He could speak Abraham's need into existence."

I no more than said that, until, Sister Hattie, sitting there crying now, hadn't said a word, and she said, "That's nothing but the truth."

She said the right thing. She said just like Banks said down there. I heard her voice, as It swept from my ears, like up into the woods.

Mrs. Wright, sitting back there with her little girl, was trying to interpret what Edith said. I couldn't hear Mrs. Wright.

And that super Anointing swept over me, said, "Tell Hattie that she's found grace in the sight of God." Who would have thought? Said, "Tell her to ask whatever she will. Then you speak it, by this gift, into existence. Whatever she asketh, speak it into existence."

I looked to Sister Hattie. The first time it was ever performed on a human being. I said, "Sister Hattie, ask what you will. God is going to give it to you."

What do you think of that? Does it get into you? Seven times He had confirmed it, by an animal. Seven is God's complete number. Here is the first time on a human being. And, He, what did He choose, some great aristocrat, a great noted minister? A poor little widow woman that could hardly write her name. God knows what He's doing. Said, "Ask what you will."

Hattie said to me, "Brother Branham, what do you mean?"

I said, "Ask anything your heart desires, and it shall be produced right here, that you'll know that the Lord God of Heaven answers, and His Scriptures are true."

My first time with the new gift; my first Anointing. I could hardly hear her. And she looked around. We had been talking about her little, crippled sister. I said, "Oh, no doubt," in my heart, "within a few minutes little Edith will be jumping to the glory of God."

Hattie looked around, all around. And she said, "Brother Bill, my greatest desire is for the salvation of my two boys." What a...Why, there couldn't have been a greater thing. She could have ask for ten thousand dollars, she would have got it. What if it would have been some millionaire would have asked for another million? God knowed what she was going to ask for.

Sister Hattie, at least, seven or eight witnesses standing there. All you people that was present when that happened, raise up your hand. Everybody in the building, was present, that happened; one, two, three, four, five, six, seven. Seven of them. Eight of them. Eight of them was present when that happened.

I said, "Ask anything you want to. Cause, God has give it to me, to give to you, whatever you want."

She said her boys was beginning to go off on the teenage tantrum. And she said, "The salvation of my two boys."

I said, "By the will of God, by the Power of God, I give you, in the Name of Jesus Christ, your desire." And her two boys shook under the Power of God. And that whole building trembled. Banks fell into his plate. Shelby grabbed. And Hattie screamed till you could hear her for two blocks. And them two boys, with tears rolling down their cheeks, received exactly what they asked for, right then. Oh! The first time it was ever used on a human being. "Ask what you will, and it shall be given unto you." Her boys, sitting there with her, this morning.

What would she have asked? What if she would have asked the healing of her little sister? What if she would have asked that? The little girl would have been healed, but her two boys lost. What if...

That poor widow, who had just told me that she tried to give to this church fifty dollars on a pledge, to help build a new church. And Brother Roberson wouldn't take it, and only let her give twenty of it. And I said to myself, when she was speaking, "I'll give her back the twenty."

But God said to me, in my heart, now, not by vision, in my heart, "When Jesus was standing, watching a widow put in three pennies, where there was thousands of dollars laying, what would you have done?"

I said, "Well, if I would have been standing there, said, 'We don't need it, sister. We got plenty of money.'" But Jesus never said it. He let her go on and do it, because He knowed what was down the road. So help me, God as my solemn judge, God knew that was down the road for her. And I run my hand in my pocket, to get my pocketbook, to give her her twenty dollars back, and say, "Sister Hattie..." But He said, "Don't do it."

And then a few minutes, when the question is brought up about Jehovah-jireh, she said, "That's nothing but the truth." And it come from a poor widow woman's heart, God knowing she'd ask the greatest thing could be done. As long as there is a Heaven, when the stars is gone, when there's no more moon, no more earth, no more sea, them boys shall live on through Eternity with the same Jehovah-jireh Who gave the immortal promise. His promises cannot fail.

*59-1115 - My New Ministry*

But she never argued;  
she never questioned any more.  
His Word was enough for her.  
*59-1126 Jehovah of Miracles*

### PRAY ON

For years I've prayed, and yet I see no change.  
The mountain stands exactly where it stood;  
The shadows that it casts are, just as deep;  
The pathway to its summit even more steep.  
Shall I pray on?

Shall I pray on with never a hopeful sign?  
Not only does the mountain still remain,  
But, while I watch to see it disappear,  
Becomes the more appalling year by year.  
Shall I pray on?

I shall pray on. Though distant as it seems  
The answer may be almost at my door,  
Or just around the corner on its way,  
But, whether near or far, yes, I shall pray-  
I shall pray on!

*Edith Mapes*

# YOUR INHERITANCE

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Isaiah 65:23

They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.

Deuteronomy 1:36b

... and to him will I give the land that he hath trodden upon, and to his children, because he hath wholly followed the Lord.

Isaiah 60:4

Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side.

Acts 27:24

... and, lo, God has given thee all them that sail with thee.

Exodus 10:9

And Moses said, We will go with our young and with our old, with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and with our herds will we go; for we must hold a feast unto the LORD.

Genesis 19:29

And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

## THOUGHTS FROM BROTHER BRANHAM

Satan captures your health, you've got a right to go to Satan, say, "Give it back! Hand it over! I come in the Name of the Lord, the Possessor of Heavens and earth, and I'm His heir. Give it back! You took my child, you got her mixed up with the wrong boy. You took my boy and mixed up with the wrong girl. I claim them! That's right. I claim my children, I claim my brother, I claim my sister. Yes, Satan, you've took them from God's house, coaxed them out there, but I'm coming after them. I claim them."

"Well, how you know?"

"I'm an heir of all things. Amen. It's given to me. I'm an heir, I can claim everything that God promised me." Amen. There you are. "It's mine." How do you get it, something you done? No, sir. It's the unmerited gift that God gave us, and it's ours, it belongs to us. Satan cannot hold it if you go to him in the Scriptural authoritative Word, with faith, to say, "It's mine! Lay it down." Amen. Glory! I like that.

"Satan, you lay it down. You took it from me. You give it back, because I'm serving notice on you. I've got the notice written right here on the Word, 'Heavens and earth will pass away, but this notice shall not.' So I come with this notice, to serve on you, that Jesus Christ said whatsoever I ask the Father in His Name He'll give it to me. If I say to this mountain, 'be moved,' and don't doubt in my heart, but believe that what I've said shall come to pass, I can have what I said. Lay it down!" That gets him started. Don't get him started, gets him running. "Lay it down, because I have come with the Scriptural authority. I am a believer.

*62-0506 - Possessing All Things*

Now, but, it was such a great thing that the inheritance, how it was that an inheritance in the land that no one else but a close kinsman could redeem that inheritance. Now, let me just drop on a little token here that I touched on the other night, to you mothers. How many here has prayed

for your loved ones, lost? All right. There you are again, see, “Your inheritance.” See?

Paul told the Roman, said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou and thy house shall be saved.” If you’ve got faith enough for your own self to be saved, have faith enough, no matter how wayward that boy is, or that girl is, they’ll be saved anyhow. God, somehow! If He has to lay them on their back, laying there in a hospital, dying, they’ll be saved. God promised it. The inheritance! Oh! “And they shall be there,” said Isaiah, “and all their offsprings with them. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, saith the Lord.”

*60-0518 - Adoption #2*

When the children of Israel was going out of Egypt, Pharaoh said, “Yes, you can go worship, but you leave your children behind, leave your cattle behind.” What did he want to do? Leave something back there so they knowed that they would come back for it; that’s what Pharaoh, the devil is still saying to the children. But I like Moses’ statement, he said, “We won’t leave one hoof behind. We’ll go, everything that we’ve got will go.”

*59-0612 - All The Days Of Our Life*

One night when God ordained that a lamb should be killed, type of Christ, and the blood was dipped in hyssop, which, just weeds (common, humble), and put over the lintel of the door and on the posts, that’s when Israel become completely delivered, with not a hoof left behind. All that belonged to them was delivered. Their families, their loved ones, and everything was delivered when they completely come under the blood.

*59-0712 - A Total Deliverance*

But Abraham counted what he had that was faithful, “born in his own house.” Oh, my! The faithful, “born in his own house.” It was his servants who he had circumcised, that was included in the same promise that he was. And he went after his backslidden brother, and pursued with a little

handful of men, of three hundred and eighteen men; after the kings, and overcome them, and took them and slew them. And brought back all that was lost.

Perfect picture of Christ! And the Church, the Holy Spirit leading the faithful that's born in the same house of the Holy Ghost where Christ was born, pursuing after the wayward and backslidden. And slaying every evil thing that's overcome them. Amen! Overcoming sin, laying aside all the weights. Speaking to the people about their lusts and the things they're doing; cut it off, their sicknesses and all! Preaching to them the Gospel, and bringing them back into full fellowship with God.

*55-0109M - Melchisedec, The Great Prince And King*

Oh, I like that. "Come out and look it over. Walk from the east to the west. It's all yours. You took your way with the Lord's despised few, now you're heir of all of it." Amen. "All belongs to you now, Abraham. I give it to you unconditionally. You don't deserve it, but I give it to you anyhow." Amen.

Oh, I don't deserve this, but He give it to me anyhow. So I'm going to walk east, north, west, and south, and see what I own in the Kingdom of God. All things are mine. Amen. Let's get up and walk around, see how it looks. My, it feels good, take God by faith.

*54-0306 - The Unconditional Covenant That God Made With His People*

And when they did, someone that escaped come and told Abraham the Hebrew, said, that, "The Sodom has fallen, and Gomorrah, and they have took their kings, and so forth, and took all the peoples, and their victuals and everything they had. And they took Lot and his wife, and his daughters, all the women, and has gone on with it."

Now, Abraham, watch this Christian spirit pursuing for his brother. Even that, though, Lot backslidden, gone back, yet Abraham loved him. He kept on pursuing.

*64-0402 - Jehovah-Jireh #1*

Now, Rebekah, if you want to get your businessman, Zacchaeus, really before Jesus, you just start praying, he'll get restless.

So the time had drawn close at hand, so, the next morning, Jesus was to pass that way. So all night he twisted in the bed, and he was miserable. And she, laying there, praying. And no doubt in the night, when they would wake up, she would say, "Thank You, Lord, I know You're working on him."

Now when you go to see your Zacchaeus can't rest, just say, "Thank You, Lord, You're working on him now." When you see him get so crabby, he don't want you to go to church anymore, see, "Stay away from that bunch! Don't go down there no more! There is nothing to It!" Just be patient. God is working, you see. That's the way He does it, see. He just gets so restless he can't stand it.

So we find, the next morning, real early, our little character slips out of bed and goes over and grooms himself in his very best clothes, you know, his finest robe he had, and grooms his beard and combs his hair. And Rebekah looks out from under the cover and she sees him. She knows right then something is up. So he slips to the window, and looks over and see if she is a look, awake. No, she wasn't awake, according to what he thought. He raises up the curtain and looks out, and it was breaking day, so he gets hisself all ready.

You see, when you go to praying for somebody, something goes to taking place. There is where we fail, friends, not praying. Prayer is the keynote. "Ask and you shall receive. You have not because you ask not; you ask not because you believe not. Ask abundance, that your joys may be full. Ask and believe that you receive what you've asked for." Then hold onto it. Don't leave it. If it's a promise in the Bible, and it's been revealed to you that God is going to give it to you, hold to it.

That's just the way she had. It was revealed to her that her Zacchaeus was going to be saved, so she just held right onto it.*64-0620B - Who Is Jesus?*

Ed Daulton, Baptist sitting here, from down in Kentucky, sitting right here. How many children you got, Ed? Twelve children. Standing right here, he asked for his children. I walked out of the building. Ed come to me again; I said, "Ed."

The Holy Spirit was on me, said, "Give it to him. Give him."

I said, "I give you your children." Every one of them, saved and baptized. There was his teenager sitting at home, waiting, crying, has been saved since he was up here. This Baptist brother from down in...Oh, oh, how wonderful He is when He speaks! I'm asking Him now, for His glory, to show Himself, that He's Christ, that I'm telling the Truth.  
*61-0827 - The Message Of Grace*

God of Heaven, grant that, her six children that she desires to be saved. She has heard that testimony of Brother Daulton, his lovely daughters. She desires her six children, Father. May she have them. May they meet her in that Land where there is no night, safely protected and sheltered by the Blood of Jesus Christ. Amen. May you have them, sister, my prayer.  
*60-0515E - Adoption #1*

**Sister Spencer.** [Sister Spencer says, "Brother, Brother Bill, I love the Lord better every day I live. And I been coming here twenty years, in this place. And I been healed of just nearly everything that ever got the matter with me. You remember all of it, and...?..."—Ed.] **I certainly do, sister...?...**["And He's blessed me so much! And I love Him better, every day of my life. I know I have wonderful life in the Lord."] **I believe that, Sister Spencer.** ["I'm happy. I'm happy! If this ain't the Holy Ghost I've got, I'm—I'm still on the altar for everything He's got for me, and I'm going to die on the altar."] **Amen.** ["That's what I want Him to do and I been dying on the altar with Jesus."] **Amen. God bless you...?...Amen.** ["And I'll tell you what I want you to do. You know, Noah took his whole family in with him, and I want my whole family. You know I want my loved ones

saved.”] I understand. Your children. That’s right. [“...?...my children.”] Yes, ma’am. [“And my husband.”] Yes, sir, I...[“As you know all about it.”] Yes. [“You prayed for us.”]

We all are acquainted with Sister Spencer, and know that how her and Brother Jess stayed on through the rough, but where there’s come down through the church here. When I cross over the other side, they won’t be toddling along like this. They’ll be young. Oh! Brother Jess, if I just...?...you know. And then you all know how, just—just across the little...?...yonder, you go back to that lovely young girl again, and Brother Jess to the young boy. God promised you.

Now, look. I want to give you just a little teeny bit of teaching, being that you’re the last one here, I want to give. Cause, I know this is your little boy, Charlie. You want it to be prayed for? [Brother Charlie says, “Yes.”—Ed.] I want to say this one thing. Did you ever read in the Scripture where the Bible said this? Paul told the Roman Centurion. Can you hear me all right?

Told the Roman, when he pulled his sword, to kill himself, up at Philippi when he was in jail. And the earthquake shook the jail down. He said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thy and thy house shall be saved.” Did you ever hear that? “Thy and thy house.” Now, look. If you have faith enough for salvation for yourself, can’t you also have faith enough for your house? God, in some way, will do it.

And, Lord, I pray for Sister Spencer and Brother Spencer, tonight, that every child, them and their children, will all be in that glorious, happy Land there where there’ll be no sickness or no old age, no sorrow or disappointments, and all this little life here will fade into a nightmare that’s passed by. May they receive this, and may all of her children, and her husband, all her loved ones, and all that love her, and all that she loves, may they be there with her, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

*60-0515E - Adoption #1*

# I KNOW...

## OR, HOW THE STORY ENDS

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For **I know** that my redeemer liveth...

Job 19:25

### 1 Kings 17

And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying,

<sup>9</sup> Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.

<sup>10</sup> So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

<sup>11</sup> And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

<sup>12</sup> And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

<sup>13</sup> And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

<sup>14</sup> For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.

<sup>15</sup> And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

<sup>16</sup> And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah.

<sup>17</sup> And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him.

<sup>18</sup> And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?

<sup>19</sup> And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed.

<sup>20</sup> And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?

<sup>21</sup> And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.

<sup>22</sup> And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

<sup>23</sup> And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, See, thy son liveth.

<sup>24</sup> And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this **I know** that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.

## THE STORIES OF TWO WOMEN

"Find yourself in the Scripture,"  
The preacher had said.

So she searched

*A Gentile woman*

*A son*

*A time of famine*

*A prophet*

*Two sticks*

*And a barrel of meal*

And she found herself there...

A Gentile woman

In a time of spiritual famine

Her two sticks formed the cross

Where she'd first met her Saviour and Lord.

She had heard the instruction of an Elijah prophet,

And fed on the meal of the Word

But that was just the beginning of both women's stories...

There was another part -

The 'after these things' part.

After the cross,

After obeying the voice of the prophet,

After salvation from famine,

After 'She, he and her house, had eaten many days',

Listening as the prophet taught them.

And the 'after these things'  
Brought heartache and disappointment.

*The widow's son was sick  
Then there was no breath left,  
And the widow says to Elijah,  
What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God?  
Art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance,  
And to slay my son?*

And so the story goes for this woman's child too.  
Not a physical sickness and death  
But a spiritual one.

And she too, questions  
Why has this happened?  
Why do heartaches and disappointments come  
When walking in the path of duty?

But both these women must come to their "I know" moment.

Just like Job

His trials, heartbreak, and suffering were the birth pains  
Of a revelation

"I know my redeemer liveth"

*And the Lord heard Elijah  
And the soul of the child came into him again  
And then the widow woman knew  
Really knew  
It was her "I know" moment  
"And the widow said to Elijah,*

*Now by this I know that thou art a man of God,  
And that the word of the Lord in thy mouth is truth".*

And the second woman  
Having found herself in The Book  
Finds her "I know"

She knows the end of her story  
The soul of her child will come again  
He will come to himself like the prodigal son  
All will be well  
And she will know,  
Really know,  
The Word of the Lord in the mouth of the prophet  
Was truth.

\* \* \*

It taken the crushing and the disappointing of the apostles. They had seen their Saviour, the One they had loved, and seen Him even raise up the dead from the grave, they had seen Him do that, and then think, "There He lays, cold in the grave, Himself, this morning."

It taken the, those people who had seen Him open the eyes of the blind, seen Him standing there and perceive the very thoughts that was in the people's hearts, "How didn't He know," they would say, "that them were coming after Him? How didn't He know? Why didn't He know Judas would betray Him? Why didn't He know the soldiers were coming up the mountains there, with staves and swords, and everything, to get Him, if He could perceive their thoughts?"

See, the devil was working on them, putting them on a ash heap, for they wanted to give them a testimony of "I know," not "I guess" or "perhaps it's so," "I know! I know!"

And remember, those trials are brought upon you the same way, so that you'll not say, "Well, maybe This is right, maybe the Scripture is true, maybe Divine healing is right, maybe the Holy Ghost is right," but when you get that experience and come off that ash heap, and you get the revelation of God, by the baptism of the Holy Ghost, you can scream, "I know my Redeemer liveth, because He lives in me."

*60-0417S - I Know*

And when your faith is put to a test, then don't fail, stay right with what you believe. And when their faith was put to a test (And they went to a crucial hour, not only did they go to a ash heap, but they went into a fiery furnace, but Satan could not destroy them, for God's purpose wasn't yet fulfilled.), they could go in there with this hope: "I know my Redeemer liveth!" They could go in there with this hope here: "We are assured that God is able to deliver us from this fiery furnace, but, nevertheless, we will not bow to the image."

Satan could not take them. He could not drown Noah in the flood, until the purpose of God had been finished. He could not burn up the Hebrew children, until the purpose of God had been finished. He could not kill Job with boils and troubles, until the purpose of God had been finished. Neither could the lions eat Daniel, until God's purpose had been finished. Neither could death and old age take Abraham, until the purpose of God had been finished.

And neither can it take you, or can it take me, until the purpose of God, of our life, is finished. So, we gather from there, consolation. And why does God let troubles come? God harnesses trouble, puts bits in its mouth and makes it obey Him, and those troubles bring us into a closer fellowship with God.

*60-0417S - I Know*

Oh, I can remember my own life, on the road down to destruction, when I heard a sweet Voice, "I am Jesus, I was once dead, I'm alive for evermore,

because I live, you can live also." Since that time, putting my hand in His, I've trusted Him through the dark places. When the times come where I can't see which way I'm going, I still trust Him.

Every Christian believer has to be pushed into those trials, every Christian believer has to be put on the ash heap, so that he can come forth with an experience, "I know my Redeemer liveth!"

*60-0417S - I Know*

I have seen disappointments, I have seen the time I've asked for things, and cried for things, and begged for things, and failed to get them, but if I'll just wait patiently upon God, then I know that it works just exactly right, comes out just exactly right, does just exactly the right thing.

*60-0417S - I Know*

There was too much of you in you, till God had to squeeze it out, through trials. And while that squeezing was coming on, it's hard, but after while, the skies clear back, then you see the purpose of God, then you cry, "I know my Redeemer liveth, and at the last days He will stand on the earth, though the skin worms destroys this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." These little trials and things are just for a moment, and they fade and pass away, but they're only done for your good, let us remember that, that God would get glory.

*60-0417S - I Know*

God, may we ever be faithful at the post of duty,  
no matter what our trials is and our troubles,  
whatever they...may we be able to say, always,  
"I know that all things work together for good to them that love God."

Grant it, Father.

*60-0417S - I Know*

Listen, Lord,  
a mother's praying  
low and quiet:  
listen, please.  
Listen what her tears  
are saying,  
see her heart  
upon its knees;  
lift the load  
from her bowed shoulders  
till she sees  
and understands,  
You, Who hold  
the worlds together,  
hold her problems  
in Your hands.

*Ruth Bell Graham*

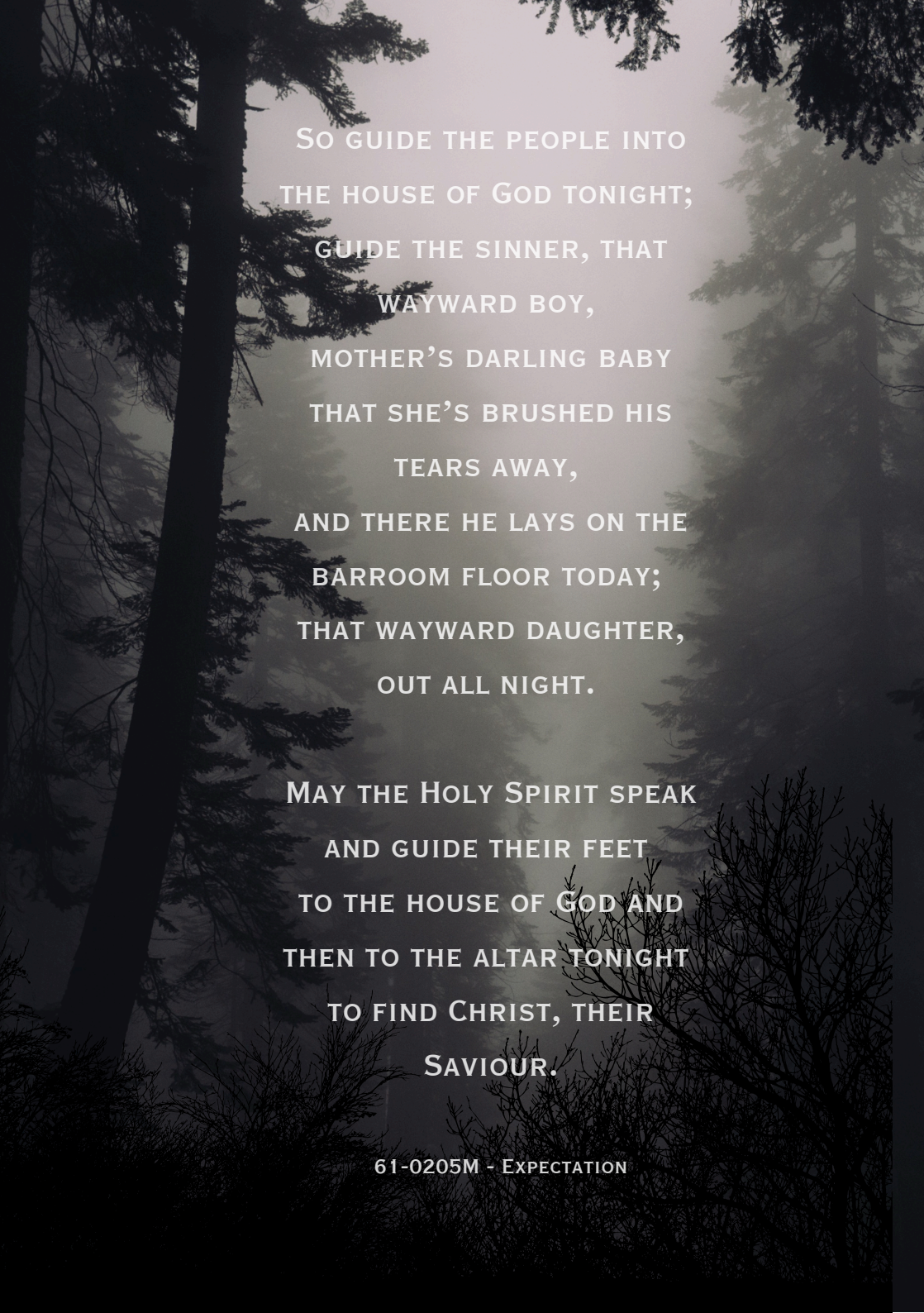
From '*Prodigals and Those Who Love Them*'  
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O merciful Father, as Thy servant,  
give mercy and peace to this tired mother before me.  
And may the deep desire of her heart,  
whatever it may be, be granted.  
This I ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.  
God bless you.

*55-0220E - Contend For The Faith*

# NOTES

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SO GUIDE THE PEOPLE INTO  
THE HOUSE OF GOD TONIGHT;  
GUIDE THE SINNER, THAT  
WAYWARD BOY,  
MOTHER'S DARLING BABY  
THAT SHE'S BRUSHED HIS  
TEARS AWAY,  
AND THERE HE LAYS ON THE  
BARROOM FLOOR TODAY;  
THAT WAYWARD DAUGHTER,  
OUT ALL NIGHT.

MAY THE HOLY SPIRIT SPEAK  
AND GUIDE THEIR FEET  
TO THE HOUSE OF GOD AND  
THEN TO THE ALTAR TONIGHT  
TO FIND CHRIST, THEIR  
SAVIOUR.