

...placed in Adam, and because he had something from other realms, he could see the other realms. There was something corresponding between Adam and the realm from which that spirit came.

There are a lot of mysteries to me. I assume that when the Lord took that bone from Adam, that bone must have been glowing, but there can be no question in my mind that she really wasn't a "separate" person. Hold on for a minute. She was an extension of Adam. She was Adam. She was Adam because out of that bone the Lord fashioned...He did not create a woman, and she, too, had a living spirit. I hope you understand what I mean. She was bone of his bone, and the New Testament tells us we are spirit of His Spirit. She was once inside of Adam. We were once inside of God; some portion of us. We'll get to that in just a moment.

Well, the fall is shrouded in mystery. We don't really understand when the rebellion took place in heaven or even if that's what it was. I know we've heard that so often, but you know, that's still a conjecture of an interpretation out of the book of Ezekiel. We don't really know the whole story of the fall or how it originated. I can't tell you that I'm clear about the origin of sin. I can't even tell you what sin is; oh, I could give you a theological definition without any problem, but some element got brought into creation, and it began in the heavens, it seems, and then, it seems, that Lucifer paid a visit to the earth, and after his coming here or maybe it was present all along, I don't know but there appears a tree of the knowledge of good and evil and Adam did not eat of the Tree of Life and he did not take God's life in him, but instead he ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now, this is a very complex thing, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God knew good, and He knew evil by wisdom. Unfortunately, Adam learned it by experience. What happened to Adam at that moment? I cannot fully say, but it seems absolutely certain that this man, who was created by God with three elements: spirit, body, and soul; the body being from the earth, the spirit being something from other realms, and the soul being what came from this union.

Adam ate. He obviously sinned first in his soul by his disobedience, but sin entered into him through his body, and the scripture makes it clear over and over again that the Christian view of sin is that it comes to our members, into our body. I was once very, very ill. I was really, really ill. I was in bed for a year and convalesced for three years after that. I probably sinned less during that year than at any other time in my whole life, because my body was so weak. Was this wonderful, how little I sinned? Now, I know that you may think it's because you weren't moving around; no, I can sin sitting perfectly still, without moving a hair on my head or a muscle, but I was just really doing great that year as far as sin was concerned. It was a terrible price to pay because my body was so physically weak.

Here is the soul. This marvelous creature, Adam, is sinless and innocent, full of great wisdom, and capable of exercising dominion over this entire planet. Sin enters his body and comes into his body, and it's almost as though the spirit refuses to share space with sin; that the spirit would rather die than share space with sin or anything that had to do with the results of the activity of a fallen angel. The spirit dies. Now that creates a real problem because it seems in the Old Testament that the

spirit isn't totally dead, and theologians have conjectured, and I will only pass on to you what they have said, and that is, and I suppose I agree with that, the spirit died to its own environment. Man could no longer see the unseen. He could no longer see an invisible God. He could no longer hear things that pertain to the invisible realm. I think it's so beautifully portrayed in the story in the garden that the door closed, and cherubim were put in front of the door with a sword, and the door between the two realms closed, and there will be no more intercourse, no more commerce. Man will not be able to make that trip. This place that interfaced the heavens and the earth, this place called the Garden of Eden, where two realms met, where angels played, and men walked with God, was closed off from man, and the door was slammed, and man was left with a spirit that had no activity toward other realms. It was dead to God, and as far as I'm personally concerned, the spirit died utterly. Sin is now indwelling the body just as that spirit had once indwelt that man's soul. There is a foreign object that has been put inside of us. It is not ours, and it does not belong to us, and it is stronger than we are.

Now, do you know why it's stronger than we are? Well, I'm going to guess. Because it seems that it has come from a higher form of life than we have. Sin seems to be something given to us right out of the very activity and nature of a fallen angel, and that's a higher form of life. In the New Testament, the term "indwelt by sin," the word 'indwell' is the same word that is used to speak of Christ indwelling us. There seem to be two forms of life indwelling the Christian. I'm getting ahead of myself. One confined to the flesh, the other confined to the spirit. Where does that leave the battleground? The soul.

The body was a body at the time of the fall, but it became flesh. I think the best definition for the flesh, and there are three ways the Old Testament and New Testament use it, but concerning this particular use of the word flesh, I think the best definition of the flesh is the body indwelt by sin. Now we have ceased to have a body, and we have now got flesh. The body is indwelt and corrupted by sin. Something is living in our bodies. You can almost sometimes feel this. That which I would, I do not, and that which I would not, I do, yet it is not I, but sin that dwells not in my spirit, not in my soul, but in my members. It is not I, but this living, breathing entity, this living thing in my flesh.

Okay, now this is the saddest of all the sad stories that man will ever hear. The spirit is dead. The body is indwelt, rapidly deteriorating, and becoming flesh. Evidence of that being that if we are to believe the scripture, that man lived for a very, very long time, but with every passing generation, people lived less and less until, finally, there was a standoff between sin and man. We got to where we could live all the way up to being 70. Methuselah lived hundreds of years; I don't remember how many.

Now, if you think the death of the spirit is sad, if you think the indwelling of sin in our mortal bodies is sad, you have heard nothing until you hear that the soul becomes damaged by this fall. And I, still, at the age of 52 and 33 or 34 years in the ministry, I have not yet plumbed, understood, nor conceived of the depths of the fall of man in his soul. The psychology of man, the soul of man,

became so fallen. I'm fascinated when I read the ancient Christians, the old devout ones, those the Roman Catholics burned at the stake and then sainted later, or threw them in dungeons or whatever they did, canonized them after they had done all these ugly things to them. You go back and read what they have to say, and you are so thankful to know they saw it too. And that is how fallen man is, how untrustworthy he is. It's in all of their writings. And it's not, they're not reading this out of a textbook and writing it down. You can see them driven by their knowledge of what they have seen in their lifetime of the fall of man.

And there's that dichotomous thing where we also see how wonderful we are in Christ. And these are irreconcilable. I hate to dwell on the fallenness of man because always out in the audience, there is one dear sister or two or three who only hears how wretched she is. That's what she has heard all her life, and she gets hold of this and just holds on to it. But Gene, but Joe, but George, but Pete, whoever the poor guy's name was that was speaking, you told me how wretched I was, and that's where I've lived with that knowledge. Then they tell you all about the wreckage and ruin of their lives because of this, and you want to grab them by the nape of the neck and say, "Where in the world were you the next night when we talked about our place in Christ?" They never hear it. That's psychological damage. This person has a very low regard for himself and a very low self-image.

I am convinced that there is no way to bring a message without eternally damaging somebody listening. The others may all be gloriously delivered, but one person will be eternally damaged by what you said. No matter how careful you are. So, whoever gets damaged by this, just go, that's what you've got to do, just go get worse off than you are now. It is true. You are a terrible person. We are terrible people as a result of the fall. We inherited it from our father, Adam. We are in bad shape. Now, if there is anybody on earth who does not know that it is a religious single brother, and some religious single brothers are married, but I'm talking about not single brothers, but religious single brothers, by gum, by golly, and by grit, they believe that they can somehow not be that way.

I saw something illustrated that really spoke to me, or it had a message with it, at least, it didn't speak to me. Four of my close friends from the church went to Thailand and served there during the great refugee situation, and they sent me a postcard. On the back of it, they had just written one sentence: "religious single brother." And what it was: a photograph of a young Buddhist who had built a rectangular box and had been placed over him, and the entire front of the box, and the back of the box, it rested on his shoulders filled with dozens and dozens and dozens of sharp pointed blades like swords and they were sticking in his body all over front and back. Ah man, I'm so glad he lived in Thailand and that he was a Buddhist. I could tell you stories forever of young men who either see their sinfulness and just grovel in their failure, or they want to see their sinfulness because they hear from me that they're supposed to hear and see their sinfulness, and they're really trying hard to do so, or there's the brother who feels that he will not be this way. I shall never forget the man who said to me, Gene...boy, I hate to tell you this; this just still hurts... He said, "Wouldn't it be possible? Isn't it possible that someone could live so obediently to the

Lord that it would not be necessary for that person to suffer?" I wanted to grab him and shake every bone in his body. If anyone could live so perfectly that the Lord would not need to cause him to suffer, the Lord would have to cause more suffering in that man's life than any other man on earth to keep his self-righteousness in control.

It can't be done. There is no righteousness. There is no conduct that can overcome the damage of the fall. I don't think it's possible for anybody in their 20s. Brother, I really don't think they can even begin to conceive of the depth of the damage to the soul. I believe it begins to dawn on us in our early 30s, and from there we spend the rest of our lives in complete awe of the fall of man, and it gets more awesome with every passing year. I know I have never seen a young single brother or sister, or a young person of any kind, really go back and read the old saints. We must see how needy we are and how fallen, and all of these things. I've never seen one of them yet...really see. He only plays like and hopes he does, and goes around with all those swords in him, repenting of what a terrible person he is, but it's all a show. I don't know of anything but age and years that can show us how fallen we are.

And I want you to know something else. I've watched that 21- or 22-year-old single brother praying, playing like he sees how bad off he is, and I've seen him at 30, when he is found out in his weakness, and he is so devastated by true revelation; he cannot handle it. He ceases being a Christian; he walks off and leaves. He cannot handle the revelation of his weakness. So, I plead with you to just believe me for the moment. The soul was bent out of shape. You can describe it any way you want to. Theologians talk to us about the spirit dying, the flesh, the body becoming flesh, and the soul becoming the self-nature, or at least containing within the soul, the self-nature. Theologically, I can appreciate that teaching; I have never been totally won over by it. Not 100% but probably correct. I don't really understand what the self-nature is. Now I experience it, but I don't understand its source. I also know that my self-nature has been crucified on the cross of Jesus Christ, and I reckon that and take it as a positional truth in Christ, and I reckon in my relationship to the Lord that the self has been crucified with Christ, and it doesn't do me one bit of good. I don't get any more victory from it. I don't get any more peace, and I don't get any more deliverance. I'm sure you all do. You know what your place is in Christ, and you know your self-nature has been nailed to the cross, and you have taken that position, and you're now victorious, and you're walking in the faith walk. Is that what it's called? The faith walk. Oh, the faith rest. Faith rest. You see it, you trust it, you believe it, you proclaim it, and you rest it there.

I'm looking at people who don't even know what positional truth is. I can tell by the look on your face. You haven't even found out what it is to be victorious in it, and here I am trying to deliver you from your victory, which you haven't even claimed yet. Obviously, Gene Edwards isn't all that excited about positional truth. I know I have been crucified with Christ, but I need...I'm more needy than you are. I need some kind of reality stuck with that. I really do. I need to at least touch that sometimes. That reckoning and reckoning and reckoning gets just as tired and weary as speaking in tongues, praying, reading your Bible, and passing out tracts. It all gets a little boring, and I think its roots all stem from intellectualism.

I always enjoy looking at the kind of guy who teaches positional truth. He's always skinny, and he's high thyroid, and if he weren't a preacher or a Bible teacher, he'd be a scientist, and he's trying to get some emotional little sister over there to reckon, and her washing machine is broken down, and her kids are crying, and her house smells. She hasn't cleaned it in weeks. She's right in the middle of her third nervous breakdown. And he's saying, "Sister, reckon yourself and see your position in Christ." That's one of those wonderful panaceas that is a cure-all, but there are a lot of Christians running around who refuse to be cured by that cure-all.

I don't mean to run down positional truth, but I do like every once in a while to take a swat at sacred cows. I just can't help it. I just love to shoot a sacred cow every once in a while. And positional truth is supposed to be the ultimate end of all things. Doesn't help me a bit. Never has, never will. Reckoning just doesn't do a thing for me. I know who I am, and I know where I am, and I know what I am, but knowledge never did sit with me. That's great for a German. I'm a Frenchman. Right.

Well, now we have a very fallen soul, twisted; the self-nature is there. We can no longer contact the other realm. It's almost like on our biological chart, we have God here, the angels here, man here, and the animals here, and man falls from just a little lower than the angels to just a little higher than the animals, and he took with him the whole cosmos.

Have you ever driven along the roads of your country and observed the twisted evidence of the fall in nature? Have you ever been driving along in Colorado or Wyoming and seen the strata beside you on the hill and then seen that same stratum coming this way and then seen a section where that stratum has been pushed up, turned over, and is lying in that direction, literally on the other part of the mountain? If you open your eyes and look at your planet, there's evidence everywhere of chaotic twist, turning, and desperate contortion of the earth, which I believe came at the time of the fall.

Here we are. We are almost a different species. In fact, when Adam...let me tell it this way. Adam and Eve went through a terrible, terrible change; they could only remember what they once were. The light went out. They were prone to sin. They lost their fellowship with God. They were cast out of the garden. The very earth on which they ruled had become a jungle where it had been a paradise, and they could feel things going on inside them. And oh, I'm sure the guilt and all the things that you and I live with today, that we lived with from the day we were born, came as new experiences to them, and they fell so far. I think of when the children were born, and the children didn't glow, and the children have never seen God, and don't understand what their mother and dad are talking about. Their children grow up, and they fight all the time. Their parents don't understand this, and when one of them murders the other one, they see the corruption and the lust and the rebellion in their children as they spawn this breed so unlike what they themselves once were.

I will tell you that when Adam and Eve died, it was almost as if a species had become extinct, and in a real way, a species did become extinct in Adam and Eve because their children were not biologically constituted the way their father and mother were. I'm speaking biologically. Are you

following me? They were not biologically constituted the way their mother and father were. Mama and Daddy were more regal than they were. Mama and Daddy had seen God. Mom and Daddy had heard voices. Mom and Daddy had walked with God in a place we've never been. Something died in them that they once had; I have never known it. It's in me, but I've never felt it in me. It's dead, and for it to be dead is virtually the same as it not being there. If you could have dissected Adam soon after he was created by the Lord, you would have found a living, pumping, breathing organ in there if you could see the unseen, but if you had dissected Cain, you would have found no such living, breathing, functioning ball of light in him. They were biologically different. One was alive and died, and the other one had never been alive. So, Cain, Seth, Abel, and the other children of Adam, descendants of Adam, were a different species.

In fact, I think the angels must have been standing around and saying, "Adam looked so young, but his offspring are just old. Adam would have lived even in his death. He looked younger than they did, and he lived so long. Look at his children. They're getting wrinkled. They're old. They're old men. This is an old man, and so there came a term somewhere on the earth. It was given to this...may I use this paradoxical statement? A name was given to this new species. The name was "the old man," this species not in the garden. Did you follow me? It is new, and its characteristic is oldness. It is a species that looks like this. It has a dead spirit, a contorted soul, and a sin-dwelled body. A damaged soul, a spirit dead to the other realm, and a body that is becoming flesh with every passing generation, and is driving the soul, leading the soul in many situations.

Could we look at it this way? At one time, Adam's soul had been in control, with a spirit close behind, and his body totally in submission. With the fall, the soul drops to second place. Are you following me? The spirit drops to third place, and the flesh comes to first place. So that now it is the flesh that is driving, the soul that is following hard after, and the spirit is being dragged around in a coffin of death: the body.

Well, that's where man is now. That's where he is stuck. Boy, oh boy. I still feel sorry for that man. I'll tell you one thing. I bet you that Cain, eventually, in his old age, and probably Seth, became real evangelists about not disobeying God when they saw this ongoing problem taking control of their whole being.

Well, man's now in a big mess. He's got two problems. One, he is very fallen. And the other one is that he is so far away from his original purpose. He was incomplete before he fell. Now he's not only incomplete, but he's fallen away from where he was. He's going to need a great salvation. He is really going to need a great salvation.

What does he need? He needs the resurrection of his spirit. He needs the forgiveness of his sins and the restoration of his soul. And who knows what he needs in his body? Well, he needs forgiveness. God alone knows what it takes to move that. Do you know if he had all that where he'd be? He'd be right back up to zero. He'd be all the way back up to zero, and that's all he would be. He still would not be completed. Brother Tom, that's why the gospel of salvation is so inadequate, and we made it the center of our faith. I'm always stunned at the capacity of the

evangelist to say, "And why did God create man? Why, He created him that He might save him from his sins." That's really not very accurate, is it? They once existed without sin. That cannot be why God created him. Maybe that's why the Lord came to earth to save him, but that is inadequate because that still just puts him back where he was at zero. No, the eternal purpose of God is not to save us from our sins. There's something higher He was after: an eternal purpose. Wilbert, did you follow that? That is important for you as a young Christian to understand.

Well, let's skip the whole sorry state of the Old Testament. If this Old Testament can serve us anything, it can give us a textbook into the insight of human nature. Now, praise the Lord. Let's not go immediately to the cross and look at man's redemption. Let's not do that. I think we would make a critical error. Let's see what took place.

I think when we look at the Lord Jesus Christ, we get so clear on what the Gospel is. Now, I want to get excited again. We are about to see the Lord Jesus Christ incarnated. That means He is going to make His appearance on the earth, but He is the eternal Son now in a woman's womb, about to go through the door. The door is the womb of Mary. He is about to make His longest visitation. We never know where that door is. He is coming from unseen realms into seen realms.

He has eternally fellowshiped with His Father; some mystery that none of us will ever know. He is still one with His Father, and yet He is the Son element of the Godhead, now in a body, an embryonic body growing inside that woman's womb. And there comes out of her womb a species utterly foreign to this planet. This species has never been on this planet before. You've got to get clear. This is a foreign visitation. This is strictly outer space stuff. This is not God, for God is spirit. This is not man because man's spirit is dead. You say, "But He was man." Yes. And He was God. Yes. But God was not man, and man was not God. Is that not true? Here's somebody who is both. Therefore, He is neither. Well, I don't know if He was neither or not; maybe He was both. He was totally one and totally the other. I can only tell you this: that which came out of Mary's womb was a unique new biological entity that does not fit on this chart. He does not fit.

I don't know if you're aware of this, but the New Testament never speaks of the new man. That's not in the Greek. It speaks of a new humanity. That's the actual word. A new humanity, an old humanity. I am not doing violence to scripture when I say here was a new species. Yes, utterly man, with the Life of God, but not on that biological chart up until that moment. There's something strange going on here because I'll tell you, creation is over, and when God says creation is over, creation is over, and yet here is something new in creation. Therefore, we can only assume one thing. He is not created. He is before creation. But it is the first time that He has ever appeared literally with His own earthbound body on this earth.

Now, are you following me? We have a new biological entity here. As He grew in Galilee, there in Nazareth, He became aware that He was not normal, not like those little boys, those little girls. His mama knows it, and she helps Him through probably some real difficulties. He's growing, and He's growing. He begins to hear voices. Do you know that He began to hear voices? Your Lord heard voices, and they weren't out there; they were in here. Something was going on, and He heard

voices, and pretty soon that voice got very clear, and He could hear that voice, and He could listen to that voice.

Now I'm conjecturing here, but I'm sure, I'm absolutely certain. He would begin to have flashbacks and go along, and He would say, " Those lilies are so beautiful. I created those real lilies. I remember that; this little kid made them. He gets a little older, and more and more, He fellowships with what is going on internally. This is not Adam, folks. He is not seeing God out there. He is sensing God within and remembering past things. One day, He's hearing about Moses, and he flashes back to the day He parted the Red Sea, and He remembers that He told Moses who He is and that He has been forever.

I think as He grows, He really, literally, becomes "I am." I don't question that, at least in His spirit, the Lord could move from one end of eternity to the other. If you don't understand what I mean, I'm telling you that I believe my God can traverse time and space; even now, my Lord can visit the Red Sea. I believe that. I may not be right, but I believe it because He said, "I am, I am here in Egypt. I am here in Ur of Chaldees. I am here in Jerusalem. I am here in Galilee. I am, I am there. I am there. I am at the cross. I am present at Gene's salvation. I am there at the close of the age. I am there after the ages are closed. I am. I am. I am. I am. I am.

And one day, He looks at someone and says, "Before Abraham was, I am." He is constantly there. He was beginning. He is end. This does away with predestination. When one can travel from one end of the sphere of time to the other, it's not predestined; it's just the way it is, folks. It's just the way it is. I don't want to get off on that. I want you to see Him growing up. I want you to know that every parable He told probably came to Him in moments of insight when He recalled, and when you go back and read the parables, you try to figure out what it was the Lord saw. The Lord inspired David to write Psalm 23, but I am certain that David is not the first person to ever experience Psalm 23. I am absolutely certain that Psalm 23 was experienced somewhere by Jesus Christ, by Christ Jesus, the eternal Son of God, long before David was born or long after.

Now, if I'm losing you, that's okay. I just want you to get a little delivered from time and space. I want you to be a little less Aristotelian. I just want you to be conscious of your Lord's spiritual growth. Of these two things, I am certain: He heard his indwelt Father, and He reestablished as He grew up, He reestablished the eternal bond of fellowship that had been established throughout all eternity. They were living again that wonderful fellowship in the Godhead with a difference. One of them was visible. One member of the Godhead was visible, and maybe one was in time, and the other was in eternity; I don't know, but He's growing, He's getting older, and at age 20, He's learning about God while the priests are down in the temple learning about the Bible. When He's 30, it's time for Him to become a true priest. He reaches the age of the priesthood. You can stop your training now. He graduated from seminary. He has now come into a full, may I say, reunited fellowship with the Lord. Not reunited of natures, but a full maturity of that which had been only now it's on earth. Now listen to me, saints. I am talking to you about the Christian life. I am talking to you about the first experience of the Christian life on this planet in time and in space.

The other day, I said to you that the deeper Christian life began in God. Maybe the Father being the first Christian; at least the Son being the first Christian. And now this experience, together, has been brought into our realm and is known again in a measurable place: Galilee. The Christian experience is now living on this side of the door.

I like to go around and shake every one of you and say, "Do you understand what I'm talking about?" Well, I'm going to repeat it. Obviously, the Lord Jesus said, "That's great for my Father and me, but my followers will read the Bible and pray and witness and tithe and go to church. They can't have what my Father and I have got, fellowship with one another. I didn't come to give them what I've got; I'm going to come give them something else because these peasants down here have all sinned and fallen and this and that and they're going to sit on pews for an hour every Sunday morning till their bones ache, and they're going to obey me or I'm going to strike them dead, and they're going to find all 11,493 promises in the Bible and trust me for them, and they're going to find oil 6650 quadrillion commandments, and they better know them and obey every one of them. But my Father and I will fellowship together.

Two Christian lives, the one that my Father and I have, and the one I'm going to curse this human race with. Now, that I tell you, that's where we end up if we follow logic. I'm telling you that whatever was happening to Jesus Christ in Galilee, He was about to pass it on. Whatever was going on between Him, the Son of God, and His Father, He was about to pass it on to others. If that's not true, then we need a great big page in the Bible in the New Testament that says there's a double standard: God the Father and God the Son; you can't touch that. You, Buster, are going to live a real objective... on the physical plane... life, existence, and ignore what went on between God the Father and God the Son; you're stuck with something worse. I need that right out in plain view, because either the Lord was coming to give an eternal relationship, or He ended up with the oddest thing on earth, coming to give us something that He invented right out of thin air somewhere around the crucifixion and the resurrection, and we're totally lost as to what it might be.

I really want to press my point. I ask you this question. When Jesus Christ got out of bed in the morning, by what means did He live the Christian life? By what means did He live the Christian life? If you would tell me by obedience to the word of God, by fasting and by prayer and by seeking the will of God, and by going to the synagogue, by obedience to the Old Testament or whatever else you're going to come up with, and you tell me that's how my Lord lived the Christian life, then I stand in utter shock and amazement. I tell you, I might as well be a Muslim. To say that my Lord came to this earth and wrestled out by human gut what He went through?

No, there was something within Him that He could lay hold of. There was something real going on there, folks. When a bird gets up in the morning, it lives by bird life. When a dog gets up in the morning, gets out of bed, and lives by the strength of dog life. And when the old man gets up and gets out of bed in the morning, and every bone in him creaks, and he faces Babylon and Egypt and the world system and the religious system and recreation and government and politics and powers unseen and he faces that life, that day, for 24 hours, he creaks out of bed and he lives by fallen

human life. But when my Lord got out of bed in the morning in Galilee, He had a body that had no sin in it. He had a soul that was not distorted nor twisted. It was the perfect soul. And He had inside that soul a human spirit like Adam had, but inside His human spirit, He had another spirit...forget that...He had something else inside His spirit. He had the life of God.

Now, if you got up in the morning and you had a body that was not indwelt by sin, and if you had a soul that was undistorted, and if you had a living spirit within that, and if you had the Life of God inside that spirit, what would you live by? What would you live by? What would your choice be? I would live by the Life of God, given the choice, would you not? I would not live by rules, nor demands, nor fasting, nor prayers, nor the expectations of men, nor the expectations of God. I would be motivated, impelled, and I would draw my source from God Himself. What was living out in Galilee and in Judea and in Jerusalem in those last horrendous hours was a man living by a life not human. Hallelujah. And having done all that so gloriously and so successfully, He rose from the grave and said, "Tough about you. I've got this. This is all mine. You can't have it. Here's a Bible."

Boy, I know I know this is rank heresy. There's nothing theologically wrong with what I'm saying. It's just that it's heresy. It's heresy by our mindset, not scriptural heresy. I was told recently that, and I don't want to get off on the scriptural end of this thing, but I was told recently that a brother was talking to a Russian Christian who was going through these dark persecutions in Russia from what is called the underground church, and the Christian saw the Russian's Bible, and he was commenting on how wonderful it was to have the scripture, and he was expecting the Russian to answer back how wonderful it was, and the Russian said to him, he poked him on the chest and said, "You know something, what is really wonderful that the church in the first century didn't have one." You have 90, 95, 98, 99% illiteracy, and you have a church that does not have a Bible.

Listen, it was in the 50s A.D. before the first piece of Christian literature was ever penned: Galatians, and it was probably before 100 A.D. before it was widely distributed. That's the first one. The second piece of Christian literature, probably the book of James, was also mostly distributed around Jerusalem and Judea. 1 and 2 Corinthians, probably down toward the end of the century, before it was widely distributed. I'm not putting down the Bible. You folks listen to me. I got something to say to you. If there's a Biblicist out there who is having a running fit, I'll tell you something. I know two kinds of Christians...committed Christians. Those committed to the Bible and those who are committed to Jesus Christ. Those who make the Bible the center of their ministry and claim that Christ is the center of their ministry, and those who make Christ the center of their ministry. Those who make Christ the center of their ministry are consistently more obedient to the scripture than those who make the scripture central to their ministry. They are more obedient to it. They live it more. They experience it more, and they are closer in their church experience, as well as their personal experience, to that which the scripture unfolds.

You do not do damage to the Bible, the inspired scripture, the word of God, by making Jesus Christ the center of your faith. But that's not my point. My point is that the Lord Jesus Christ had an

internal relationship with His Father. We speak of the indwelling Christ. Well, Christ would speak of the indwelling Father. And He lived by His Father within Him, not out there, not objectively, not something seen, not addressed this way. He lived by the life of God within Him, and His relationship went internally, and if you will simply reread the Gospels, you'll find it from one end of the four evangelists to the other, over and again, just open your eyes. You'll see, you can almost sometimes read into...if you'll read the parables from this viewpoint and stop looking for what you're supposed to do with a parable, that parable will jump out at you, and you can almost see the day the Lord discovered that parable. And He will tell you again and again and again and again how He lived with His Father. And those men who lived with Him, 20 of them, 30, 40, 12, however small that number was, when they lived with Him, don't kid yourself. They were watching and were fascinated by His internal relationship with His Father more than everything else put together. They could sense it. I've known a few godly Christians in my life. You can feel what's going on inside them if they're standing on the other side of a brick wall. You can feel it. And to live in the presence of the Son of God...those men may not have had an indwelling Christ as they walked around the hot streets and highways and byways of Galilee and Judea, but they watched that life in front of them. And later, when they got that life, they knew how to relate to that life.

Now, I want you to look at the biology of this new species. I'm talking about the history of the spirit. No problem in the body, no problem in the soul. A living spirit because He's never known sin, and within His spirit, another form of life, the highest form of life on the biological chart. Whoopee. God has got His purpose in the creation of man. He has moved man from the third place on the biological chart to first place. Here is a species living by a life not human. That's the destiny God had prescribed and planned for Adam and has found in Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord.

Well, He died for our sins, but He did more than that. He died to be able to pass on that relationship. I don't know if you fully understand what I mean. If you want to know what happened on the cross and how the Lord died, I would ask you to read the crucifixion account in *The Divine Romance* and the resurrection as well. But there's a story that isn't in *The Divine Romance* that I will tell now, the way I told the story of *The Divine Romance*. I'll take it and make it a little larger so you can see it clearly.

I want you to see Him raised from the dead in a mystery beyond mysteries. The body no longer hides God. We are now looking at the glorified Christ. Oh, I guess I'm a little ahead of myself. That would be the Lord in His ascension. For the sake of His disciples, the body is hiding the indwelling Father, but the body is totally spiritual. I want you to know that the body belongs as much now to the other realm as His spirit does. His body can traverse time and space and walk through a wall.

Now, brothers and sisters, if His body can walk through a wall, it can also walk through a rib cage. Now that's why we speak of Christ being in us. Anyway, He has the ability to move through physical matter, and there is a group of men hiding. It's the day the Lord rose from the dead. A group of men is hiding in a room. The room is sealed, and He suddenly appears. He just walked

right through the wall. He is free, not only of time and space, but of matter, and now we have something truly new on the earth. We have something that's visible that belongs to the spiritual realm. Totally. Before, everything that belonged to the spiritual realm was invisible.

I want just you to know something. If right now you and I could walk through that door and look around, we couldn't see anything because we're blind to the invisibles; at least with these eyes we are. Not with these, but with these we are blind. But we could see something up there or out there, wherever it is; we'd see a man. He is visible right now in other realms. He can be seen. There is a man, at this moment, on the other side of that door, and He is visible. Praise the Lord. And yet He is totally spiritual. And that's the resurrected Christ as He stands in that room that night.

Then the scripture says the most unbelievable thing. It says, "And He breathed not on them." That is not a correct translation. He breathed *into* them. He breathed what into them? Did He do what He did when He made Adam? Did He breathe into man the winds of heaven? No, not this time. He breathed into them the spirit of God. That is, He breathed into them another life form. At that moment, they did something that had never been done before. They moved on the biological chart. One species changed places. They now had, in them, the life of God. There were 12, no 11, no 10. Thomas wasn't there; the other one had lately committed suicide, the treasurer. 10 men. Oh, it's very much like what happened in the Garden of Eden. I can see it: coming out of this one who can now share His life because He's risen from the dead. If you don't understand that, you understand wheat. A wheat seed fell into the earth. A wheat seed came up, many wheat seeds, yet still one wheat seed. He came up many, yet one. He took His life, and He could now share it just as one wheat seed grows up, and you can make bread out of it. Still the same wheat seed, the very same wheat seed. He is now many but one. And He breathes into them and impregnates them with the very life of God. He breathed into them not what He breathed into the nostrils of Adam, not the wind of heaven, but the very spirit of God; the highest Life form went into them.

Now, here's what happened. As God's life came down through their nostrils and into the lungs, and I can see His life once more; if we can see the unseen churning, pulsating, billowing, and begins to move into the deepest part of that disciple and comes upon that dead spirit, long forgotten, never used, dead since Adam, in tuned deep within the soul. That Spirit and that Life which Himself, or itself, has lately risen from the dead, now has the power of resurrection.

We have died once. Our spirits have died already. And there they sit...there it sits, inside the disciple, and here comes the Spirit of God, the highest Life form in the universe, God Himself, in a form dispensable to those who believe. This churning, glowing, wondrous life of God comes near this dead spirit. It quivers. Closer and closer, the life of God comes, and finally there's contact, and the dead spirit comes alive, and it's back in correspondence, and it has... It's living again, but please remember, it came from another realm, and it can contact that realm again, and it's got what Adam's got. Yes, the veil of the flesh is still there, not broken, but the spirit's alive. When Adam had a veil of flesh in his body, his spirit was dead, but our veil of the flesh has been forgiven, and our spirit has risen from the grave by the power of the God, the eternal spirit that raised Jesus from

the dead and has made him one, who can resurrect because coming in contact with that dead spirit is the Resurrection. I am the resurrection, and I am the life.

Can you see the meaning of those words now? Here comes resurrection Himself, touching the human spirit. The spirit ignites, and here comes Life: the highest Life form on the biological chart. Eternal life. The Life of God. And now the Life of God not only touches the human spirit but penetrates the human spirit. Hallelujah. And there's an explosion. There's some sort of something that happens, and I'll just tell you what the New Testament said. I'll not try to interpret. *And the two became one spirit.*

Now you tell me what that means. There's a dissolution. The two become the same element, and now there are in that room 11 men with living spirits and 11 men with a Life, the highest Life, in them. Not one man, but 11 men can get out of bed tomorrow morning and live by a life not human. 11 men can get out of bed tomorrow morning and live by the Life of God. 11 men can live by the Life of God himself, the very Life God lives by. The new species that has come to earth is breeding. It's getting bigger, and there's a new species, a bride in the land, a new creation, because it doesn't belong to the old creation. It is biologically unique. And that's me, and that's you. Praise the Lord.

That's the history of the spirit; that's its history right there. I'll tell you just a few more things, that when that Spirit of God resurrected...that which is Resurrection and Life comes and touches that dead spirit and makes that dead spirit alive, that living pulsating eternal life comes and brings not only resurrection and life and God's spirit, and not only makes the two one, but that pulsating life of God brings with it, if I can use the word it, brings with Him, brings with it, the history, the history, the experience. The history moves in too. Hallelujah.

You know what really happened? I'll tell you what really happened. Just as simple as it can be. Before God ever created, before He ever made an angel, before He ever made this physical realm or the spiritual realm, He made a simple decision. Somewhere deep within the sea of the Godness of God, He marked out a small portion of Himself, and He said, "That'll be Andy on the day of redemption. That'll be Andy's, but all of Me will be in that little piece of Me and all My history. Past and future are there." And in any...in a really, really real way, there you were. I mean, that's the real you because brother now the spirit is central, or it's going to gain centrality. It might hit a real war, but it's going to gain centrality.

And all in the world that happened to you on the day you got saved was He just plucked that which He had marked off from all eternity past; marked off in Christ before the foundation of the world. Says predestined. That's an English word. Marked out in Christ before the creation of the world. He just put from His inmost being, that which is in Christ, and implanted it in you. And that life came down, raised your spirit from the dead, and they became one. Now you have the Lord in you, and that portion of you has always been alive, has a great history, and will always be alive, and it will live forever. And given half a chance, it's going to reach out and change your soul, and the body is going to be cast off; changed. You know how it's going to get changed? Another mystery, and then I got to quit, or you're going to go on overload, because in some mystery beyond all

mysteries, there is inside the Life of God the seed of a new body, so small that it is too small to be found. And that body is like unto the body of your Lord, your Lord presently, and on the day of the trumpet, the trumpet will call forth that little bitty seed, and that seed will come out of the spirit and out of the soul. As the old body dissolves, the new will take its place, and you and I are going to have bodies that are as spiritual as our spirits, and I mean by that, not spiritual in their religious nature, I mean as spiritual in their composite in their substance, as spiritual as our spirits, yet visible. We're going to join the Lord in the invisible realms, and we're going to see the unseen with our very eyes, not with our spirits. We're going to know just as well as we are presently and utterly totally known. John said, "I don't know what we shall be, but I know this. *We will be like Him.*" Praise the Lord.

Well, now that's the history of the deeper Christian life, and that's the history of your spirit. I just want you to remember something when you go home tonight, you get in bed, pull the covers up around you, remember that your spirit's alive, and like Adam's spirit, it came from realms unseen. It may have died in this realm, but it came from the other realm, and it's got a right to be in that other realm. It came from that realm. It belongs to that realm, and you are now part of two realms. You have been saved by the redemptive power, the death and resurrection of your Lord, and through the effectual graces of His blood, you have been cleansed, saved, and redeemed, and your spirit has been made alive. You may not have a glorious body, and there may be a stoppage out here, but internally, you have what Adam had. You have a functioning spirit that can see unseen things. And within your spirit is the Life of your Lord, and you can turn to that spirit, to that realm, to that life, and live by a life not your own.

I want you to just pull your covers up tonight and think about it. I'm alive inside. The Lord Jesus Christ lives in me right now; in the same way the Father lived in Him when he walked through Galilee and Judea. I can now establish an internal relationship with Him that is like unto His fellowship with the Father in all eternity and 33 years upon this earth, and I can establish that fellowship now. Hallelujah. I have a right to join in that fellowship. I have a right to join in that fellowship. I have a right to join in with a fellowship that takes place in the Godhead. *I have a right to go there and enjoy and become part of that glorious fellowship.* He intended it.

I can walk into another realm. It is called my spirit. I can walk in the spirit; I can walk in another realm. I can live in another realm; I can live in my spirit. It is geographically locatable. It's not some woo, woo, woo spirit. It's a place, and I can go there. I have a right to go there, and I can go there, and I will go there. I can live there. I can walk in my spirit, and I can live by a life of my own. I can live by the Life of God because it's been given to me by the death and resurrection of my Lord, and He indwells me, and I can draw from Him as my source and my life.

Now just give me a handle. Just give me a handle. Just give me a little handle, and I'll run with it. I hope you'll never read the New Testament again, and read where it says, to live in spirit and be in spirit and walk in spirit and think that's a place outside you; that's a place inside you: it's internal.

That's where your Lord lived. He lived inside Himself. No, He didn't. He lived inside where His Father was.

Where did you come from? You came from inside God...no, you came from inside Christ, the Son, the eternal Son. That's where you came from. You came from inside Him. There's something in you that came from Him. Now, where is He? He's inside you. So, Christ is in you, and you've been in Christ. You are in Christ. Christ is in you. I don't know what more you want. You got forgiveness of your sins. Well, what more do you want? You want a handle? That's what you want, a handle. Well, I hope you get it before the week is over.

And to you saints who have been watching us, this is just for us. This doesn't pertain to you. (smiles) Brother and sister, wake up and realize there's a universe inside of you, and not only is there a universe there, but there's another form of Life there, not your own, and you can live by it. There's a place you can go, and you have a right to that place. And now I'm going to tell you one more thing.

*Blessed be the God and Father of your Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you all spiritual blessings in heavenly places. Everything that is in the heavenly places is yours. Now. You've got a right to heavenly places, right now. I bet you don't believe that. And you know what else I bet you believe? I bet you believe I can't deliver on that. I'll call your bet. I believe it is possible, outside of positional truth, for you to claim the reality of that, that you have a right to spiritual blessings in heavenly places.*