



HE CAME AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT

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*Edited for publication from Audio tape #1249
Delivered on February 15, 2009
Dawsonville, Georgia USA*

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Our scripture for this message will begin in 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 5, and my subject is: *He came As a Thief in the Night*. Not He is coming as a thief in the night. We often hear sermons that Christ is going to come as a thief in the night, but as this event has transpired we say, "He came as a thief in the night." I preached a message once entitled, *They Missed His Coming, Have We?* It was about the Jews, and how they missed His coming. They missed it, because He came as a little baby laying there in a manger. The parents were very poor and there was no room at the inn for Him; so Mary and Joseph rented a cow stall in a manger, putting a cloth down on the straw where they laid the little baby. So the King of the earth was born, and the whole Jewish nation totally missed Him.

Later, He went into the temple at twelve years old and the religious leaders were amazed at His wisdom; the questions He asked, and the answers He gave to their questions on the Word of God. Then He submitted Himself and went home with Mary and Joseph until He was about thirty years old. There was about eighteen years that the scriptures keep silent about and no doubt the question was asked many times, "Whatever happened to the young man that came to the temple that day with so much wisdom?" But He was soon long forgotten. So we could say, "There were so many wasted years." I preached a message in West Virginia some years back entitled, *Oh, Those Wasted Years, or Were They?* In our own life we may have times when we look back, and it seems like we wasted many years. But no, you didn't waste them because you were maturing; you were getting experiences of life as many different things were happening to you. Everything that has happened to you, somewhere it has made you what you are today, all those experiences combined help make you, and if you take one of them out you wouldn't be the person you are now. All things work together for good to them that love the Lord and are called according to His purpose.

So Jesus was absent as far as the scripture records for about eighteen years. Then after this, He came to the river where John was baptizing and was baptized; and then His public ministry began for about three and a half years. And though He was here all that time, yet the people missed Him. Yes, the Jewish nation as a whole totally missed His coming. So when He came into Jerusalem to offer Himself as their king, He didn't come riding in on a great white charger horse all fixed up with all the military paraphernalia on, and people weren't carrying Him on a throne blowing bugles like they would do when a king came. No. He rode in on a little donkey. Some of the common people began to pull branches from the trees to lay in the way for the little donkey to walk on saying, "Hosanna, Hosanna, to the King." But the religious leaders and the nation as a whole was ashamed of their Savoir and King and rejected Him, even though they had been waiting and singing about the coming of the Messiah, and they still are waiting today. So my question is, "They missed Him, have we?" The religion of that day missed Him. That's why they said, "Let Him be crucified!" Pilate, the Roman General, was ready to let Him live saying, "I find no fault in this man, so let's just scourge (whip) Him and let Him go," because he wanted to do something to appease the people. But the priest and the other religious leaders cried out, and got the people stirred up saying with one voice, "Crucify Him;

crucify Him!" But Pilate said, "It's customary that I release one prisoner at this time of year." So he picked the meanest man he had to compete with Jesus. He said, "Now we've got Barabbas here," which was a murderer and all kinds of things he had done; so Pilate picked Barabbas thinking they would without a doubt choose Jesus to be released over Barabbas. He thought without a doubt they would say, "Release Jesus, and keep Barabbas behind bars." But no, they did right the opposite. They said, "Release Barabbas, release Barabbas." It didn't matter that he was a murderer and a criminal. Pilate asked, "Then what shall I do with this man called Jesus?" And in one accord they cried out, "Crucify Him, crucify Him. Let Him be crucified!" The religious world had totally missed Him. They didn't know He was the Savior of the world. They didn't know He was the one who created the world as He was the Word. As they were crying out crucify Him, crucify Him, Pilate's wife sent a note to him. She was a pagan lady, and Pilate was a pagan also. This note said, "Have nothing to do with this just man, because I have suffered many things in a dream because of Him." So that scared Pilate; he knew now he was getting into trouble. So he sent for a pan of water and washed his hands before the people. He said, "I find no fault in this man. I wash my hands; I'm free from this innocent man's blood." But you can't wash Jesus off your hands. Pilate was the only one that could authorize the crucifixion of Jesus, or let Him go. But because of the persuasion of the people, Pilate delivered Him to be crucified. The same thing happens many times today where people will let other people have influence on them, and persuade them to go contrary to what they know is right because something looks like it would be the most popular thing to do. But in serving God, it's usually never the popular thing to do. A lot of times it's contrary to what most people think. Amen. But we must do what is right in all cases regardless. So the Jewish Nation missed Him. They totally missed Him. "He came as a thief in the night," and as far as they were concerned, He was just a little baby in a manger. Now in this last day we find the Lord coming back again, as the Mighty Angel, and the whole religious world has missed His coming. There's a message today; He's in the message, and still people are missing it.

All right, let us pray before reading the scripture... *Heavenly Father, in Jesus Name, I pray that you will anoint us Lord as we endeavor to minister this Word of God. I pray Lord that you will put the words in my mouth that I may speak words that will be edifying, uplifting, and revealing to the people that will cause a great awakening, so they will realize we surely have arrived at the end time. And give understanding that the Lord has come and it has been as a thief in the night, and the church world, the religious world has missed it. Oh God, just anoint us and bless us we pray as we minister your Word. In Jesus Name. Amen.*

Now Paul was writing to the saints here in 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 5:1, and this is speaking of the coming of the Lord. He says, "*But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.*" In other words, if you are in the light, you're awake, and we have no need because you can see it. Verse 2, "*for yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*" That's why they missed it. He came as a thief in the night. That's how Jesus came, as a thief in the night laying in the manger. Continuing Verses 3-4, "*For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye brethren are not in darkness (you understand this, you know what is going on) that that day should not overtake you as a thief.*" Now, he's saying there's going to be some that this day will not overtake them as a thief. There will be some that are awake, that are

knowledgeable, and that are walking in the light in perfect contact with the Lord and know what has happened. Now he continues here in Verse 5, "*Ye are all children of light* (light has to do with understanding), *and children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*" See, he is making such a clear differentiation that we're not of the night; we're not of the darkness. We're children of light; we don't even need anybody to tell you about it." In other words, the Holy Spirit has come into you letting you know, "He's here. He's here." He's here today in the power of the resurrected Savior, and He is here in the power of His Word. He's here to make Himself known in the Word. He's here to apply completely that new covenant, and that new covenant is this, "that the Holy Spirit will write His laws, not with ink it says., not with ink, but by His Spirit He writes His laws in your heart and in your mind." He is here writing, using His pen today, and His pen doesn't write natural Word.

Many times we will hear preachers preach, when actually they are not preaching as much as exhorting. Because they will take a subject and take certain scriptures to speak about, and all it takes to do that is to have a concordance (Bible dictionary) and get all the scriptures that relates to that subject. You can stand up and read them and put on a dramatic act as you read, but yet the written Word alone is not the real Spiritual Word, that is only the house the Word lives in. That's the garden the Word grows in. Jesus said, "*My words are Spirit and they are life;*" and they will be written in your heart and in your mind by the Holy Spirit. That's His new covenant. He puts His laws in your mind and in your heart. Paul said, "You're not children of night, children of darkness, but you're children of light," just speak the Word with the anointing and God will do the writing.

Now notice the title of the subject *He Came as a Thief in the Night*, and not He is coming as a thief in the night. It is for sure they have totally missed Him today. There are many people still looking for the coming of the Lord, but in the Spirit He has already come and united with the members of His body as His wife in the earth. Now we know there is a physical coming in the sky, but He does not come to earth in the physical at the time of the rapture, we meet Him in the air as a glorified body. But here and now, He is seen in the earth by revelation as the wife of the Lamb. (Revelation 19:7-8) She is His flesh and bone, (Ephesians 5:30) as He has descended from heaven with a shout, the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-16) Revelation, Chapter 10, also shows that He comes to earth as the Mighty Angel and puts one foot on sea and one foot on earth, showing He came Himself all the way to the earth as the Mighty Angel to marry His wife. So there can be no doubt this is the coming of the Lord as Paul spoke of it in 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 4, and John spoke the same in Revelation, Chapter 10:1-2; that's Christ in the earth presently. But when we speak of the physical coming of the Lord, as Lord of Lords and King of Kings, without exception, we are speaking of His coming after the tribulation period to the earth to start the millennium reign. But to get a thorough understanding of what the Bible teaches about the coming of the Lord, it is very important to differentiate between the coming in Revelation, Chapter 10:1 as the Mighty Angel, and His physical coming to earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lord's with His wife, which is raptured (or caught away) before the onset of the great tribulation period. So to have a complete understanding of what the Bible says about the coming of the Lord, we are saying what is needful to differentiate between the coming of the Lord as the Mighty Angel in Revelation, Chapter 10, and His physical coming as King of Kings and Lord of Lords with His

wife as seen in Revelation, Chapter 19. There is a portion of the Word of God that reveals where we are today and the part that applies to us, Revelation, Chapter 10:8-11. How can we be the bride unless we recognize the part of the Word that is for us? We have to recognize our part of the Word. Now there's part of the Word that cannot be written in letter, it's only Word that is written in your heart by revelation. It's that little book of Revelation, Chapter 10:8-11 and you eat it; then you begin to prophesy again! Hallelujah!

Many years ago, I preached three messages on *The Great Commission*. The first commission was Jesus telling His disciples to go preach the Word, but go only to the lost sheep of Israel. Go not to the Gentiles. Go not to the Samaritans. The second phase of that great commission was to start on the Jewish Feast Day of Pentecost, the Lord told the twelve apostles to be a witness unto the uttermost parts of the earth. Then here came Paul, and he was persecuting the church when God struck him down with a great light and called him to go preach to the Gentiles. God gave him another commission, and the third commission came into play right then. He said, "I'm going to send you to preach to the heathens, to the Gentiles." The third part of that great commission only started in the days of Paul as he was introducing a Gentile bride to Christ, and he introduced her as a virgin. But he said, "I fear as the serpent beguiled Eve, that your mind should be corrupted from the simplicity of Christ." He was giving the virgin a warning to stay with the Word he preached. Then as he went forth preaching the gospel, he realized there were men among them, and that as soon as he was gone they would rise up and draw disciples to themselves. He said, "The spirit of iniquity already doeth work." History shows the church fell away; we know that, as the first three Chapters of the Book of Revelation clearly show. If you read about that first church age in Revelation, Chapter 2, Jesus gave a message to that Ephesus church age and he said, "Thou art fallen from your first love." But here at the end time, God has sent a message to start a restoration back to the original Word which means that third commission is now taking place. It has brought us back to the same thing Paul preached, and as we go from there to Revelation, Chapter 10:8-11, it completes the third phase of the great commission, and once again the Word of God is Spirit. He said, "The letter killeth, but it is the Spirit that will give you life." "God has made us able ministers, not of the letter of the Word, but of the Spirit." So at this time Christ has come back again. Now, I want to inject this in here about 'this coming' so that you will understand. When the church fell away, Christ was seen as high priest. The literal Jesus did not get up and come down to earth, but He projected Himself as high priest and is seen here walking among the seven church ages until all seven ages are over. And now that the church ages are over, we can see that in heaven He takes the book of redemption (the Big Book) that is spoken of in Revelation, Chapter 5, which was sealed with seven seals. In this pictorial scene the bloody Lamb breaks the seven seals. Then the scene changes as Christ, the Mighty Angel, is seen bringing the little book (which is a small portion of the book of redemption corresponding to what Paul said in Romans, Chapter 15, "*I will not speak of those things which God has not wrought by me*") back to the earth for His wife, which is the unwritten part or prophetic part of Paul's message that is spoken Word. Remember here, that Paul's writings or message is only a small part of the total Bible. But the bloody Lamb having seven eyes and seven horns which are the seven Spirits of God is not shown in the earth at this time, but stays in heaven with the Big Book which shows that it has been opened since the breaking of the seven seals in 1963. It will remain with the Lamb to show God's mercy to Israel,

and continues in a limited way to the foolish virgins and tribulation saints because they didn't get caught away and are still in the earth. They continue to worship God as though the Lord Himself has not descended from heaven as 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 4:13-18, and Revelation, Chapter 10 says. We see *them* in Revelation, Chapter 7:13-14, and it records that they are washing their garments in the blood of the Lamb. This period of time will be similar to what it was in the church age period where the blood had to be applied constantly, keeping the spots out of their garments. That's why people went heavy on taking communion and foot washing while they were coming through that period where it was necessary to constantly remind the church that the blood was continuously being applied as they were reminded... (Do this in remembrance) of the crucifixion. But we find in the Book of Hebrews that, "We should have no more consciousness of sin." We find in the Old Testament that every year they had to offer a sacrifice, bringing their sins back to remembrance again. But Paul says, "Jesus Christ as the high priest entered once into the holy place having obtained eternal redemption for us all, and there should be no more conscience of sin." (Hebrews 10:2) So, therefore as we fully understand that Christ, the Mighty Angel of Revelation, Chapter 10, has come down (1 Thessalonians, Chapter 4) to this earth to take on flesh and bones, it lets us know that the long awaited promise of His coming to marry His wife has taken place. Now having this understanding, we now know that the purpose of having the Lord's Supper or communion has been completed, but only for His wife. While the church world continues in its old established ways as they failed to realize that the promised one (the Lord Himself) has come, and did not go in with Him to become His wife. (Matthew, Chapter 25:10)

We see in the Old Testament in those sacrifices there was a remembrance made every year of their sins, and so has it been in taking the Lord's Supper or communion. So throughout the church ages the church did the same thing, and it was alright; it was in line because the church was coming through a fallen period. Christ had not come yet as the Mighty Angel of Revelation, Chapter 10:1, but now, He has come as a thief in the night. But through that time period (the church ages) they had the wine and they would drink it, this being a type of the blood. Also they would eat the bread, this being a type of the body. And every year during the church ages, preachers brought to remembrance the sins of the people. I too have been there as I started in the church ages, but I came out of the church ages into this final stage. So you can see how I started in the church ages, and the Lord brought me through the first two phases (or stages) of the coming of the Lord into this third and final phase which is beyond the church ages. The Lord has propelled me from Revelation 10:7 to 10:8-11, into this final phase (or stage) of the message with *the Word that is written in your heart*. That is the only Word that's going to be written in your heart, and it's only going to be written in His wife's heart. We are baptized into His body; we have His mind, and we have His potentials. Now, it's the whole body of Christ that is getting revelation and not just the ministry bringing it, but it's the whole body as the ministry and all other members of the body have come together as one. John in Revelation, Chapter 10:8-11 is a type of the wife of Christ, and he takes the little book and eats it. Then God says, "Prophecy now and finish that third stage of that great commission for the Gentiles before the gospel goes back to Israel." "*Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings,*" and that is what we are doing today. Hallelujah! We are not just ministering the natural Word, but we are ministering the life of the Word, which is Christ, the

Spiritual Word, as He has come back in this last day. The Spirit of the body had to come before the members could be baptized into it. While the church ages were in process, and while Jesus was pictured as high priest among the seven candlesticks and the church was going on with their church systems, such as having communion, foot washing, and all these things, the bride was called unto the higher calling of being the wife of the Lamb. (Revelation, Chapter 19:7-8) This scripture shows that the wife is clothed in fine linen, (the garment that has never been soiled) clean and white, and is not bound by the church age customs and traditions any longer which are shown as wearing a (*traveling*) garment, white robes that could get spots and blemishes as the church age saints wore.

Sometimes, we try to incorporate customs and traditions in our church's, which means their ways of doing things. But we are no longer bound by customs and traditions because we've come to the place now at His coming. That is why Christ said, "*Do this in remembrance of me until I come.*" This statement is fulfilled for His wife in 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 4:13-16, and Revelation, Chapter 10. Christ was seen for two thousand years as a high priest walking amongst the seven church ages shown in heaven (symbolically) as a bloody Lamb with seven eyes and seven horns as He walked amongst the candlesticks, girded about the paps with a golden girdle. All this is identifying the High Priest, and you can read this in Revelation, Chapter one. Then, we go on into Chapter 2, and you see each church age as He walked amongst them. But in the last day, here He comes roaring like a lion. Henceforth, we (the wife) no longer just see Him as the High Priest, nor the bloody Lamb that is interceding in heaven for us, nor do we see Him in this manner of *do this in remembrance of me*, but we see Him as our husband as a marriage has taken place.

In the Book of Revelation, Chapter 3, the church age ends. Then in Chapter 4, John said, "I was picked up in the spirit into heaven and I heard a Voice as a trumpet," and that is what you are hearing if you have been picked up. It wasn't the rapture; it was being picked up out of the age to where the Voice of Christ could be heard. You can't hear this Voice speaking in this manner in the church ages. You can't hear this as long as you're in the church ages. He has called His wife unto Himself. Yes, His wife has made herself ready. Now John in Revelation, Chapter 10, is a clear type of the wife of the Lamb. John is not only a type of the ministry, but all the members of the wife combined as a marriage has taken place. She's the one that went and took the little book and ate it. This message that's going around and around the world is saying that Christ has put His laws in your heart and in your mind, and He has baptized you into His body. He has come, and He came as a thief in the night! Amen! Glory to God! I tell you this thing is so real and so good! Now remember, only the wife is baptized into His body, not the foolish virgins, not the tribulation saints. See, there were other people when Jesus spoke, they heard the natural Word, but they didn't hear the Spirit of it; so is it with this Voice. There are people that this Voice just grabs them, and when it does they can't turn loose from it. If you are one of them, you might go astray, but you'll run right back in. I tell you, God knows our number; He knows who we are. He knows we are part of the wife. He knows what He wants to make us, and He has made us that.

Now notice here in 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 5:6-8, "*Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the*

night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breast plate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation."

I want to read a scripture in 2 Corinthians, Chapter 3, and I want to just get a little something there. You that have these other messages about the law and how Melchisedec came see that it was different from the regular priesthood of the Jews; now this message that I am preaching comes as something different. Melchisedec was not part of that priestly order. Paul said, "Jesus came in the order of Melchisedec in that He sprung forth from Judah, and there was nothing said about the priest." In other words, He came from a brand new order. After the church ages this ministry has come in a brand new order, it is outside and not of the church ages any longer; but is ministering the little book that shows the Spiritual coming of the Lord. (Revelation, Chapter 10, and 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 4.)

I hope we all know this, but there have been three great men that have come in our day. There's Brother William Branham, he came and revealed the Son of man (prophet). He would tell people the secrets of their hearts, and that's well known. Then here came Brother Raymond Jackson revealing to us about Israel, what the trumpets were, and much more of the Word as he obeyed God. So, Brother Branham and Brother Jackson got us through Revelation, Chapter 10:7, where all those mysteries were finished that related to the church ages and the details of the gospel going back to Israel, but then after that, a Voice spake from heaven. I preached some messages years ago in Midway, and Glen Fork, West Virginia, when the Voice of Authorization spake and said, "Go take the little book." It has taken us into a totally new ministry, a new era, where Christ has come. It reveals He has come, and He came as a thief in the night! He begins His coming right through those just mentioned ministries. And now right here, this little ministry has been hid. It started out, and you can get my life story where I was born just weighting 2 or 3 pounds, and they didn't think I was going to live. My sister Stella Mae that is still alive can give you the story. She is over 80 years old now, but she can tell you the story of how my Mama almost died. I was just a little tiny thing and Stella Mae took care of me, making what the old timers call sugar tits to feed me which consisted of taking a small piece of white cloth, rolling it up in a small roll, then dipping it in milk and sugar. She would put it into my mouth over and over again until I was fed, and it helped me to live until I could take milk from a regular bottle. The doctor told them, "The poor little thing can't live." The thing is, there laid one, just a tiny little thing that they kept in a shoe box, but somehow instead of dying I began to come out of it. Back in those days in the mountains they didn't take you to the hospital and put you on life support, you either lived or died. But I grew into a healthy baby. We were mountain people and didn't know anything about modern medicine, or the need for education. So I had very little schooling, going only to the fourth grade in a one room building where every grade was in the same room with the same teacher. I know by today's standard that was a feeble start in life, but when we look at Jesus there in a manger, nobody knew about it and He was poor as far as worldly goods go and was uneducated, but when He spoke it was amazing. It was said about Him, "How does this man know these things? He doesn't even know letters." Do you see what I am saying? "He never learned to read very well. How does He know these things?" it was asked. So getting to this place in His ministry, He had to come through all of that. But He came, and they missed Him. Now to this ministry Christ is saying, "Go get my wife for me by giving her the revealed Word for this hour," and it is happening all over the

world as we are coming into this one mind and in one accord, being baptized into the body as His wife; and John types that in Revelation, Chapter 10:8-11 for us. That's why we are repeating what is written in Revelation, Chapter 10:8-11, to go take the little book and eat it, and that's why this message of prophesying is going on all over the world... *"Prophesy again!"*

Now let's look to 2 Corinthians, Chapter 3, Verses 2-6, *"Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:."* In other words, you're what we believe. Do you want to know what Brother Ben believes? You are what I preach, and you are what I believe. You're our epistles. *"Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God: not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart."* Now, I want you to notice where this Word is written, no ink or pen can get there; it's written in your heart by the Spirit of God. *"And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward: Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God. Who also hath made us able ministers of the New Testament; not of the letter, but of the Spirit; for the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life."* I once preached a message about the natural Word being the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The Bible says, "The letter killeth." In the Garden of Eden, God said, "In the day you eat of the tree of knowledge you'll die." The letter of the Word kills without the Spirit, which is the tree of life that able ministers are able to connect to the tree of knowledge to produce children with eternal life. That's the Spirit of God, the Authorizing Voice that connects the Word and Spirit together for us. Remember the message entitled, *Unlike Eve, We waited for the Voice of Authorization to Eat?* So when you put the Word and Spirit together, it brings forth children with eternal life, and He makes us able ministers of the Spirit of the Word, not just the letter of the Word. Sometimes God chooses someone that doesn't know how to read very much just to confound the wise of this world. So with Christ it is not the letter of the Word, but it's the Spirit of the Word. It's the Spirit of the Word that gives life, the letter of the Word (alone) will never, never, give life. And all of your learning amounts to one big zero unless it is anointed with the Spirit of Almighty God. The only way this can be written in your heart is by the Holy Spirit; not with pen and ink. Amen. We are going to read some in Revelation, Chapter 10, and I want you to notice the title of the message concerning His coming. In the days of Paul, he says, "He shall come as a thief in the night." But I am saying, "He came as a thief in the night," – past tense. *He came as a thief in the night.* That is not just the natural Word, because with natural Word you would say, He is coming and this will happen and that will happen. But, I am saying by the Spirit of the living God, "He has come!"

Now watch, the same one that was in heaven that walked among the church ages is the same one in heaven with the seven eyes and seven horns, the bloody Lamb that took the book, is pictured as the same one that has come to earth. It's a different projection of Christ than in the church ages. He has come down for His wife to marry her, and for her to be baptized into His body. Hallelujah! We have the mind of Christ; we are His wife, and are no less. Now this started happening in 1963 when the seals were opened. *"And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire and he had in his hand a little book open:,"* (this little book was in the Big Book of Redemption that was sealed in heaven.) It is important to know that Paul did the engagement of the virgin bride to Christ, and he also laid the scripture in the Word for the marriage. But the engagement was stopped at the time the church fell from its first love. So the

little book, which was within and part of the Book of Redemption, has been brought to earth by Christ, the Mighty Angel. *"And he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, and cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices."* That happened just exactly in 1963, when the seven angels came. *"And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not."* Now I want you to watch this, the same one that said, "Seal them up" in 96 A.D. is the same Voice that is saying, "Go get the little book and eat it now." The seals are off. He started this process in 1963 when Brother Branham came first, and then on to Brother Jackson, to tell where Israel fit along with other things that the bride needed before eating the little book. *"And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and things which are therein, that there should be time no longer:"* Now there is a parable spoken of in Matthew, Chapter 13, that relates to seven church ages, and it's a time period. When the time period comes to an end, He gathers the wheat in the garner on that last parable. Time is no more for it to grow out here in the field, He has come! Time is no more for that age. *"But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets."* Now if you go to Revelation, Chapter 1:20, when John saw seven candlesticks and seven lamp stands, he talked about the mystery of this. But here he says, "When the seventh angel sounds that mystery that relates to those seven angels, seven church ages, seven stars, seven candlesticks, that mystery will be finished. So Brother Branham thoroughly finished it up as the Spirit of the Lord gave him the revelation of the seven church ages and the seven seals. But then there was something that didn't pertain to the seven church ages, which was the fifth seal that dealt with the Jews. Brother Branham cleared up part one of the fifth seal, but God sent an apostle to clear up the second part of this seal. Now this happens as Christ comes, and He came as a thief in the night. And when He came here is what is said, *"And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book (now notice he specifically says 'which is open') which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth."* Notice, here it is pictured as still being in the hand of the Angel, but the Voice of Authorization has spoken and said, "Go get the little book." At this time the little book is transposed from the hand of Christ, the Mighty Angel, to John. John takes it, and is shown as being a type of the fullness of the man Christ Jesus. And by now we have been brought to the place where the Bible says there are five ministering gifts which we refer to as the five fold ministry of Ephesians 4:11-16. That means the ministry and the members of the body are joined so completely together that there is only one mind and one Spirit as we have been baptized into one body, thus becoming the body of the Mighty Angel in the earth as He takes on flesh and bones. (Ephesians 5:30) Now we can say without reservation that we are the visible body of Christ in the earth. He came as a thief in the night to a world in darkness. Now it is fulfilled where it says, "Until we all come together and reach the fullness of the stature of the man Christ Jesus," and it is here now. Christ has come to earth as the Mighty Angel and has united with His body, this meaning the ministry and all the other members are completely joined together, thus creating the wife of Christ. And now there is the person (Christ's wife) in the earth that has the mind of Christ. She has the ways of Christ, the attributes

of Christ, and Christ gave her the little book, which is the Word. And no one gets that Spiritual Word, except the wife. This little book is that Spiritual Word that is written in your heart and in your mind. You have come through the church ages and beyond what Brother Branham said; beyond Brother Jackson's message, and coming to where now there is a Voice thundering out.

Now watch; with this little book there is a great transposing; it's transposed from the hand of Christ to the hand of John, which is a type of the wife. In other words, we have the very thing that Christ had in heaven. Watch this next Verse, John being a type now, not just a type of the five fold ministry; but he's a type of the body, and within that body is the five fold ministry. John a type of the body said, *"And I went unto the angel and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. And I took the little book..."* There's a people in the earth that absolutely stands in Christ's stead that has His mind, and His work. John took the little book. His wife took the little book. You might say, "Well, John is a man, how could he type out the wife?" If you will read Ephesians 4:11-13, it says the wife reaches the fullness of the stature of the man Christ Jesus. In other words, only the works of Christ is seen as we reach His fullness. The man part simply means it's the works of Christ through His wife. John said, "I took the little book." That means it came out of the hands of Christ into the hands of the wife; we have it now. He gave it to us, and what an awesome responsibility. John said, "I took the little book." Notice, when he took it he says, *"out of the angel's hand and ate it up; and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter."* Now watch this third phase of the great commission come back into focus; it's been reinstated. Remember when Jesus sent the disciples out, what did He tell them? "These works that I do, and greater works shall you do." All of them together would be greater than the one man. We've taken the little book, and He reinstates that commission, the third part of that commission that was cut off at the fall of the Gentile virgin bride, but now God is saying, "Go prophesy again!" "Go preach again!" "Go prophesy again." Who to? *"Before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings."* Amen. He came as a thief in the night. Not He's going to come as a thief in the night. When He comes back again to the Jews and to the earth, the Bible says in Revelation, Chapter one, every eye shall see Him. He is coming back to this earth as a physical man after the tribulation period. The angel said, "This same Jesus whom you see go away will come back in like manner." Peter in Chapter 3 of the Book of Acts said, "The heavens must retain Him until the times of restitution," (until the millennium – a future event) and God is going to send the physical Lord Jesus Christ back to this earth again. But getting back now to this present time, it is very clear to us that the Gentile religious world has missed it; have we? Why did they miss it? Because He came as a thief in the night; He came in this message here as the Word is being made flesh and bone. (Ephesians, Chapter 5:30)

In closing, the only Word that can be written in your heart and in your mind is that which is in the little book, because the little book is Spiritual. There is no literal book coming down. A Spiritual Angel (Christ) brings a Spiritual book. It's that Word, it's that tree of life planted again, and it's growing, it's flourishing, it's bringing forth, and we are eating fine. God bless you. It's God's Word. (Singing) "You and I are the salt upon this earth, and if we are true to God we're of great worth. But salt has no value, if its savor it has lost; so before you start sit down and count the cost. Count the cost my friend before you take your stand, and be sure that

your faith is not in man. Because salt has no value if its savor it has lost; so before you start set down and count the cost." Do you love Him now?

Heavenly Father, take these words and use them for your glory and bless them, and may they go and find a place in every heart and mind. We ask it in Jesus name. Amen.