

# PROPHETIC REVELATION

## *Q*UESTIONS & *A*NSWERS

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He that hath an ear, *let him hear!*

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# PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

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MICA(P) 032/01/2011 Issue 153 Biannual – 2nd-half 2011

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*The Eagle screams...*



*...the Dove leads.*



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Printed by Winland Printing Pte Ltd  
Block 1200 Depot Road, #02-22/24, Republic of Singapore 109675

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

by Richard I.s. Gan

**Q: What is a Branhamite?**

**A:** Several readers have written me to say that I should be ashamed of myself for calling certain followers of William Branham, *Branhamites*. Should I?

I have been asked to show the existence of a Branhamite or a church called Branhamite where the man called Branham is worshipped.

How blind can one get! First, show me an antichrist or a church called Antichrist where a man called Antichrist is worshipped! No antichrist will declare openly that he is an antichrist, nor will they call their church Antichrist Church. Second, does an antichrist know or believe that he is an antichrist? Does a Branhamite know that he is a Branhamite? To deny the fact about the existence of Branhamites is to deny the existence of antichrists! Their fruits declare who they are. [Note: There are many Branhamites who boastfully declared that they are PROUD to be Branhamites in upholding the oral words of Branham as ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY in faith and life. These people have their “conscience seared with a hot iron” (1 Tim.4:1). They are dead to the Truth of God.]

I am not a *Branhamite* though I have often been accused of being one just because I believe his message. The name *Branhamites* is given by denominational churches *not* to those who follow Branham's teachings but to those who actually lift him up above Christ and His Word. Whether or not I use the name for such fanatical followers, the fact remains that there is such a group of followers, who by their creating an *ism* around the man and his message, have brought a reproach to the Faith he stood for.

There is no place in an assembly or the life of a True Bible Believer for an *ism*. An *ism* is created by men upon whom false spirits dwell. And there are many *isms* in Christendom. However, these *isms* are not created by true men of God. (Self-styled men of God like Jim “Jonestown” Jones and David “Waco” Koresh created their own. Such kinds are dangerous.) *Isms* are created usually by men who are acquainted with the men of God in their lifetime and even by those who believed them after their death. History shows plenty of such religious men who were not able to see the Word of God in the men of God. In their religious zeal they would lift up a man of God and make him the absolute for their life and religious faith. Claiming to have the truth, they would move away from the Word of God and into the words uttered by the man of God. They would give their

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interpretations which, by and by, would become the religious traditions they would uphold. They could never fall back upon the True Word though they may claim it. The Pharisees and the Sadducees, in their *isms*, are such examples. So, are the Roman Catholics in their *Roman Catholicism*. Likewise, the *Branhamites* in *Branhamism*.

Lastly, there is an ecumenical spirit moving among the different camps of those in *Branhamism*. Though they differ in their interpretations of the words of Branham and in their doctrinal stands, they do have one thing in common — “*say only what the prophet said*”. Like drunken men leaning on one another so as not to fall, they will argue against one another over the various statements of Bro. Branham in defence of their own interpretations. Amazing!

William Branham was blamed for creating *Branhamism*. The truth is that he had nothing to do with it. Many of his followers did it. *Branhamism* is listed in a number of books as a false cult. *Lutheranism* was not created by Martin Luther and *Methodism* was not created by John Wesley. Both these *isms* are never listed as false cults. Why? Because these followers do not “*say only what their prophets said*” like the *Branhamites* do (when they take the words of Branham and formulate doctrines). Unlike the *Branhamites*, they look at the Word of God as the Absolute. Shame on you, Bible believers, if you cannot look at the Word of God!

**Q: Question to you, Bro. Gan: Bro. Branham was vindicated of God, but who are you? Do you have the same vindications as the prophet?**

**A:** Your questions are commonly put forth by many Branhamites to those ministers whose teachings they do not agree with. The latter question shows the immaturity of those who would ask such a foolish question. The vindications that William Branham had were vindications to his own calling as a Church Age Messenger fulfilling the Scriptures of Mal.4:5-6, Rev.3:14 and Lk.17:30 (cf.vv.22-30). If another minister has the same vindications as Bro. Branham then both would have fulfilled the same calling of the same Scriptures. Then we would have two Messengers to the same Age. Wouldn't we? And would that not be unscriptural?

Consider this: Kenneth E. Hagin's mother said that an angel appeared to her during her pregnancy and told her, “*Fear not! The baby shall be born, for as John the Baptist was a forerunner to My First coming, this child will be a forerunner to My Second Coming.*”

Now, who then is the forerunner to the Second Coming of Christ — William Branham or Kenneth Hagin? Just look closely at each of their ministries for the true vindication.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

**Q: *Why is the sexual act of Eve with the Serpent called adultery? Should it not be called bestiality?***

**A:** Good questions. Almost every believer of the message of Brother Branham call the sexual act “adultery”. Even though the sexual act was with the Serpent, a beast of the field, to call it “bestiality” gives a bad taste to many. In all actuality, the correct word to describe the act is simply “fornication”.

For a better understanding, note the definition of the following words:

1. **Marriage** — A divine institution for the intimate union of two persons — a man and a woman. It is a permanent relationship (Matt.19:6).

2. **Adultery** — A single (or a married person) who lives with another person's spouse as man and wife commits adultery. Also applies to a married man or a married woman who lives with another as man and wife whether legally or illegally. (Where a nation permits it and the marriage is legal, the man is called a bigamist.) All adultery is fornication.

3. **Fornication** — The word comes from the Greek *PORNEIA*. It refers to illicit sexual intercourse between a man and a woman outside of holy wedlock. Incest, lesbianism, sodomy, male and female prostitutions are acts of fornication. Fornication with an animal is called bestiality. A single or married person (male or female) who commits any of such acts is called a FORNICATOR. A married man or a married woman who lies with another person of the opposite sex commits fornication and not adultery (though the sexual act is often called an adulterous act). Fornication includes adultery.

Hence, the right word to describe Eve's sexual sin with the Serpent is “fornication”. It is not “adultery”. She did not live with the Serpent. She was seduced by the Serpent and succumbed to temptation that resulted in her fornicating with him. It is not “bestiality” in any way. In bestiality, a bestial man forces himself on an animal.

The Serpent, though a beast, was more human-like and among all the animals his genetic affinity was closest to that of human to where they could mix.

**Q: *Bro. Gan, I believe that sin came because of sex. Adam and Eve were to speak the word to bring forth children, not by sex. That's what the prophet said.***

**A:** Yes, sin was caused by sex (indirectly), but what do you understand by the word “sex”? To many people, SEX is a dirty word! If it is, then why did God create sexual organs?

What did Bro. Branham mean by “*speaking the word*”?

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To some, it is literally speaking to the dust of the earth to produce a son, for example, Abel. The dust would gather together to form a body and then the man Abel would stand up and be alive!

If that is so, I could see Eve, turning to Adam, saying, *“Honey, I have seen the ram and ewe came together and later lambs were born and they nestled up to their mother's ‘breasts’ to suckle. Other animals did the same. Adam, what are my two breasts for?”*

Using the Sacred Scripture only, answer Eve's question, if you can. Also, do explain how Adam and Eve could be one flesh (Gen.2:23-24) without sexual union. If you cannot, be not as the foolish Branhamites whose reply is almost always this: *“If the prophet didn't preach it, then it's not important. We do not need to know.”* [Read the message: **“Two Shall Be One Flesh”**.]

**Q: *Can an unmarried man be a Deacon or Elder?*** Bro. Gan, I read in a book by a German minister, in which he said that the elders and deacons of a church had to be married men. Let me quote him:

‘According to 1 Tim.3 and Tit.1, the elders and deacons had to be married. The statement, *“They must be the husband of one wife”* does not imply that all the others could have as many wives as they wished. It simply means that a man who has certain responsibilities in the local church has to be married, because he must deal with the problems which arise in that local assembly.’

*This same minister then quoted Bro. Branham:*

‘Quote: *“The Bible requires a deacon to be a married man. He must be the husband of one wife.”* (COD. Vol.1, Pg.354).’

*Could you enlighten me what the Scripture actually says as I feel that the Apostle Paul was not teaching what this minister implied in his book?*

**A.** Truly the answers to all our questions must be *“what saith the Scripture”* and not what saith William Branham or what saith So-and-so? Many preachers have a tendency to grab what other preachers preached or taught without checking the Scripture themselves. For this minister to simply take a quote of Branham to support his answer shows that he certainly did not have the understanding of the Word. Bro. Branham might have simply quoted a Scripture verse, like many preachers often do, without expounding on it. But a verse in and by itself is often not the complete answer. It is true in part but not the whole. Also, for this minister to merely say, *“It simply means that a man who has certain responsibilities in the local church has to be married, because he must deal with the problems which arise in that local assembly”* is truly pathetic. Is it true that only married men are able to deal with the problems which arise?

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

There are three statements in the New Testament referring to the qualifications for an elder or deacon in the church. Here are the Scriptures:

1 Tim.3:2: *A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach.*

1 Tim.3:12: *Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.*

Tit.1:6-9: *...and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.*

Notice carefully the wordings of Paul and one will realize that the issue is not the elder's or deacon's marital status, but his moral and sexual purity. The phrase ***"husband of one wife"*** does not mean that the elders and deacons must be married men. In the Greek, the phrase *"husband of one wife"* literally reads ***"one-woman man"***. The Apostle Paul was ruling out believing men who had more than one wife from holding an office in the local church. Having two or more wives, a converted man would certainly have no time to devote himself to the care of the church as he would have a large family to care for. Paul was simply saying that a polygamist is not qualified to be an elder or a deacon.

For a man to be considered for a position of church leadership, and he is married, he must be committed to his wife. This qualification is speaking of fidelity in marriage and sexual purity; it is not a requirement of marriage. If it were, a man would not only have to be married he would also have to have children, because the second half of 1 Tim.3:12 states, *"...and must manage his children and his household well"*. Similarly Tit.1:6-9 states the same: *"...having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly"*. If this requirement is what Paul meant, then all Bishops and Deacons must not only be married but must also have children otherwise such bishops and deacons are no different from unmarried men. They must therefore be disqualified as they have no children. However, that is not the true meaning. We should understand this qualification for a bishop or a deacon as: ***If a married man is chosen, he must be faithful to his wife. If a married man has children, he must manage them well.***

If a man has to be married to hold an office in the church, then the Apostle Paul would have disqualified himself (cf. 1 Cor.7:8). Some will say that Paul was a married man before he was widowed. True, but a widower

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**is not** a married man though he **was once**. He has no living wife. To the apostle Paul, being single is better. He himself praised the unmarried man, believing *“he that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife”* (1Cor.7:32-33). Nevertheless, a *“one-woman man”* who is totally committed to his wife in sexual purity, affection, devotion and who also has great concern for the church is a great asset to the saints. An elder or deacon may be either married or single, as long as he meets the qualifications of godliness outlined by the Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy and Titus. To violate this – in any way that brings a reproach – is to forfeit blamelessness (cf. Tit.1:6,7).

What about a divorced man serving as an elder, or a deacon?

First of all, we need to differentiate between a man who was divorced before he became a Christian from a man who was divorced after becoming a Christian (cf. Matt.19:9; 1 Cor.7:12-16). An otherwise qualified man should not be excluded from church leadership because of bad choice he made prior to his spiritual rebirth in Jesus Christ. In the revelation of Paul, he placed the first and most important requirement for a Bishop and a Deacon as one who *“must be blameless”*, that is, above reproach. But if the marriage or divorce of any Bishop or Deacon results in a poor testimony for the man, then he is no longer above reproach. Such detraction should put him away from holding the office of a Bishop or a Deacon, but he may play other essential function in the church.

**Q: *Is it true that after the fall of mankind Satan still had access to heaven and there participated in the meetings with angels?***

**A:** No. The moment Lucifer himself fell, he was judged and cast out of heaven. He became Satan, the adversary of God.

Those who believe that Satan has or even had access to heaven have misinterpreted the term *“sons of God”* as angelic beings in the following three verses found in the Book of Job:

Job 1:6: *Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.*

Job 2:1: *Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD.*

Job 38:4-7: *Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding...When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?*



## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

The term *"sons of God"* is never used for angelic beings in Scriptures. The angels were not created to be sons of God; they were created to be servants of God. There is no *"Father-son"* relationship between God and the angels. The angels stand before God as His servants and He their Owner-Master. They were created as ministering spirits.

The term *"sons of God"* actually denotes the **special relationship** of man to God — as His children. Furthermore, such terms as *"Father"* and *"son"* do not only show the existence of a **relationship** but also the ability to **procreate** — *"Be fruitful, and multiply..."* But the angelic beings were not created to procreate. Being spirits, they are always portray as *"men"*, never as *"women"* and they are *asexual, sexless* (Mark 12:25). In the Scriptures they are often called *"stars"* (Job 38:7; Dan.8:10; Rev.1:16a, cf. 1:20; 8:12; 9:1).

The two verses of Job (1:6; 2:1) speak not of a scene in heaven where all holy angels were gathered before God and Satan, the evil one, came also among them — right in the very abode of God. But rather it speaks of a scene on earth where true *"sons of God"*, true worshippers, gathered to present themselves before God and the evil one came also among them. The true worshippers of God in Job's days gathered themselves before God on certain days just like the true worshippers of God do so today. And it was just such a day that Satan sat on someone in the congregation to accuse Job.

Yes, in every congregation, demons do sit and bide their time to bring about false accusations against some saints of God. Show me that it is not true that demons go to church, that they do get a ride in certain churchgoers. Show me that it is not true that the evil one is working in the midst of the congregation of the church.

Heaven is God's abode, sins have no place there. Satan was **cast out** of the heaven (abode) of God, that is, he was **ejected** from heaven. So were all those angels who took side with him, for they warred against Michael and his angels in heaven in those days (cf. Rev.12:7). None of these fallen angels could enter the heaven of God again. They lost their estates in the heavenly places and became earth bound. They fell from heaven, so to speak (Lk.10:18). They no longer have direct access to God's Throne.

The Devil is yet to be **cast down** to the ground (cf. Rev.12:10; Ezek.28:17). That is, he will be **brought to naught**. Today, the Devil is embodied in a mass of religious people throughout the whole religious system. And particularly through the religious Roman system Satan continues his war against God and His people. Satan is fighting a losing battle and he will soon be destroyed.

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**Q:** *Columba the messenger to the 4th church age actually died before the church age even started.*

*Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I have a question and wonder if you would have an answer for me. As I was studying the church ages and history it looks as if Columba the messenger to the 4th church age actually died before the church age even started. Have you ever looked into this and if so did you find any answers. I would like to understand it better. This would helps when I speak to people that have doubts about Bro. Branham being the 7th church age messenger.*

**A:** Yes, this is a “fault” that anti-Branham people have picked against him and the believers.

On my website, if you access my ‘ETERNITY TO ETERNITY’ chart No: 6, you will notice that I have used a banner that indicate the period of each church age that is different from that which Branham used. Bro. Branham took the dates from Clarence Larkin's book on DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH. Larkin's dates are not truthful because there is no such possibility that an age ended on a certain date and another began immediately after it. As a scholar, I have searched and found that there was the overlapping of years of one church age over another because there was a transition period from one to another. The years on the banner are acceptable to most scholars plus or minus a few years.

**Q:** *Thank you. I looked at the chart and that answers my question. I can see where there would be an overlapping. Your quick response is appreciated. So many want a person not to ask any questions, just believe. But it was asking questions that led me out of Catholicism and into this glorious truth. May God bless and continue to lead you.*

**A:** You are welcomed, my brother.

It is sad that the spirit of Branhamism has blinded many. The preachers are to be held responsible for putting them in such bondage. The blind preachers are not just leading the blind for the blind themselves are foolish in that they do not search the Scripture to see if those things taught were true. Did not Paul admonish to do that?

Asking the pastor is to find truth and if the pastor does not know the answer, he should be honest and sincere to say so, and be faithful enough to find out, not only for the one asking the question but also for himself. But no, many do not have the answer because they do not know the Bible though they claimed to be called of God to preach and teach.

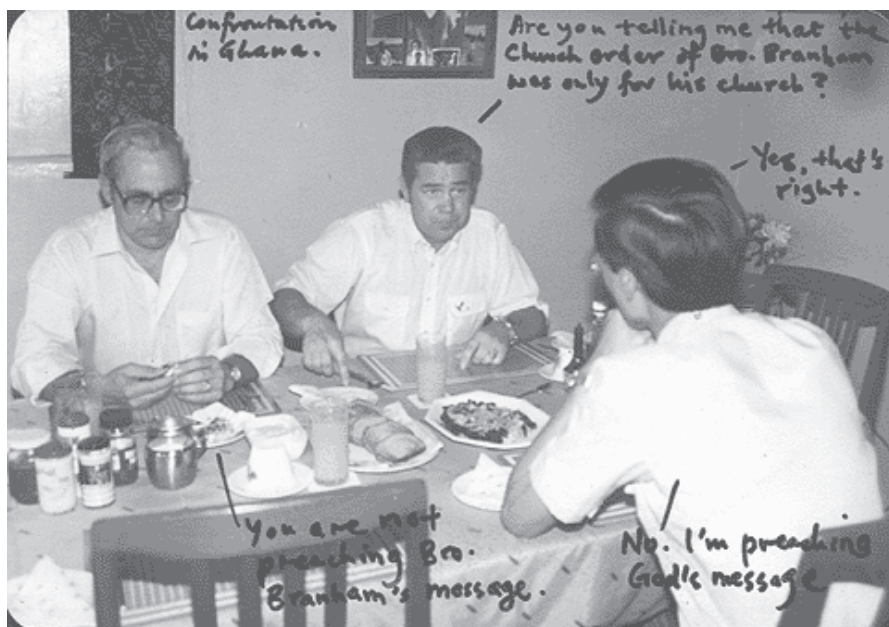
Truly, Branhamism is no different from Catholicism. Both hold the followers in bondage.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

**Q:** *Brother Gan, many times, all I have heard about you are very negative. Many do not even read your books, they just regurgitate what certain foreign preachers said about you. Some have said they would challenge you if they get the chance. Have you ever confronted such preachers about their teachings?*

**A:** Well, God called me to preach and teach the Word and not to debate or argue with others over the Word. Yes, I have been confronted by many in several countries, face to face as well as by mails. But I certainly do not behave like them. This is one reason I do not even go on the many Forum Sites on the **INTERNET** to give my 2-cents worth of contribution. If you are a Bible believer and have read the messages of Bro. Branham, you would know that the prophet was never into challenging other preachers just because he disagreed with their doctrines. But the opposite is true. Many who disagreed with him challenged him. This is a pharisaical spirit and it manifests self-righteousness and arrogance in the person. Like the Pharisees, such a person would even lie and when he is corrected he shows no remorse in what he did. Such a person is Dalton Bruce.

Here is a photo taken of a confrontation at the breakfast table back in 1984 in Tema, Ghana. The “spoken” words scribbled on it were a part of the many words uttered against me at that breakfast table. Notice the minister who sat across me how he was tapping his finger repeatedly on the table as he questioned me.



**Q: *Separating from an unbelieving wife in order to be a son of God?***  
*Bro. Gan, I was given a book entitled: "Exposition of Damnable Heresies, Book Ten". Someone sent it to me I believe you might have one. Many of the answers given to questions are very opinionated and confusing. There is this one particular question and answer that I want you to comment. It reads:*

**Question#137:** "I am a minister of the message. I was married before I came. I want to obey every commandment of God. My wife is worldly and don't want to hear the message, what must I do: separate from her for the ministry or leave the ministry?"

*Here is a portion of the answer that really puzzles me. Some words are even highlighted in bold:*

**"...Now, it is even wrong for a believer to allow his wife to be worldly in his house and continue to live with her, and much more so for a minister. A wife must live under certain conditions if she will continue to live with you as a believer!...** You cannot command her. Let her know that these are the requirements to qualify you. And she may say, "Mister gentleman, if I don't do that, what is the decision?" "Well lady, if you will continue to walk as you walk, in the process of time, I may have to **separate in order to qualify as a Christian**. I don't expect you to change overnight; I am inviting you to church, would you please go with me and see where I am going, see what I am hearing and what I am believing?"

**A.** Brother, someone had also sent me a copy of this book. I have also received several emails asking if I have read it and asking if I could comment on some of the teachings. I want to say that I am not a corrector of other ministers' teachings. False teachers and false prophets are everywhere and they have deceived many good and innocent pastors and preachers into false doctrines by their opinionated twisting of the Scriptures.

However, I will briefly touch on your request to this particular teaching. The preacher who answered this question did not comprehend the differences between the ministries of the "Ascension Gifts" (of Ephesians 4) and the Presbytery. He had lumped them together, making them all one ministry in the church. To understand the differences between the two ministries, read the message: **"Overseership"**.

Secondly, the preacher is a religious heretic when he said that a believer, whether a minister or not, had to get his unbelieving wife to *"live under certain conditions"* or else for both to *"separate in order to qualify as a Christian"*. Where in the Scriptures is such a teaching found? This is nothing but heresy. On the contrary, Paul said: *"If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away"* (1 Cor.7:12). Paul did not force any other condition on the wife nor tell the husband to BEG his wife to live according to *"certain conditions if she will continue to live with you as a believer!..."*

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How ridiculous it is that a Christian cannot be a Christian if his unbelieving wife does not live according to a standard set by the husband (or by the preacher in this case). So, a man cannot be a Christian or a preacher, all because his wife is not living according to "*certain conditions*" as laid down by the husband? The only way, the only answer, according to the preacher who gave the answer, is to separate from the wife in order to qualify as a Christian. (If such "law" is to exist for a believing man, it must also be applied for a believing woman whose husband is an unbeliever.)

Salvation is an individual and personal affair with Yahweh. This affair does not give a believer the right to force his wife and children into subjection to a holiness standard against their will. He should teach them BY HIS EXAMPLE and not FORCE them nor even SEPARATE from the wife AS LONG AS "*SHE BE PLEASED TO DWELL WITH HIM*". Separation will only aggravate family life. In the first place, it is unscriptural to do so. Because "*how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?*" (1 Cor.7:16)

Bro. Branham brought to us a message. It takes us back to the WORD. That's the GRACE OF GOD. But there are many self-made "men of God" who, in their opinionated carnal mind, bring in certain LAWS to try and cull (or "holy-fy") the people into submission, of what they think is the standard of the holiness of God. They are doing a service for God without it being His Will, and thus they take away God's GRACE and TRUTH from the people when they plant their LAWS in their churches.

**Q: Brother, do you have signs and wonders in your ministry? I was told that apostles and prophets must have such gifts.**

**A:** First of all, let me ask these questions: How many signs and miracles must an apostle or a prophet perform before he is regarded as one having such a ministry? Do they have to sensationalize the acts (like those being done in Pentecostalism and Charismaticism) to make themselves known? Do I have to document all my signs and miracles and then proclaim to all what has been done in the ministry? And would that mean that my teachings are true? Did Bro. Branham heal everyone who came to him? With all that which took place in his ministry, did all who hear him believe that his teachings were of God?

Some denominational theologians believe that the days of the apostles and prophets are over. They said that if there are such ministers, then these ministers must constantly perform healings and miracles; they must heal the sick without fail when the sick are brought before them for deliverance, citing the example in Acts 5:15-16. (I wonder what will the Branhamites say.)

Now, if what you were told is true, why did not John the Baptist, whom Jesus Christ regarded as a great prophet, perform one miracle? The disci-

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ples of Jesus Christ knew John the Baptist was a prophet, but none of them and not even the Pharisees ever raised the question to Jesus (or to John himself) as to why he did not, or could not, perform miracles. So, then what do we have but one passage of Scripture (Acts 5:15-16) that the theologians dare to take and ascribe a qualification for God's apostles and prophets.

John the Baptist had no signs and wonders to vindicate him and his preaching and teaching of the coming Messiah, yet his ministry was readily accepted by the true worshippers. I wonder how many self-righteous Jews shook their heads and said, *"His claim is false because we didn't see any sign and miracle performed."*

**Q: *Secondly, I did not hear an audible voice of God calling me to the pastoral ministry. But I have a good church and ministry. How come those who are called to be apostles and prophets must directly hear the audible voice of God?***

**A:** Now, I have no idea where such a presumptuous view came from. It is basically unscriptural. Such a teaching can be compared to the view of those who believe that there are no apostles and prophets today. What is it? They teach that to be an apostle one must fulfill either of these two prerequisites: **i)** a witness of the life of Christ from His baptism until His death (Acts 1:21-22), or **ii)** have personally seen the resurrected Lord Jesus (1 Cor.9:1). Of course, only the second prerequisite can be fulfilled today. So, to destroy the existence of the apostolic ministry, they cite Acts 5:15-16 as the qualification needed.

Concerning the ministry, some have heard the voice of God; others have seen the Lord, in vision or otherwise. So, have I. But do these mean all are apostles or prophets?

Then again, who was Balaam? Was he not a prophet called of God but turned bad? Who was Judas Iscariot? Did he not move about with Christ in His ministry? Was he not sent of Christ to do miracles? And yet he betrayed Christ. Both had encountered the anointing and the Voice, but they did not walk in the Light they received.

The Lord knows how to call those whom He had ordained before the foundation of the earth. He deals with them individually and they know Him, as the Pillar of Fire moves in their life.

A true apostle points you back to the Word. He sets the Word in order and the foundation for the saints. He is anointed with the ability in *"rightly dividing the Word of Truth"*. A true apostle does not force feed the saints; he does not use the fear tactic. And, an apostle does not feed the saints or answer questions with quotes of William Branham but he rightly divides the Word of Truth to them as God gives him the ability. If he does not know how to use the two-edged Sword (WORD) of the Sacred Scriptures, then he is not an apostle, he is not even a minister of God.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

**Q: Brother, some American preachers told us not to use the African drums in worship. They taught us that the African cultures and traditions are pagan and are therefore against the Word. Is it true?**

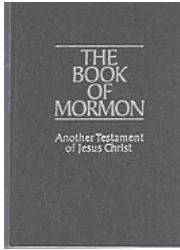
**A:** No, it is not true. Different races have their different cultures, customs and traditions. Not all are necessarily against the Word of God. Some American preachers just cannot differentiate what is pagan and what is not. One foolish mistake they make is believing that “what’s American is right”. When these American preachers go to Africa or Asia, they try to Americanize the people with their American values instead of the Gospel of Christ. They want everyone to dress the way Americans dress. Some have even told the believers in India that it is a sin for Christian sisters to wear a “Punjabi” dress (*shalwar kamitz*) — a dress in which a trousers is worn under a long dress or skirt. To them a “trousers” is a man’s garment, and women are not allow to put their legs into two “tubes” of clothing material. By such interpretation, Christian women are therefore not allow to wear pajamas to bed. These preachers have failed to understand that the American (Caucasian) culture is different in many ways from the Oriental culture. The traditional trousers women wear in many parts of Asia is far from the trousers that the women wear in America. They were worn many centuries before the birth of Christ. Of course, today’s women in modern Asia have adopted the American style of dressing. “Power-dressing” has become a norm. They wear shirts and pants (trousers) or else tight and scanty dresses to show off the female form. Such garments are surely unbecoming of Christians. [Read the article: **“Of Man’s and Woman’s Garments”**.]

Concerning drums, what’s the different between the African drum and the American drum? Some say: *“The African drums are tribal.”* Well, were there not twelve tribes in Israel? What’s wrong being tribal? Others say: *“They are used in voodooism and idol worship.”* Foolishness! Are all African drums used in voodooism or in idol worship? Are not the American drums also used in Psychedelic and Rock and Roll musics, and in Satanic churches? A drum is just a musical instrument regardless of its make. It’s how and what you use it for that matters.

The tribal ritual of cutting or marking the face in some parts of Africa can be considered pagan. The markings on the face may simply denote just which tribe the person belongs to, but it is still pagan in practice even though it may not have any religious significance. No Christian parent would subject their children to such a ritual (cf. Lev.19:28).

**A word of wisdom:** we should not be quick to judge and presume any cultural and traditional practices, which we are unfamiliar with, to be pagan or evil simply because they appear “unchristian”.

**Q: Where Was Jesus Christ Born?**



**A:** In the early years of my Christian life, I have often been approached by Mormons who tried to persuade me to believe that THE BOOK OF MORMON is another Testament of Jesus Christ. They told me that THE BOOK OF MORMON does not contradict THE HOLY BIBLE as it was given by God to their prophet on golden plates. Notwithstanding, THE BOOK OF MORMON was MORE ACCURATE than THE HOLY BIBLE, they claimed. A paragraph written in its INTRODUCTION clearly states the fact:

**INTRODUCTION**

The Book of Mormon is a volume of holy scripture comparable to the Bible. It is a record of God's dealings with the ancient inhabitants of the Americas and contains, as does the Bible, the fulness of the everlasting gospel.

The book was written by ancient prophets and apostles, and revelation was given to them by the Son of God, who came to them in the form of an angel, and who said unto them: "Behold, I am the Son of God, and I have come to you in the name of the Father, and I have brought you the fullness of his gospel, that whosoever will believe in me and obey the laws and ordinances of my gospel may be saved."

Concerning this record the Prophet Joseph Smith said: "I told the brethren that the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book."

In addition to Joseph Smith, the Lord provided for eleven others to see the plates, and to be witnesses of the truth of the prophecies and revelations contained therein.

**‘Concerning this record the Prophet Joseph Smith said: “I told the brethren that the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book.”’**

I did a little study and found a little something that's disturbing and contrary to the THE HOLY BIBLE. And thereafter, whenever Mormons came knocking on my door or when they stopped me on the road, I would asked them this simple question: Where Was Jesus Christ Born?

The answer they gave was 100% correct – *“Jesus was born in Bethlehem.”* (cf. Luke 2:4.) To assure that they knew the truth, I would asked for an affirmation – *“Are you really sure that Christ was born in Bethlehem?”* – to which they firmly replied, *“Certainly.”*

With that I requested them to turn to their Book of Mormon and read Alma chapter 7, verse 10:

**‘And behold, he shall be born of Mary, at Jerusalem which is the land of our forefathers, she being a virgin, a precious and chosen**



## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

vessel, who shall be overshadowed and conceive by the power of the Holy Ghost, and bring forth a son, yea, even the Son of God.'

ALMA 7:1-10

224

### CHAPTER 7

Christ shall be born of Mary—He shall loose the bands of death and bear the sins of his people—Those who repent, are baptized, and keep the commandments shall have eternal life—Filthiness cannot inherit the kingdom of God—Humility, faith, hope, and charity are required, of his

BEHOLD my heart, seeing that I am, according to the to commandment which is in me, that I may also have joy over you; nevertheless I do not desire that my joy over you should come by the cause

of so much afflictions and sorrow which I have had for the brethren at Zarahemla, for behold cometh over them.

10 And behold, he shall be born of Mary, at Jerusalem which is the land of our forefathers, she being a virgin, a precious and chosen

Their reactions to what they read varied one from the other. A few had tried to explain that Bethlehem was originally a part of Jerusalem or that the two were synonymous. One had tried pitifully to justify that it was not wrong to say that Christ was born in Jerusalem because Bethlehem is just nearby. Are the Mormons not able to tell that Jerusalem and Bethlehem are not less than 4 miles (nearly 7 kilometres) apart? And that they are two totally different places, one a city, the Capital of Israel, and the other a town?

Is **THE BOOK OF MORMON** truly **ACCURATE**? If it came from God, why did it contradict **THE SACRED SCRIPTURE**?

Friends, there is **ONLY ONE BOOK** that is **IN-BREATHED OF GOD** — it's **THE HOLY BIBLE**.

**Q: Bro. Richard, I believe that God introduced and sanctioned polygamy from the beginning. Bro. Branham said so and even taught that polygamous marriage is permitted among believers.**

**A:** That Bro. Branham taught polygamy is a lie. Preachers who have marital problems or extra-marital affairs are usually the ones who seek to find some statements of Branham to justify their action of taking another wife. The one sermon most quoted to justify their action is "Marriage and Divorce". How a preacher can twist and misinterpret Branham's simple teaching on the subject is beyond me. And did God really introduce polygamy? Did He contradict His Original Word on the sacrament of One Man, One Wife? [Read "**Polygamy: They Have Gone In The Way of Lamech**".]

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

Here is an email sent to me from E— K—, a Polygamous believer in Africa [dated: Wednesday, November 04, 2009 3:20 AM] —

*Brother, i won't insult you or anything like that, but you are terribly misled. Polygamy is the WORD of God full stop. 1) Firstly, look to nature, the way God designed the world we live in proves itself that polygamy is right. 2) God's Word continually says we should multiply throughout the Bible. How do you multiply with one wife. Look at it this way, in one year with three wives you have three child, one year with one wife you only have one. Which is multiplying? 3) Does not Bro. Branham says 'polygamy in all things'.*

And this is my reply to him —

Polygamy was in all things after the Fall. But when Jesus came, He pointed us back to where “*in the beginning, it was not so*”.

One, Man, One Wife, was God's law in the beginning. The Fall brought the Serpent Seed to introduce Polygamy. But Christ who brought us GRACE, pointed us back to the beginning.

Did Branham say that you can have more than one wife under the Grace Age? Show me where he said that. He showed that polygamy is adultery.

### THE.SUPERNATURAL OWENSBORO.KY SUNDAY\_ 56-0129

E-47 Speaking to someone the other day about **polygamy**. I said the nation in a whole would be better off if it practiced **polygamy**. It would. We're the highest rated nation in the world with divorces, marrying and intermarrying, marrying and intermarrying. Because we try to make the men of the world outside coincide with Christian doctrine, and you can't put the nature of a lamb in a pig. **Polygamy** would be better off for him. You may not believe it but God would look at **polygamy** and excuse it a lot quicker than what He would...

Now, remember, don't you say that I believe in **polygamy**; I don't. I...?...what God said... Moses said that... The Pharisee said to Jesus, said, “Why did Moses suffer a writing of divorcement?” Said, “He did it because the hardness of your heart.” Right. But it wasn't so from the beginning, never will be. God did it because of the hardness of their heart.

But in the nations where they have **polygamy** the divorce courts are at ebb, low. But in here where we're trying to make and govern this country as a nation, because being a Christian nation, but the name of Christian nation doesn't make it a Christian nation. And you cannot govern the world by the rules of God. You can't. I have no--nothing against a sinner drinking. I have nothing against a sinner committing **adultery**, nothing against the sinner doing this. But what I'm talking about is these people who are supposed to be Christians and then doing that.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

### THE SEED IS NOT HEIR WITH THE SHUCK JEFF. IN V-6 N-4 THURSDAY\_ 65-0218

<sup>70</sup> Notice Sarah, the tassel that had the pollen, that Jewish nation raised from her. From, come out of Sarah, brought Isaac; through Isaac, brought Jacob; Jacob brought the patriarchs; and through the patriarchs, brought forth a nation.

<sup>71</sup> Mary, the virgin's faith, produced the true, spiritual Seed Word made flesh. See? The three women, three women that this Seed was carried through. One of them was actually an **adultery**, under **polygamy**; the second was a freewoman; and the third one had no sex affair at all, but by faith she believed the Word of God. Hagar, Sarah, both Sarah and Hagar, was sex; but Mary was virgin, by the power of the promised Word of God. That's right.

You have made Branham and God as Liars.

In DRC, there are many polygamous believers.

**Q: *Devils dwell in false doctrines.*** *Why do some message believers seek to harm and kill other believers if they have the Truth of the end time message and the Holy Spirit?*

**A:** First of all, these believers are never born again of the Spirit and the Word of our Lord Jesus Christ. What they have is that same spirit that once resided in Cain and the Pharisees. These believers are merely followers of a cult made popular by the Branhamites who misinterpret the very message of God brought to them by the messenger, William Branham. Though the majority of the Branhamites may not literally harm or kill others, nevertheless many do *harm* and *kill* others who do not conform to their "revelation" by spreading evil words about them.

God dwells in the light of His own Word. Demons dwell in false doctrines because there is no light in them. This is clearly seen in those who embrace Branhamism. The Branhamites take the oral spoken words of Branham and formulate doctrines according to their intellect. They play about with the semantics of Bro. Branham. (Compare them with the Pharisees in their "ism" and you will see the similarities.) Unlike the true believers, they do not dwell in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. Read Acts 15:35; 28:31 and Col.3:16. Paul said, "*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works*" (2 Tim.3:16-17). To be a prisoner of Christ, you have to be bound by the WORD of Christ, His teaching, which are found in the Holy Scripture. "*But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding*" (Job 32:8).

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

Some proud and foolish Branhamites, who in claiming to be “fools for Christ”, bind themselves to their own words when they exclaimed, “I am glad to be a Branhamite”. They think that they are spiritual and mature in quoting Paul’s words. Yet, Paul was against such foolishness for he was against identifying oneself as “of Paul” or “of Peter”. When one identifies oneself as “of Paul”, one will not hear nor receive other servants of God. Paul, Peter and Branham did not die to save any one person in the human race. True believers do and will associate themselves with God’s men, but they do not and will not identify themselves as being “of So-and-so” only, period.

**Q: Contradicting and Blaspheming...** Please explain to me why Dalton Bruce is saying this and many other things about you on his website? He practically twisted and put words in your mouth.

**Heretical Article No. 401:**

**Richard Gan: Culture, customs, and traditions of people are not necessarily against the Word of God.**

**E.O.D.H. Answer:** I can't imagine that you can make such a dumb statement, with all your college education. You have totally disregarded the culture, customs and traditions of the Bible. Mr. Gan, you are saying that after an American accepts Christ, they can continue walking around naked and pattern after their custom of dressing in shorts, pants, high-heeled shoes, and appear like that on the sports field? And primitive people can walk around in their loin's cloth, wear nose jewelry, and paint their bodies? What are you talking about? You sound like a crazy man. According to your doctrine, the Hindus, Muslims and Buddhist should continue with their religious and national customs. This is dumb! Dumb! Dumb! Will you repent? Absolutely not! You are too proud and arrogant. Have you ever cried in your life?

**A.** Why a man like Dalton Bruce is doing such a thing can only be that someone has to fulfill the Scripture in our days as it was so for certain ones in the days of Paul.

Acts 13:44: *And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.*

45: *But when the Jews saw the multitudes, **they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.***

A man who is called and ordained a preacher of God should preach and teach from the Inspired Scripture and not from some other sources -- creeds, dogmas, famous quotes, etc. If those religious Jews in the days of Paul had the truth, they wouldn't be doing what they did.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

Anyone with a little education cannot be so blind as not to understand what I have written when they read my books. But this man keeps coming against me with his lies, twisting my words and contradicting the truth. To those who are listening to him without a discerning spirit (and many do not even bother to find out whether those things he is uttering are true), they will believe that I had said this: *“Mr. Gan, you are saying that after an American accepts Christ, they can continue walking around naked and pattern after their custom of dressing in shorts, pants, high-heeled shoes, and appear like that on the sports field? And primitive people can walk around in their loin's cloth, wear nose jewelry, and paint their bodies? What are you talking about? ...According to your doctrine, the Hindus, Muslims and Buddhist should continue with their religious and national customs.”* In actual fact, Dalton Bruce is *speaking lies in hypocrisy; having his conscience seared with a hot iron* (cf. 1 Tim.4:2). He is deceiving his congregation and readers of his books.

This is the latter times and many have given themselves over to seducing spirits...

For more on the lies of Dalton Bruce, go to the Internet and logon to: [www.propheticrevelation.net/misc/daltonbk.htm](http://www.propheticrevelation.net/misc/daltonbk.htm)

**Q:** *What do you understand from these words of the prophet Isaiah, “...with his stripes we are healed” (Isa.53:5)?*

**A:** These words have been freely taken by preachers to mean that when our Lord Jesus received His 40 stripes in the Roman Prætorium, we get physical healing in His atonement. Simply, it is taught by many (especially among the Pentecostal and the Charismatic people) that physical healing is in the atonement. But is it?

Preachers were once students. They heard sermons preached by the older ones and read books written by able ministers. Because a teaching or an interpretation of certain passage of Scriptures was often echoed by the majority, the preacher-students would (almost always) take such teaching/interpretation as the truth. For example, take the doctrines of the Trinity, Water Baptism in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and Eternal Hell Fire, and if you can, analyze how they have become embedded in Christian "faith". There are many other examples.

It is commonly said by Bible believers that God interprets His own Word. True, yet in saying that, many are not even able to comprehend the mind of the Spirit within the context of the word usage as uttered by the prophets or as written by the apostles. That's the crux of the matter.

Now, Matt.8:16-17 is taken to interpret Isa.53:5 *“...with his stripes we are healed”*.

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

Matt.8:16: *When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:*

17: *That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.*

Taking the two verses and conclude that physical healing is in the death of Christ is much the same as what Peter said on the day of Pentecost, *“this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel”* (Acts 2:16). However, the fact remains as to how much is *“THIS”* to *“THAT”* in context of the thoughts and interpretations. Read the whole of Joel chapter 2.

Three other common examples of how certain words have been selectively taken out of context to imply a so-called “truth” are:

i) Rev.3:20: *“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me”*. This verse is often interpreted that Christ is knocking at sinners’ heart and pleading them to let Him come in to be their Saviour. Is it?

ii) Gen.3:6: *“And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her and he did eat.”* Now, Christians are asking Bible believers, *“If Eve partake of sex with the Serpent, that means Adam was watching – “her husband with her”*. See? How much of *“this is that”* in *“her husband with her”*? Where was Adam when Eve fornicated with the Serpent? Was Adam standing there watching that illicit sexual act?

iii) Acts 15:20: *“But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.”* Majority of Christian people insist that God's people are not to eat anything strangled and blood. They would take this verse and make its interpretation from the many commandments given on it in the Old Testament. Bible interprets Bible, they would say. But how much is *“this is that”* as written in the Old Testament with that New Testament verse?

Many other such cases have also been taken for granted and over a period of time, the hearers are “indoctrinated” to accept them as true interpretations. Preachers are greatly to be blamed for “parroting” them as truths.

Now, does the words *“infirmities”* and *“sicknesses”* (in Matt.8:16-17) speak directly of physical diseases? Or was a hasty conclusion made by Christians simply because Matthew made a reference to Isaiah's utterances? How much is *“this”* to *“that”*? The verse in fact speak of those who were possessed with devils and that Christ cast the spirits out of them with His Word healing them all. A sin-sick soul needs a spiritual cleansing, not a physical healing.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

The atonement was to provide a healing for man's sin-sick soul. *"Without the shedding of blood is no remission of sin"* (cf. Heb.9:22). Certainly, it is not *"without the shedding of blood is no physical healing"*.

Because blood was involved in the Fall, blood was required in payment for sin. Life for life, eye for eye, blood for blood. Sin came by one act of fornication between Eve and the Serpent. Adam identified with Eve in her sin so as to "redeem" her from the wrath of God's judgement. (I pray that you understand why Adam had to do that. If not, read **"THE ORIGINAL SIN ~ What is it? & THE SERPENT SEED"**.) Hence, *"by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned"* (Rom.5;12).

The BLOOD atones and heals the soul, not the physical body. The blood of Christ was shed to redeem man back to his Creator. Christ was made an offering for sin. Before there was Calvary, there was already healing for the physical body for God Himself is the Healer - *"I am the Lord that healeth thee"* (Ex.15:26).

Now, let's us take a closer look at Isaiah's prophetic words and see if those words, or even the other statements in the passage of Isa.53:4-12, speak of "physical healing is in the atonement".

Isa.53:4: *Surely he hath borne our grieves, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.*

5: *But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

6: *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

7: *He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.*

8: *He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.*

9: *And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.*

10: *Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.*

11: *He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.*

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

12: *Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.*

There is no doubt that *with his stripes we are healed* refers not to physical healing but spiritual healing. All Scripture verses on sin and salvation are clear – that Christ died to save man from their sins. Nowhere can one find that Christ died to heal man of their physical diseases. Isaiah 53 has been *mis*-interpreted. Physical healing is in God's Word.

In all His wounding, bruising and chastising, Christ took away our transgressions, our iniquities, and restore our peace with God. All these were for our salvation (cf. Isa.52:7; Acts 10:30; Rom.5:1). Hence, “*with his stripes we are healed*” – that is, with all those painful violence tearing at Him we are spiritually healed.

1Pet.2:22: *Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:*

23: *Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:*

24: *Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.*

25: *For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.*

### **Q: *Can A Divorced Woman Remarry?***

**A:** Many Endtime Message preachers claim that they have God's anointing, the oil that stimulates their zeal for the things of God. Unfortunately, the oil that they possess is apparently not the oil of the Lord God as their zeal tends to lead them to a way which is contrary to the WAY of the Lord. Like the Foolish Virgins, these preachers will only find the true oil, the true anointing, just when the Marriage of the Lamb is over and the door is shut for the sealing of the Bride for the final transformation.

It is sad but true that many Message preachers are doting on the Message of William Branham without any true revelation. Hence, not only are they spreading false doctrines, but they are unwittingly opposed to, and condemning, the true doctrines of the Bible. One such false doctrine centers on whether or not a divorced woman can remarry.

Recently, I heard a preacher scream on a tape that the passage of Scriptures in **Romans 7:2-3** applies to *every* woman on earth, whether saved or unsaved, Christian or non-Christian. He emphasized that an unsaved divorced woman can never ever remarry just as a Christian woman cannot remarry if she divorces her husband.



## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - 1

Obviously this preacher knows nothing about the Word of God. He spends more time interpreting, or rather *mis*-interpreting, the many statements of Bro. Branham. In doing so, he is condemning God's Truth unknowingly. By simply taking the text of Romans 7:2-3 without an understanding of what Paul meant, this preacher is just like many other preachers who simply refer to Acts 15:20 and teach that a Christian cannot eat food offered to idols, strangled animals and blood. [Is it Scripturally true that Christians cannot eat blood and food offered to idols?]

Before the Gospel was preached and the Holy Spirit given, there were basically two groups of people on this earth – the Gentiles and the Israelites. After Pentecost when the Spirit was given to both the Jewish and the Gentile believers there were three groups – the saints of Christ (which comprises the Jews and the Gentiles), Israel (the people who have the LAW but do not receive Jesus Christ as their own Messiah) and the sinners (who do not have the LAW nor the CHRIST).

Now, the LAW was given to Israel. It was not given to the Gentiles; it was not given to the sinners. This is a fact. How then can this preacher apply the LAW to judge a people who knows not the LAW? How can God judge by the LAW a person to whom the LAW was not given? So, evidently, this preacher has preached a lie. Paul spoke the truth when he said, *“For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law”* (Rom.2:12), and *“...by the law is the knowledge of sin”* (Rom.3:20b). That's why Paul made it very clear in these words: *“Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?”* (Rom.7:1) before he went on to illustrate the relationship between a believer and his Saviour in the next five verses.

Rom.7:2: *For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.*

3: *So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.*

4: *Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.*

5: *For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.*

6: *But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.*

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

Notice, when Paul gave the *illustration of the relationship between a believer and his Saviour*, he was illustrating a TRUTH by using the example of a man, who knew or had the LAW, how that he was under subjection to the LAW (like a married woman is subjected to her husband). As long as the LAW has dominion over the man, he cannot “*marry another*”. However, the man is free to “*marry another*”, that is, to Christ Jesus, only when he is dead to the LAW (through the Body of Christ). So, being released from the law, the man is now able to serve in the new way of the Spirit.

Therefore, how could this example of Paul's be used (by the preacher and many others like him) to form a doctrine that an unsaved divorced woman cannot remarry? Being unsaved, the woman must be a sinner as all man and woman are born sinners. So, does it matter if she should marry and divorce as she likes? After all she has already been judged: “*For the wages of sin is death*” (Rom.6:23). A sinner commits all kinds of sins. Can the LAW given to Israel be used to judge her? Why is the preacher using the Law and even the Bible to judge such a sinner when she knows nothing about its Author and the Saviour who loves her? What a strange preacher.

If she is an Israelite woman who knows the LAW then she would be judged by the LAW. Then again, the Bible has concluded that “*ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God*”.

There is a weird humor when the same preacher said that the unsaved woman could only remarry when her divorced husband (who had left her) died, but not by her murdering him (he added for jest). Does the preacher think that the woman cares much about whether or not her ex-husband, who divorced her, had died and how he died? What if her ex-husband migrates to a far country, does the preacher expect her to keep track of her ex-husband's whereabouts and his death so that she could remarry? What if he goes missing and died?

Come to your senses, preacher! She's a sinner! She is not going to wait for him to die at a ripe old age and then remarry at the time when she has become a grand old lady!

Just because Bro. Branham was a prophet, the preacher tried to justify his own reasoning by quoting many statements from the prophet's sermons. However, many of the statements which had no bearing upon the issue were often quoted out of context. It is a great sin to misquote Branham against the Word of God. Let me ask him this question: if this same unsaved, twice divorced woman (whose ex-husbands are still alive) is now happily married to a third husband for a good five years, and has borne him two children, now comes to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as her own Saviour — what will the preacher tell her? Will he tell her that she is an adulteress and that she is living in sin? Or, is there something that she must do to correct her standing with the Gospel since she has, according to the

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LAW, three husbands? Must she separate from the present husband to remain single so that she could be called a Christian and be considered saved in the Gospel? Tell me, preacher.

Again, what if a young unsaved, twice divorced woman comes into the Gospel of Christ and subsequently meet a Christian man to whom she would like to marry, can she marry him? Or would you, Mr. Preacher, respond with a *“No, she cannot remarry, because she's got two living husbands and she is already an adulteress. She must remain single until both the ex-husbands have died”*?

Romans 7:2-3 has often been used, by such preachers as the one mentioned above, to “kill” every woman who remarried, or will remarry, while her ex-husband is still living. They often try to further support their reasoning by applying the first part of 1 Cor.7:11 which states *“But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried...”* These preachers are saying, *“See, the divorced woman cannot remarry. She must remain single until her husband dies.”*

The application of the statement of 1 Cor.7:11 together with Rom.7:2-3 is a serious error. What Paul wrote to the Romans and what he wrote to the Corinthians are two different things altogether. Even the statement *“But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried...”* being sliced off from the rest of Paul's text already shows a serious dislocation of the Word of God. And further misplacing it alongside Rom.7:2-3 only gives rise to a misinterpretation of the Scriptures, something which Bro. Branham had warned believers not to do.

Whom was Paul addressing to and what was he addressing in 1 Cor.7:11? And why did Paul add a command to that statement *“But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried...”* with a conjunction *“or be reconciled to her husband”*?

How many preachers truly have an understanding of what Paul was dealing with in **1 Corinthians 7**?

Yes, Paul was dealing with *how to avoid fornication* among Christians. But in dealing with the topic, Paul had to deal with the different circumstances of the many believers. A closer look at verses 10 to 16 will reveal that one cannot just slice off this part of verse 11, *“But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried...”* and simply apply it to every woman.

Now, examine this closely. In 1 Cor.7:10-11, Paul commanded the husband and wife (who were, of course, *converts* from paganism) **not** to divorce the spouse. He commanded the *believing wife* not to separate from her *unbelieving husband*. But *if* she were to *divorce*, or *separate from*, her husband, she *must remain unmarried* **or** else *be reconciled* with her husband. A Bible-believing wife has **no power** in anyway to seek a divorce from her husband whether he is a believer or an unbeliever. She is bound

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to him as long as he lives. Likewise, a Bible-believing husband *cannot* divorce his wife whether she is a saint or a sinner (vv.12-14). The ***bond*** between a man and his wife in marriage is for life, till death do they part. However, on the grounds of fornication committed by his wife, a Bible-believing husband has the choice of either forgiving her or divorcing her. Following the example of Prophet Hosea, a truly loving husband ought to forgive a truly repentant wife. A Christian must not harden his heart and refuse to forgive or to repent. If the wife is unrepentant and wilfully continues to sin against him, the husband may, in such a case, choose to *free* himself from the *marriage bond* by a divorce.

Before Paul concluded his words on the relation between husband and wife (vv.16), he addressed an issue which was put to him by the Corinthian believers concerning unbelievers who sought to divorce their spouse. He answered: *“But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace”*(vv.15).

According to Paul's revelation a marriage bond can be dissolved or broken if ***the unbelieving partner wilfully and deliberately deserts the spouse whose faith is placed in the Gospel or the Word of God. The believing husband or wife is not under bondage in such cases.*** God does not give the Gospel Truth to a person to frustrate him or her but to set him or her free and at peace.

Verse 15 is one verse that Brother Branham did *not* touch on in his message *“Marriage and Divorce”* nor did he ever explain the verse in any of his sermons. Because of this, many ministers tend to *sidetrack the issue* which Paul spoke about, while others would merely refer you to verses 10, 11 and 39. But verses 10 and 11 deal with *believing* husband and wife who are *separated* from their spouse (*not* on the grounds of fornication); and they are commanded to remain *single* or be *reconciled* with each other. If either of them chooses to remarry, he or she would be guilty of committing adultery (Lk.16:18). Verse 39 is Paul's answer on whether a Christian woman could remarry after the *death* of her husband. Death *breaks* the marriage bond and the living partner is *free* to remarry. But verses 12-15 deal with an *unbelieving* spouse. A *true Christian* must continue to live with his or her *unbelieving* spouse if the latter is willing to live with the former regardless of his or her new found faith in Christ. A believer must not and cannot put away his or her unbelieving spouse. But an unbeliever (not having the Spirit of God and who doesn't care about the consequences) may *wilfully* and *deliberately* seek to divorce the spouse *because of the Gospel*. (Remember, both were pagans but one has just found Christ causing the other to hate and to separate. No sinner man, who truly loves his wife, will seek for divorce just because his wife accepts the gospel. But he will if he hates the Gospel and cannot get his wife to reject Christ.)

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Prophet Ezekiel taught that the innocent should *not* be held responsible for the sins of the guilty (Ezek.18:2-4,13,17-32). Paul, having the same view and understanding, also wrote that *if the unbeliever wished to divorce the spouse (who had believed Christ) let the unbeliever do so.* The **Christian brother** or the **Christian sister** is **not under bondage** (of the marriage bond) *in such a case*, but that God has called us (Christians) to peace. If the *unbeliever* insists on *breaking* the marriage covenant, the believer should peacefully submit to the unbeliever's desire. The believer will *not* be held responsible under such circumstances.

Now, since a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases, can he or she *remarry*? Does the Gospel pose (in such cases) any hindrance to further marriage and normal creative relationship? How does this man or this woman *avoid* fornication (the subject which Paul was dealing with in the whole of chapter 7 of 1 Corinthians)?

Many *Endtime Message* believers will retort that only the man can remarry but not the woman. And many, in refusing to look at the Scriptures squarely, would dogmatically assert that verse 15 is a part of verse 11a. They would even refer to Roman 7:2-3 for added weight. My question is this: *In Christ Jesus, is there a preference for the man over the woman? Are not all one and equal in Him as far as the Gospel is concerned?* Read Galatians 3:28. In Deuteronomy 24:1-4, the **Law of God** allowed a woman, under certain circumstances, to remarry without her being called an adulteress. Yet many *Endtime Message* preachers would not allow a believing woman, under the same circumstances stated in 1 Corinthians 7:15 and being under **Grace**, to remarry without being called an adulteress. Is the Law more merciful than Grace?

On two separate occasions, I presented the following case to two ministers for their comments:

A young girl got married and divorced twice. In her sins, she came to meet the Saviour Who promised her a *New Life* and a *New Beginning*. She handed all her sins to Jesus Christ and repented, believing that He would throw all the sins of her past life into the *Sea of Forgiveness and Forgetfulness*. She then fell in love with a Christian man and wished to marry him. My question was: **Can she marry?** (You could also apply this question to a whore who have lain with many men and lived with some as *man and wife*, but subsequently found Christ Jesus and then a man she loved.)

*"No!"* came the emphatic answer. *"She cannot marry because she already had two husbands. If she marry again, she will be living in adultery."*

Referring also to 1 Corinthians 7:15, I asked one of the two ministers as to why Paul wrote that God had called her to *peace* (see 2 Thess.3:16; Eph.6:15) when, according to him (the minister), God *still* remembered the sins of her past life? [Who would you believe: St. Paul or such ministers?]

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Now, had not God thrown **all** her sins into the *Sea of Forgiveness and Forgetfulness*? Did not the Blood of Jesus wash away her **every** sin? Or had God suddenly decided not to forgive her and started to remember her past life of having two husbands? Is that the kind of God that we serve and trust for our salvation? If so, we have done it all in vain because He may just turn around and stop showing us His Grace and Mercy and bring up all our sins from under the Blood to remembrance so as to condemn us. Otherwise, that minister was wrong to presume that God would remember the sins which we had already repented of.

Brother Branham once said that man could forgive but could not forget the wrong done him by another. But that isn't so with God. When he forgives the sins of those who repent, He also forgets them. Blessed be the Name of the Lord! As such, when God forgave the sins of the young girl's past life, He would also forget her sins of adultery, fornication, cheating, lying, cursing, etc., and even if she had used God's Name in vain. *"Therefore if any man (or woman) be in Christ, he (or she) is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new"* (2 Cor.5:17). She was a sheep who had gone astray in her own way, but has now been found by the Great Shepherd!

*"She can find peace in God,"* the minister said, *"by remaining single, without marrying again."*

I asked, *"Living the rest of her life, for some fifty or sixty years, without a husband and a family of her own? For the rest of her life, live and die as a spinster because of the Gospel?"* (Does she deserve such a punishment? Wasn't she an innocent victim of circumstances, and a sinner born into this sinful world where anything could happen to a person without Christ? Is the **Gospel** Good News to set her **free** or is it *Bad News* to **bind** her even further?)

He replied blatantly and sarcastically, *"If she desires to marry, it must be for sex!"*

And this *polygamy-believing* minister admitted that he took his wife with him wherever he traveled because he needed her sexually (obviously to satisfy his own passion). Here is a minister who would justify his own needs but has no qualms in condemning the woman because of her needs! (Sounds to me like the Scribes and the Pharisees, recorded in John 8.) Men like him preach *polygamy* to justify their own sexual desires or their involvement in polygamy. They try to bind a woman convert to her past of being a divorcee while disregarding her other sins. Such ministers are quick to judge but God is quick to forgive.

I once said that *if* accepting the Gospel Truth (as interpreted by such ministers[?] in the ministry who disregard the WORD OF GOD and misinterpret the words of His prophet) was going to prevent a woman from

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having a normal married life it would be better for her to get married to a man who also had the desire to be a Christian, before they both proceed to confess Christ as their Saviour.

And, what would such ministers say then? Would they tell her to leave this husband to return to her first or second husband (who, being sinners, might by then have already remarried) in order that she could be a Christian? (Remember: God's Word explicitly forbids such reunion. Read Deuteronomy 24:1-4.) Or would they tell her, *"I am sorry. Your third marriage is not valid. It's just not possible for you to be a Christian and be married."* Would they make the latter statement and pronounce that she had committed an unpardonable sin?

One so-called minister from Africa wrote in his letter to me that when sexual union had taken place between a man and a woman, even if it was rape, it would automatically be considered a marriage. Hence, a young girl raped by a man would be considered married to him and therefore could not marry another. O what folly! What idiocy! Imagine being married to a mad rapist. What kind of minister is he who would go around teaching such nonsense?

To many ministers there seems to be no solutions to such problems. Such young sisters in Christ are left to fend for themselves against the vile attacks of the devil on their flesh. But Praise God, **the Bible has the answer!** God always has an answer to any difficulty. In the Law era, He provided a way for the woman caught in a difficult situation because of the hardness of her husband's heart (Deut.24:1-4). In the Grace era that we are living in, He has also provided a way for the spiritually reborn woman who had been a victim of a sinful life molded by Satan, even her unbelieving husband (1 Cor.7:15). That's right. Remember, the **Law of Moses** affected Israel only because it was given unto them and not the other Gentile nations. Similarly, the **Law of Christ** does not apply to the unbelievers but only to those who are born into His Body. Remember also that we are not talking about couples that some sinner men or half-drunk magistrates or backslidden preachers have joined together (out in this sinful, messy world) that could be put asunder. But we are talking about those whom **God has joined together in His Name** that no man can put asunder without tampering with the Law of Christ.

At this juncture, I would like to remind those of you who are snickering at what has been discussed so far to check with the **Word** carefully. Don't merely quote the prophet's words without an understanding. Don't say things which he did not say. But say only what he had taught on the tapes **according to THE WORD OF THE LORD, according to the teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ!** Amen! The **Logos** of God is **what you ought to hear and not merely the words of a prophet**. Don't satisfy your own pride, lust and belief on polygamy by *mis*-quoting him. One thing for sure, you are

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not going to be judged on that Day by his words (his utterances) on the tapes but you will be judged by the Word (*Logos*) of God, which is laid down in the Holy Scriptures.

The prophet was uneducated, but if you do exactly what he said, *“Go back and check the Scriptures”*, you will surely have the understanding. If you continue to quote his statements *without* any true revelation concerning the TRUTH, you will be just as blind as the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Scribes. The prophet himself had said that if any of his teachings was *not* in the Scriptures then we should *not* believe it. Amen! He even cautioned the hearers *“...to be careful what you're listening to. See? There's so much of it that it's just the human side...”* (Sermon: *“He Cares, Do You?”*).

The **Sacred Scriptures**, contained in the Bible, are the **Absolute of God**, *not* the tapes of the prophet. The preachers who told you that the taped sermons are the ABSOLUTE are LIARS! *“Yea, let God be true, but every man a liar”* (Rom.3:4). Flee from them before they destroy your faith! *“Back to the WORD! Back to the Original!”* screamed the prophet. **He never contradicted the WORD.** Many people have misunderstood him.

**Q: To whom does the Mighty Angel of the Covenant relate to: the Jews or the Gentiles? What does the vision of Rev.10 speak of?**

**A:** There are some preachers who teach that Revelation 10 contains events dealing with the Jews only because they believe that **‘THE ANGEL OF THE COVENANT’** relates Himself to the people of Israel and never to the Gentiles. They trace the Angel of the Covenant only to Abraham who fathered Isaac who fathered Israel or just to Moses. However, the first covenant God made was with Noah (in Genesis 9); and Noah was neither a Jew nor a Gentile. Now, the truth is that **‘THE ANGEL OF THE COVENANT’ binds Himself to His Own Covenant, to His Own WORD**, not to a people. **Read Heb.6:13-20.**

Yahweh made many covenants (Rom.9:4). The utmost important covenant, commonly called THE COVENANT (hence the title: The Angel of the Covenant) is the one He made with Abraham concerning the PROMISED SEED and by which Abraham would be father of many nations with countless children (Gen.15:18; 17:2-13; 22:15-18). This covenant was sealed with a token of blood shedding — circumcision. Abraham then fathered Isaac who in turn fathered Jacob (Israel). The children of Israel were later made slaves in Egypt but they were brought out by a PASSOVER, a shedding of blood covenant, under Moses' leadership. The angel of the Lord who made the covenant with Abraham was the same angel who told Moses what to do and promised that *“when I see the blood, I will pass over you”*.



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Yahweh revealed Himself through the prophets and finally through His Son (Heb.1). To Israel He gave the Law. He bound the Law to Israel. But He bound HIS COVENANT to Himself.

The Lord who made the covenant will fulfill the covenant Himself. He Himself would be the Saviour. Malachi prophesied:

*“Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even **the messenger of the covenant**, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts”* (Mal.3:1).

This prophecy was fulfilled when John the Baptist (the messenger who prepared the way of the Lord) baptized Jesus in River Jordan. Coming out of the water, heavens suddenly opened up and **the messenger of the covenant** came into his temple — the Word of God (**the angel of the covenant**) *tabernacled* in flesh, the Word of God incarnated.

*“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”* (Mat.3:16-17 cf. Col.1:19; 2:9).

Jesus Christ is the Mediator of THE COVENANT which is for both Jews and Gentiles. Read Heb.6:16-19; 8:6; 12:24, cf. Mal.3:1. Also, Abraham, the Father who received THE COVENANT concerning THE SEED was neither a Jew nor a Gentile. God keeps His Own Word.

Paul revealed that the Covenant God made with Abraham concerned a PROMISED SEED that is spiritual. The children of the flesh through Isaac, through Israel, are not the children of Abraham. True offspring of Abraham are those who have the promise through the righteousness of Faith established by the Lord of host, the messenger of the covenant, to Abraham. Amen. *“By GRACE are we saved through FAITH.”*

*“I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen. Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the*

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*seed. For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sarah shall have a son” (Rom.9:1-9).*

*“For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect: Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression. Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be” (Rom.4:13-17).*

Now, **notice** that the Mighty Angel of Rev.10 has a RAINBOW upon His head.

*“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:” (Rev.10:1).*

Why the RAINBOW? And why is it that this RAINBOW taken to tie the Mighty Angel as the Angel of THE COVENANT to the covenant that He made with Abraham or that which He made with Israel and his people? The **token** of THE COVENANT that God made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel) is the **BLOOD**; it is **not a RAINBOW** in the sky. So, why the RAINBOW in Rev.10? The answer lies in the following verses of Genesis and Ezekiel:

*“And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations:*

*I do set my BOW in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.*

*And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:*

*And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.*

*And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.*

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*And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth” (Gen.9:12-17).*

*“Like the appearance of a RAINBOW in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. So when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking” (Eze.1:28, NKJV).*

It is clear then that Rev.10 is not about Christ's coming to the Jews (on Mount Olivet) as some preachers have suggested, nor is it about Christ's coming back to earth only after William Branham is resurrected to preach again (as many Branhamites believe because of their carnal ideas over some statements of Branham). **Revelation 10 is a vision that depicts THE FINAL EVENTS of the Angel of the covenant's coming to claim the EARTH.** The *PAROUSIA* (COMING) begins with the coming of THE WORD. There is a SHOUT (a CRY) made as He descends; He declares Who HE is. He then put His RIGHT FOOT on the SEA follows by His LEFT FOOT on the LAND. These actions respectively speak of His Coming to the Gentiles first (to claim a people made ready by His Word) before He goes to the Jews.

For more detail, read “**The Final Events**”.

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*The Eagle screams...*



*...the Dove leads.*



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