THE VOICE OF THE ARCHANGEL

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I'd like to begin by going to First Thessalonians 4. We know that Paul wrote this book. There were some questions related to how the rapture would take place. God moved on Paul and He gave him an understanding as to, we can say: the big picture.

Let's start in verse 13. Paul says:

1 Thessalonians 4:13

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

1 Thessalonians 4:14

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Now of course when he says *those which sleep*, he's speaking of physical death. Some think it's called *sleep* because when we fall asleep we're unconscious but when we die, we do not lose our consciousness.

The reason it's called *sleep* here is because we know that when we sleep, the body rests. And more importantly, we have a hope that we're going to wake up. Last night if we had actually thought: I'm going to go to sleep but I'm not going to wake up, we would not want to go to sleep.

We know for many of us, and I'm definitely one, it's not a battle at all to get to sleep. Once we're sleepy, we can fall asleep and we have a confidence that we're going to wake up.

That was a *type:* just as we sleep and wake up in the natural, it's showing us that in the bigger picture there's going to be a *resurrection of the dead*.

So he says here:

1 Thessalonians 4:15

For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent

Or precede.

1 Thessalonians 4:15 *them which are asleep.*

In other words: those that have died.

He says here:

1 Thessalonians 4:16

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Now the church world, they have a very literal interpretation of this: the Lord is going to come down, he's going to shout, there's going to be the voice of the archangel, a great trumpet is going to sound, and then the dead are going to come up. In a natural carnal interpretation like that, this could all take place in just a matter of minutes.

I thank the Lord that He's helped us to see: this verse is looking at *events* that are going to lead up to the rapture at the end of the age.

Yes, we know in the beginning that Paul's hope and his feeling was that he would be a part of that living element. Amen. Who wouldn't want to be? But it's not about whether we want to be or not. With what Paul was able to see when he wrote this, he saw himself still being here when the Lord would come.

We know that later on, the Lord showed him more and he understood that he would not be here. He even told a certain group of brethren that followed him, he said: *I'm going to leave and you're never going to see my face again.* And they cried and cried because they loved him and they knew that if Paul was saying this, it was true. [Acts 20:37-38]

It says here:

1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout,

Living in this age and even going all the way back to the time of Brother Branham, we know it became clear what this *shout* was. It was something to *wake people up*.

They had fallen asleep *spiritually*. Whether in their Pentecostal upbringing or even in some of the other denominations, *spiritually* they had fallen *asleep*.

God gave that man, Brother Branham, a *message* that when he preached it, the Lord used that to wake people up and get them back into the Word of God.

You can ask the Message people about this and they will say: amen. You can ask those who followed Brother Jackson, they will say: amen. But there is *more* to the verse.

As it continues, it says:

1 Thessalonians 4:16 with the voice of the archangel,

Now we can't skip over that *voice of the archangel.* We can't go straight from the *shout* to the *trump of God.*

We know the *trump of God*, that's not for the living, that is for the *dead*. That's what's going to bring about the *resurrection of the dead*. Praise the Lord. Amen.

But as we're living today, we can't say: well praise the Lord, the shout came, and we also heard Brother Jackson's ministry, praise the Lord for that, and now we're pretty much looking for the rapture.

There is *more* to take place before the rapture.

That's where this *voice of the archangel* comes in. We must remember: *each one* of these *three events* leading up to the rapture has a certain *time period* associated with it.

We are still under the effects of that *shout*. It's not that the *shout* is still going on but we could say: the new believers will still be affected by that.

Now the voice is still sounding. What do I mean when I say the voice? I mean the voice of the seventh angel messenger. [Revelation 10:7] That's the message. It's still sounding but it's not having that shout effect that it did when Brother Branham was here.

I wish it still did have that effect. I wish people were still being awakened. Yes there are a few who are, individually, but when this comes to an end, then we will move into the time factor of *the voice of the archangel*.

Now let's look at this timeline.

Where are we in time according to this?



We are past 2018 but we are not yet into this time factor of the seventh seal.

Now some may say: well where does that *time factor* come from?

I will ask first: when Brother Branham ministered on The Seals, how many seals were opened? We have to understand: it was *six*, it was not seven. It's interesting, even in the Word we don't see all seven seals mentioned together.

Let's go to Revelation 6. Obviously, I'm not going to read the whole chapter.

Revelation 6:1

And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying: Come and see.

Now we could continue, he says: *and then the second seal, and then the third seal.* We get all the way down to verse 12.

Revelation 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal,

So those *six seals* are contained in Revelation 6. We don't see the *seventh* in this chapter even though we know from Revelation 5 that there are *seven seals*. [Revelation 5:1]

Let's go to Revelation 8.

Revelation 8:1 And when he had opened the seventh seal,

So this is an entirely different chapter, even in the way it's written.

It says:

Revelation 8:1 *there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.*

Now, what is that silence in heaven?

If we read Revelation chapters four and five as well as other places, it speaks of the angels. It says *they say: holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty which was, and is, and is to come.* [Revelation 4:8] *Worthy, You are worthy to receive honour and glory.* [Revelation 5:12] It also speaks of the multitude of people who say something similar to that.

And it says they rest not day or night. [Revelation 4:8]

Where is that happening? Does that happen down here on the earth? We know it does not, it's happening up in heaven or it's going to happen up in heaven.

But when we get to Revelation chapter 8 it says:

Revelation 8:1 *there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.*

Amen.

I'm not going to go there right now but in Revelation 17 when it speaks of the *ten kings*, it says *they don't have a kingdom as of yet*, *but they shall receive power as kings with the beast for one hour*. [Revelation 17:12]

We know the time of the beast's rule is the 70th week of Daniel. [Daniel 9:27] That's *seven years*. So that Seventh Seal Time Factor, if we look at that *one hour* as *seven years*, then *half of that* would be about *three-and-a-half years*.

Even if somebody wants to be contentious about the three-and-a-half years, we have to understand that there is a *time factor* associated with this because it says *half an hour.* And we know it's not a *literal* half-an-hour because of the events that will take place.

Brother Jackson had mentioned *months* and he was just looking at one part of that, which is the *seven thunders*. [Revelation 10:3-4]

Now we know the *seven thunders* are not the only event to take place in the Seventh Seal Time Factor. We read about that in Revelation 10 starting in the first verse.

Back around 1960 to 1965 and really as far as the *waking up of people*, we might say 1960 to 1962, but today we are still *in the days of the voice of the seventh messenger*. [Revelation 10:7] We are still under the effect of that *shout*. [1Thessalonians 4:16]

When we come to the Seventh Seal Time Factor which is *the voice of the archangel* [1Thessalonians 4:16] I don't have a problem seeing it as three-and-a-half years. I think whoever looks at it would at least have to give a couple of years even if they question the length of it. But the *three-and-a-half years* is what lines up with *the hour* that's mentioned in Revelation 17.

Again, we can't just jump over that.

These are things that the Lord has shown *after* Brother Jackson passed off the scene.

I've mentioned many times after he passed, there was a time period of a few years when I had the same dream over and over again. It was a beautiful dream. Probably the last time I dreamed it was maybe 2018 or 2019.

In that dream, we were more or less in a convention-type setting in Indiana, very similar to the conventions that were held at Faith Assembly. We had come to hear Brother Jackson. He hadn't died. In my mind I was thinking: oh I thought he died, but people were explaining that he had just been kind of secluded for a while.

Now on Sunday morning, he was going to minister and we were all so excited! Well, praise the Lord! Brother Jackson's going to minister! And we went to that meeting with *an expectation*.

Because of the time that had passed, we *knew* and there was no doubt in our mind that he was *not* going to preach on The First Resurrection. We *knew* he was *not* going to preach on The Woman of Revelation 12. We *knew* he was *not* going to preach on The Testing and Fall of Satan or on The Two Laws of Eden.

None of us had any doubt that he was going to bring something *new*, something *fresh* from the Word of God. And that created such an excitement in our heart!

We know God is *not* bringing Brother Jackson back to do that. I knew that as well and I never expected that. It would be ridiculous to think that after the way people looked at Brother Branham coming back.

It has become very clear that for some, that's the only way they would be able to receive something new. If Brother Jackson were to speak it, yes they could believe it. They have confidence in what *he* preached and they're solid with what *he* preached.

But if the Lord uses *somebody else*, which is what the Lord *will do* and *has done*, well now they can't receive it because that's not Brother Jackson. And now some say *this*, and some say *that*.

I want to say: God has given us *a Word.* Amen. We can examine what's being taught and we can allow the Holy Ghost to lead us. The Holy Ghost will *give life to this Word.* Amen.

Just as the breastplate, the Urim and Thummim [Exodus 28:30] how different ones would speak their dream or their prophecy in front of that breastplate and if it was true, the gems would *light up* and if it was false, they stayed dim.

It's the same today but *this Word* is our Urim and Thummim. Amen. We bring it to the Word and if it's true, we're going to see there's going to be *light in God's Word*. Praise the Lord. It's going to line up with the Word of God.

Now let's go to Second Corinthians.

Paul says:

2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

Here when Paul says *we*, he's speaking first of all of *the ministry*, the ones who are bringing the gospel to the people. But we also know that *every one of us* has our own work.

He says:

2 Corinthians 5:9 whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

Present or absent from what?

He just told us in the previous verse: he says *present or absent in the body.* [2Corinthians 5:8] Amen.

There are people today, even Christians who say: well we all die. I have to say: do you believe the Word that you read? Even more so, knowing the day we're in?

Paul said *we shall not all die.* [1Corinthians 15:51] Amen. But some say: we all die. Well what hope do you have then of there being a *living element* when the Lord Jesus Christ comes back? I don't believe that we should be saying that we all die. That's *not* what the Word says.

There will be a *living element* and I'm hoping to be a part of that. That's my hope. Just looking at where we are in time and that God gives us, if things go well, *seventy to eighty years* [Psalm 90:10] then I should be here when the Lord comes.

Now He could take me home today. That's His decision. But if He gives me a normal lifespan, I'm going to be here when he comes. Praise the Lord.

Why do I say that? Because otherwise Paul should have just said: we're all going to be absent, but he said *whether we're present or whether we're absent from the body.* In other words: *if we're alive or if we're dead, we want to be pleasing to the Lord or to have pleased the Lord.* [2Corinthians 5:9]

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body,

In other words, we may think: oh, this was done in the body or that was done in the body. We know there are sins against the body but that's not really the point here. What he means is: the things that were done *while we were alive*.

Now we may still be alive but if we're dead, we're going to be judged by what we did *when we were alive.*

So he says here:

2 Corinthians 5:10 according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

We look at *good* and *bad* and we might think *good* is: we went and visited people in the hospital, and *bad* is: we stole somebody's car. Well certainly we don't want to be stealing cars, but really all that has its place naturally if we have the Holy Ghost and if we walk being led by the Holy Ghost. Remember: that Spirit is the Spirit of Truth, but there are also *the fruits* that go with it [Galatians 5:22-23] so we will naturally live or come to live a clean life.

Here when we see this *good or bad* [2Corinthians 5:10] that's made clear when we go to Luke 19. It speaks of those to whom he says *good servant*. [Luke 19:17] Why? Because of what they did *when they were alive*. But to others he says *thou wicked servant*. [Luke 19:22] So they did *bad*.

Again that's not talking about kicking the dog, stealing the car, or things like that but we will see what it points to when we read it.

He says here:

2 Corinthians 5:10 we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ;

Now I always had it in the back of my mind: when will this judgement take place?



We know there will be the 70th week of Daniel shown here in red. Then on the right side we see the beginning of the Millennium.

The Millennium will continue on for a thousand years. After that, there is going to be a judgement. We read about it in Revelation 20 *the great white throne judgement.* [Revelation 20:11]

That is *not* the judgement that Paul is speaking about here. [2Corinthians 5:10]

The *great white throne judgement* is specifically for the wicked. That is specifically for the lost. The Bride will be judged long before that.

I always had it in my mind: when will it be? The two or even maybe the three places where it seemed like it could be, there were problems with every one.

You may say: well maybe it could be at the *beginning* of the Millennium. That's when we will be placed on thrones, right? [Revelation 20:4]

If that was the case, we would already have been united with Christ as his Bride for *seven years* and *then* we would be judged. *Then* we would appear before him for judgement. That certainly seems backward to me! You don't marry somebody and *then* judge them. It's too late! Today it looks like maybe people do that but then that causes trouble.

I even thought: well maybe *immediately before* the Millennium but it's the same thing.

What about: *after* the rapture? Well if we read Luke 19 we see there that the *wicked* are *cast out*. So we would have the Bride being raptured, and *then* some would be *thrown out*. Is God going to throw them out of heaven and then they will come falling back to earth? We know that's not the way He's going to do it. Amen.

Once this body is changed, praise the Lord, all our tests and all our trials will be over.

Now let's go to Second Timothy.

Paul says:

2 Timothy 4:1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick

Who's the quick?

Well in English it sounds a little strange but in the Spanish Bible it's very clear: *the living.*

2 Timothy 4:1 and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

So there are two parts to this, and there are two groups of people each time.

It's interesting how Paul worded it here: he didn't say his *coming* or his *return* even though in other scriptures those words are used for the same event. But he said *his appearing*.

We all know what that word *appearing* means. That's when something wasn't there and now it is, right? So it's interesting how Paul writes that. He says *at his appearing and at his kingdom*.

Tonight we're only looking at the first part of that which is *at his appearing*. This will be at the beginning of the Seventh Seal Time Factor.

When we go to Revelation 10 it says here:

Revelation 10:1 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven,

Now remember: what's the title tonight? The Voice of the Archangel.

We talked a few Sundays ago about the angel of Revelation 10:7. That was *the seventh messenger* Brother Branham. This *angel* is not the seventh angel of Revelation 10:7. This *angel* is a supernatural angel. It is a spirit being. Amen.

Now he says:

Revelation 10:1 *mighty angel*

Mighty means *strong*. In fact, in the Spanish Bible it says *strong*.

What is an *archangel?* An archangel is an angel who is above the other angels in authority and in power. Very likely this is the angel Gabriel but for right now we're just going read it as it is written: this is a strong angel or an archangel.

What did it say in First Thessalonians 4? It said *the voice of the archangel.* What else does it say? It says *the Lord shall descend.* [1Thessalonians 4:16] Right?

And here it says:

Revelation 10:1 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, Now look at everything else we read:

Revelation 10:1 *clothed with the cloud:*

Jesus was taken up and it was said that he was going to *return the same way* [Acts 1:11] *in a cloud.* [Acts 1:9]

Revelation 10:1 a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

If John had not said that this was an *angel,* from everything we read we would say: this is representing the Lord Jesus Christ. That is the truth. It says *the Lord himself shall descend*. But how will he descend? *With the voice of the archangel.* [1Thessalonians 4:16]

We didn't get as far as I wanted, but what we're reading here is really opening up what we see in Second Timothy chapter four. This is where we're going to see that *judgement and* it's going to take place by that *angel* because the angel is going to *characterize Jesus Christ*.

In fact, the way Brother Jackson termed it, he said: it's Jesus in angelic form. Now we have to understand what he meant by that: this angel is going to *represent* and *portray* Christ.

When we stand before that angel, we're not going to say: I'm standing before the angel. But before us we will see the Lord Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord. The angel is the means by which he will be manifested to us.

We're just getting started but I try not to go too fast. I hope that this is clear. I have a lot more still to say but let's go ahead and stop for tonight.