WALKING IN THE LIGHT

Brother Jason Bright Phoenix Assembly Church Phoenix Arizona Sunday July 2nd 2023

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This morning the title is Walking in the Light. We get that from a certain passage in John 12. At the same time, the bigger picture here is: The Voice of the Archangel. And Lord willing, we can finish this message today.

Let's go to First Thessalonians 4. We know that God gave Paul an understanding of the rapture and He showed him certain things that were not yet written. When we get to verse 16, it says here:

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

Now you and I know we are still living under that *shout*. We can say that sounded toward the end of Brother Branham's ministry. He was the one who sounded that out but that *sound* is still continuing on today. Praise the Lord. So we're still under, we can say, that *voice of the seventh angel*. [Revelation 10:7]

In fact, when we read Isaiah 52:8 it says: the watchmen will lift up the voice. Amen. Praise the Lord. It's the same voice and that voice was to get us back into the Word of God. It was to wake us up to realize that Christianity had fallen into the slumber of traditions and really, we can say, doctrines of men.

That *shout* woke up a people and that *true element* is still awake today. We thank God for that.

Then it says here:

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

That's still in front of us.

Now the Branham movement as a whole does not know what that *voice of the archangel* is. I would even challenge and ask them what it is, and see what kind of answers we would get.

Those who followed Brother Jackson as a movement also don't know what that *voice* is. Some have an idea: the first one I heard after his death was a very confused idea. If I get the explanation wrong, well it's because it's confusing. Basically it was as though there is an attribute of the Lord Jesus Christ where he can present himself in spirit and that was referred to as *his angel*. It was explained that he would be up in heaven but at the same time he would be here on earth. In other words: literally he would be here on earth. It was said: it's his angel.

I have to say: yes there will be an angel here on earth but that angel is *not* the literal Lord Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord. That angel will be *manifesting* or *portraying*, or we can say: *representing* the Lord Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord.

We remember: even Paul wrote a letter once to a church about a certain matter in the church. He said: *I judge this, being absent but as though I was present.* [1Corinthians 5:3] In the natural sense, that letter carried the judgement of Paul.

When we get to that Seventh Seal Time Factor, that angel is going to be giving the exact same judgement that Jesus would give if he was here literally. Praise the Lord.

So it says here:

1 Thessalonians 4:16 with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God:

That is even afterwards, and that of course will bring the resurrection of the dead.

That's why when Brother Branham had the vision that he titled Beyond the Curtain of Time, he said: I want to see Jesus. And they told him: you can't see him now, but the time will come when he will call you up and he will judge you. Then they said: and after that judgement, we will go back to earth to pick up our bodies. Praise the Lord.

Now that was a vision that God gave Brother Branham. This is *not* something where Brother Branham said: well I think it's going to be like this and I think it's going to be like that. But this was *a vision* that was given to him. So if God gave him that vision, we know that this vision cannot be errant. Amen.

He heard very clearly how they would be *judged first*. They would be called up for judgement and *then* they would come back to pick up their bodies.

What is that? That's the resurrection. Praise the Lord.

Paul said that the quick and the dead would be judged. [2Timothy 4:1]

Yes the *dead* are in heaven. But when we get to that Seventh Seal Time Factor, then the living element, praise the Lord, they are also going to be judged on earth by that archangel.

The picture we have here deals very much with what will occur during that Seventh Seal Time Factor.



We have that angel coming down in Revelation 10:1. Then of course Paul mentioned both the quick and the dead. [2Timothy 4:1] The quick are the ones who are alive, they're on the earth.

Now let's go to Revelation 10.

Paul referred to this angel as the archangel [1Thessalonians 4:16] but in verse 1 John said:

Revelation 10:1

I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven,

That's the way John said it. He said a mighty angel. He said I saw it descend from heaven.

Those are the exact words Paul used. He said he will descend from heaven. [1Thessalonians 4:16]

We get to verse 2. I know I'm jumping ahead but we've read it many times.

Revelation 10:2

And he had in his hand a little book open:

That's what lets us know the *seventh seal* has now been broken. [Revelation 8:1] Praise the Lord.

That puts us at the culmination. God did not give that last understanding to Brother Branham. He left that open because there was still a *time factor* that we didn't know about yet.

This is really *all* a part of the *third pull* that happens in *three phases*. That's what we read about in Luke 12. All of this is in *the days of the voice of the seventh angel*. [Revelation 10:7]

You *can't* jump over and say: we don't need what Brother Branham brought because we have what God gave Brother Jackson. And you *can't* jump over both of them and say: all that's important is what God has shown in this *third watch*.

The *foundation* of it and the *beginning* of it *is still truth today*. It has been *building*. Praise the Lord. And now we're in the last part, *the third watch*. [Luke 12:37-38]

So it says here:

Revelation 10:3

And cried with a loud voice,

Who cried with a loud voice? It's the archangel, right?

That's what we read about in First Thessalonians 4:16, the voice of the archangel.

Now it says:

Revelation 10:3 as when a lion roareth:

It doesn't say that it was *the* lion roaring.

When it mentions the book or the scroll that was sealed with seven seals and the seals being opened, it says: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Praise the Lord. He is worthy to open the book or the scroll. [Revelation 5:1-5] Amen.

So Jesus Christ is the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

But here on earth, it says that this archangel cried with a loud voice as when a lion roareth. [Revelation 10:1-3]

I was looking at that last night, studying a little bit about the roar of a lion. I even turned on YouTube and watched a few videos of lions roaring. Caleb told me: turn that off, it's scaring me. That was just a video but we can read the account of people, they say: you can feel it in your bones. They say: it's absolutely terrifying. It's something that can be heard from five miles away. That's how powerful it is.

I found something really interesting as I was reading different eye-witness accounts. Different ones said that when the lion roared, if they didn't see the lion, they said they couldn't tell if it was close or if it was far away. There was more than one who said that.

I thought: that's really interesting because when that archangel sounds, he will be portraying the Lord Jesus Christ, and of course that's going to be right in our presence. But the Lord Jesus Christ himself will be up in heaven. Amen. His judgement will be given and it's going to be as though he's here with us, yet he'll be up in heaven.

So I thought that was really interesting. There was more than one who said when they heard the lion roar, they really couldn't tell whether it was close or whether it was far.

Here it says that this angel cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth. [Revelation 10:1-3] Praise the Lord.

So here on earth that angel is going to call each one of us individually and that's why we've said before: we really have to look seriously at our walk with the Lord.

When we are called, we won't be able to say: let me get my pastor, or let me bring my brother or my sister, my dad or my mom, or there's a brother and a sister in the Lord I'm really close to, let me bring them with me. No, it's going to be us as an individual, maybe I shouldn't say us, it's going to be me or you as an individual.

We've heard over the years, different ones who have had dreams about this. We're *not* going to be able to bring anybody with us but this will be between us and the Lord. Yes, even though it's the angel who will to be manifesting him, it's going to be the Lord's judgement. Praise the Lord.

Revelation 10:3

and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

Brother Jackson had to deal a lot with the seven thunders [Revelation 10:3] because the Branham movement as a whole got confused about the seventh seal. They said: that's the seven thunders. And really there was no substance as to what it meant. So Brother Jackson showed that the message of the seven thunders will be seven men who will have a final message to the bride.

Today if we look at the Jackson followers in general, we're going to see that they're looking for the seven thunders but they kind of jump over verse 3 about what that *voice* really is.

We read about the actual manifestation of the voice in Luke 19. That's why we've been studying that.

In Luke 19 it speaks about how there were ten servants [Luke 19:13] and they were called to judgement.

It was asked: what have you done with what I've given you? [Luke 19:15] I'm not going to go back and read it today but one said: your pound has gained ten pounds. [Luke 19:16] What is that? That is the personal interview with that angel.



You say: well in Luke 19 it says it's the Lord. Yes it's the Lord's judgement but we know the way he's going to perform that is through that angel who will represent him.

When this judgement takes place and he says: what have you done? [Luke 19:15] And then he says: you've done well, be over ten cities. [Luke 19:17] All of that is contained in the voice of the archangel. [1Thessalonians 4:16] [Revelation 10:3]

When he says to another: what have you done? And he says: your pound has gained five pounds. [Luke 19:18] He says: be thou over five cities. [Luke 19:19] Again, what is that? That's the voice of the archangel.

Then even to the ones who should have been wise servants, it says he gave one talent or he gave *one pound*. And he says: *I kept it, I've polished it,* those are my words. But he says: *it's been kept in a napkin* [Luke 19:20] which to me means that it's been cared for.

How clear it is, if we go to the Branham movement today. They can say: we've got the Spoken Word books. We've got the Message. Don't speak anything outside the Message. Believe the entire Message.

They say: you have to believe the entire Message, but there are things, *many things* Brother Branham himself said that they really don't believe. But they have this attitude: we've got the Message, we've got to stay in that.

When the Lord comes and whoever he calls to account, they're going to say: this is what you gave me. I know I was afraid, I didn't want to get out of this, but I stuck with what You gave me. [Luke 19:21]

And they're going to be deemed a wicked servant or an evil servant. [Luke 19:22]

That's going to be the judgement for them and it's going to be the same with the Jackson followers.

I still cannot understand. I didn't sit every Sunday in Faith Assembly but at the same time I will say this: my first memories of Brother Jackson preaching are probably from $1973 \sim 1974$. I was there until about 1983. But when we came back to New Mexico, it was a *joy* to read the Contenders and to listen to the tapes.

In 1989, I was privileged to go back for convention. And pretty much every year after that I went to convention, sometimes in the summer and in the fall. All the while, reading the Contenders, listening to the tapes, and thanking God for the beautiful truth that was being brought.

And how many times did Brother Jackson himself direct us to the parable of where the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together. [Matthew 24:28] Praise the Lord.

He made it very clear he was not talking about a geographical spot.

He wasn't talking about southern Indiana but what he was talking about is wherever fresh meat is being put on the menu, praise the Lord, that's where the eagles will be gathered together. Amen.

To think that different ones could listen to that ministry for 40 years and then, I don't know how else to say it, but to then have the attitude that 18 years later after God took him home, that the Lord hasn't given anything new to the church, I don't see how some could think that way.

The Lord has continued to give fresh meat to his children. Praise the Lord. He is still doing it *today* and I thank God for that.

He didn't wait 18 years after Brother Branham passed off the scene. After just two years, and probably sooner but from what I know, much had already been given to Brother Jackson that he was preaching in 1967.

So how can we think that now we've been going 18 years desolate from fresh meat? I have to say: it doesn't line up with this Word.

Let's go to John 12. This is where I get the title from.

John 12:35

Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you.

Of course he was speaking of himself and his ministry because he knew he was just about to be taken to the cross.

He says:

John 12:35 Walk while ye have the light,

Notice he does *not* tell them: sit down in the light. Sit down and rejoice in the light. He says: walk while you have the light.

What light is he speaking about? He's speaking of that spiritual light.

We can say they knew him *in person* but it doesn't matter at which point we have come to know the Lord. As we do, He gives us a certain *understanding*, and what the Lord does over time, both individually and also to the church as a whole. He shows us more and more of the Word of God.

You say: why doesn't He just give it all at once? It's because we wouldn't be able to understand it that way.

We have to get to a certain point, it's just like math: you have to understand arithmetic before you start algebra. You have to understand algebra before you can be taught calculus. You can't think about calculus, you don't have a foundation to really understand it if you don't first have algebra. And you're not going to understand algebra if you don't have arithmetic.

So just as in the natural there are certain things we have to know before we can go further, it's the same way with the Word of God. And He wants us to see the light of all of His Word.

The only way we're going to see that is if we have the Holy Ghost, if we can receive what He gives by revelation.

So Jesus is telling the people here: walk in the light or while you have the light. [Luke 12:35] He's not saying: walk out of the light, but by the way he's saying it we can understand: just as when the sun rises and the light begins to move, we are to walk in the light as God moves that light.

That was typed with the children of Israel, how it was a fire by night and a cloud by day. [Exodus 13:21] When it moved, they had to move with it.

Now let's keep reading.

John 12:35 Walk while ye have the light,

The Jews had a certain basic light. We know it as the *moonlight*. They had the law and the prophets, and they understood that pointed forward to a messiah, to a redeemer. Amen.

But as he said walk, it was time for them to realize: not only will there be a messiah but God's light in that day was showing that the Messiah was in their midst. That was for them to go beyond the law and the prophets and to see that they were living in the fulfillment of it.

He says:

John 12:35

Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.

That's the place I do not want to be.

I want to have the light of truth. Praise the Lord.

As I have said, yes I was thankful for what God gave under the ministry of Brother Jackson. But at the same time, we have a stack of Contenders here and the Contenders are also available online, I don't see after church everybody grabbing five or six Contenders. Some may say: well they're not in Spanish. But even those of us who read English, we're not grabbing three or four Contenders to read them throughout the week.

We have already either read them or one way or another we have become familiar with the contents. The Spirit of God is not putting an emphasis today to read those Contenders. How many can understand what I'm saying?

Now when we have a question on a certain subject, if something rises up, or maybe we're doing a study, yes we'll go back and read those. We'll listen to messages of Brother Jackson. The same with Brother Branham, we'll go back and study what he said about a certain question or subject.

And there are times the Lord will *direct us to* listen to a certain sermon, and that's wonderful.

But my point is: the Spirit of God is not shining light on that today in the sense that: last week I listened to a message from February 1st 1961. Now this week I have to listen to the one from February 8th. Can we see that?

We have that *foundation*, and I thank God for the access we have to those messages. But the light that is shining *today* continues to *move* into places of the Word where it wasn't shining back then.

We have received the light of the *first watch*. We have received the light of the *second watch*. [Luke 12:38] Praise the Lord. And it continues to grow. As it's written in Isaiah 30, it's going to grow into a *sevenfold light*. [Isaiah 30:26] Praise the Lord.

That's from the time of Brother Branham. First, he restored what had been lost which was that original *one-fold light*. Then it began to *grow* under his ministry as he went into the deeper things of the Word of God. And it's going to grow to the *sevenfold light*.

Now let's keep reading.

John 12:36

While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light.

There it is: *believe it.* And we see throughout time, man has stumbled as far as believing the Word of God.

We'll see it here. Let's jump down to the next verse.

John 12:37

But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him.

So there is always a people, if there's unbelief in their heart, it doesn't matter how the Lord manifests himself.

When Lazarus was raised from the dead, yes there was an element that *did believe*. Praise the Lord. But there was another element that went running to tell the Pharisees what he had done: he's back at it, what are we going to do? [John 11:44-47] I have to say: that's a sad place to be.

If someone is a genuine child of God, they're going to *recognize* the move of the Holy Ghosts and they're going to be able to *believe*. But the religious individual will not believe.

It says here:

John 12:38

That the saying of Esaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?

John 12:39

Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaiah said again,

John 12:40

He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

I have to say: that's a sad state. I can't imagine being in that darkness.

John 12:41

These things said Esaiah, when he saw his glory, and spake of him.

John 12:42

Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue:

There are things you can say today, if you say you believe in *three watches*, there are people who will put you out. They'll shut you down. That's exactly the truth.

As long as you stay quiet about that and you tread lightly, oh everything is fine. But the day you make it clear: yes I can see that. They'll say: we don't want to hear any of that. You're cut off.

John 12:43

For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

In other words, they could see what God was doing but they weren't willing to make that sacrifice.

Knowing that they would be talked about, that they would be cut off from a certain environment they enjoyed, and that they would lose some friends, they weren't willing to make that sacrifice.

I have to say: the Lord *today* is looking for people who are going to *stand for* and *walk in the truth.* Praise the Lord.

As long as you stay back and stay quiet, they can say so many nice things about you. They can really lift you up: oh you're such a good brother or such a good sister. Some people don't want to give that up. They don't. They know they might lose some friends.

Nobody wants to lose friends. John who wrote this didn't want to lose friends. Paul did not want to lose friends. Sometimes we can look at these men who were strong in the faith and think it didn't bother them. It did. It hurt them the same as it would hurt anybody else. They were humans just the same as you and I.

So here it says:

John 12:43

For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

John 12:44

Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me.

Praise the Lord.

Now Jesus was speaking about *believing on him,* that it was really *God* in whom they were believing. Amen.

The Pharisees were making the claim: we believe God, we follow the law of God.

From their mouth and from the outward appearance: oh they loved God, they believed God. I can just hear them: we're not going to listen to what a man says, we're going to listen to God.

We hear the same thing today, just in a different form. They say: I'm not going to listen to what man says, I'm going to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. But Paul said the Lord Jesus Christ has a ministry. [Ephesians 4:11-12] Amen.

I have to say: those who are listening to the *true ministry* today are not listening to those men per se, but they are listening to what the Lord Jesus Christ has for the church.

Again, we can hide behind the curtain: I'm going to follow the Lord, but it's the same as what the Pharisees did: oh we're going to follow God, while the Son of God was right there before them.

Now people say: I'm going to follow the Lord, but the ministry of the Lord is standing right before them and they won't believe the ministry.

Let's go to First Corinthians 14.

Paul has been addressing the gifts throughout chapters 12 through 14.

Here he says:

1 Corinthians 14:14

For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

1 Corinthians 14:15

What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

So Paul has brought in the gifts and he's saying here that even the gifts and our worship have to be *with understanding*.

1 Corinthians 14:16

Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest?

We know that when somebody speaks in tongues, we don't understand what's being said if it's a different tongue. Now, it's still a manifestation of the Spirit of God, right? We can look at that and we can say: praise the Lord. But that's because of what we have already seen and know in our walk with the Lord.

But Paul is saying here: if somebody new comes in, that's not going to be enough for them.

Let's keep reading.

1 Corinthians 14:17

For thou verily giveth thanks well, but the other is not edified.

1 Corinthians 14:18

I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:

Now we don't have record of Paul in the assembly: oh he's speaking in tongues all the time. But what he is speaking of is: he would reserve that more for the time when he was alone.

He says here:

1 Corinthians 14:19

Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.

Praise the Lord.

That shows us: Paul said *I'd rather speak five words but that there is understanding*. Praise the Lord. There is no end to this *understanding*.

I'm going to read one more verse. I'll probably close with this.

Let's go to the book of Ephesians.

Paul said that *he doesn't cease to make mention of them in his prayers*. [Ephesians 1:16]

We have read a similar passage in Colossians. [Colossians 1:3]

Ephesians 1:17

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

Ephesians 1:18

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

Here Paul is asking that we would *receive the Spirit of revelation, understanding,* and the knowledge of Him. Praise the Lord.

As we continue to look throughout the Scripture, if we have the gift of the Holy Ghost we have to be able to see that *He wants us to receive where He shines the light.* He wants us to *receive it and walk in it* so we can be ready when that day comes.

What do I mean when I say that day?

I'm speaking of this:



I was thinking over the past few days: that's going to be a wonderful time.

Right now we go through these tests and trials. Sometimes the enemy comes against us and we think: what are we going to do? But we thank the Lord: He always comes through for us. He's moulding a character in us.

We have to understand: when we get to the point that the *seventh seal* is broken, it's because He sees the church has reached that *point of maturity*. Can you see what I'm saying? He'll have completed His work as we go into this Time Factor.

I don't see how there will still be a need to go through tests and trials, but I have to say: that's going to be a glorious time. That is, if we are found *walking in the light*. That's my desire. I thank God for what He has given and I thank God for what He's still giving today.

We see on the world scene, even just in the past few days: these riots in France. It's an embarrassment for the prime minister. He can't control the country because there's a class of people who feel they have been overlooked.

The Lord spoke about it: the waves roaring. [Luke 21:25] It's right before our eyes.

But there is a man who has put forward, how can I say this? He has put forward a face, it's not that it's really in his heart but he has put forth a face: oh yes I'm concerned about the poor, the overlooked. I'm speaking of course of the pope.

Just think how much help it would be to that prime minister right now if the pope was to come and say a few words.

That just shows: those leaders are going to begin to realize that there is one they can go to who can be a great help to them.

The pope is not just going to come in and say: here I am. They say that a lot of these people are Muslims and immigrants. I've never heard the pope say anything bad about the Muslims. As far as a politician, he says good things about everybody.

I don't know how he can do it but if he can get people to believe him, we see the conditions. Yes the people can look at their prime minister and say: we don't want this. But they can also look at the pope and they can say: oh he understands us. He's not going to take us for granted. He's interested in us as well as the others.

So we just see things moving in the right direction for all of this to come about and bring about an end to this age. Amen.

I'm going to go ahead and close with this. Let's go ahead and pray.