

# TO HER IT WAS GRANTED...

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I would like to continue to some extent in the same line of thought that we were looking at on Thursday. Let's go to the book of Revelation. Here John is accounting everything that he is seeing and hearing.

Revelation 19:6

*And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude,*

Remember that: *the voice of a great multitude.*

Revelation 19:6

*and as the voice of many waters,*

In English we see the word *and* but in Spanish it just says *as the voice of many waters.*

Revelation 19:6

*and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.*

Revelation 19:7

*Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.*

Here we see this great multitude. They are saying *let us be glad and rejoice. Amen.* It says *for the marriage of the Lamb is come and his wife hath made herself ready.*

Revelation 19:8

*And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.*

The title this morning is: TO HER IT WAS GRANTED... When we look at the word *granted* it shows that there is a desire for something, it shows that there is a petition for something. We have to see that the Bride of Jesus Christ is seeking something, and that something is given to her. Praise the Lord.

We could go back and start reading where Jesus mentions the parable of the sower. This parable covers the entire seven church ages. There are seven parables in Matthew 13 related to the sower. As Jesus explains the first one, we see the seed is *the Word* which is sown. Amen. This is what we were looking at on Thursday.

There are those where the seed falls *on good ground*: they *hear* the Word, they *understand* the Word, and they *receive* the Word. Praise the Lord. And each one produces fruit according to their calling, whether it be thirtyfold, sixtyfold, or a hundredfold. [Matthew 13:23]

Producing fruit is a *process* that takes *time*, both in what we learn in the Word together with how the Holy Ghost takes that Word and changes even our character. We go through years where sometimes we're on the mountain and sometimes we're in the valley. Sometimes we go through tests or trials. All of that is how the Lord allows the Word we have received to produce something in our life as it is watered by the Holy Ghost. Praise the Lord.

We have heard of late certain ones say that it's not about walking in the light of truth for the hour. They say that's not what determines our salvation. I will say this: salvation yes it is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

One thing we have to understand: many people will stand and tell you they have received Jesus Christ as their Saviour, but there are so many different ways that professing Christians are living. Some never even make it to baptism. And many who do are baptized in the Trinitarian titles. Just because there is a claim that they have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, I have to say: time will tell. Amen.

As we look for *evidence* of what the Lord has done in someone's life, throughout this Word we see they're going to be walking in the light of the Word of God *for their day*. Praise the Lord.

Here it says:

Revelation 19:8

*to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.*

When we see *righteousness* we might think of people who don't smoke, they don't go to the bar, they give money to the poor, and they basically live a clean moral lifestyle. I will say: yes those will be some natural results of true righteousness. But there is an external *man-made* righteousness where they don't participate in the worldly things.

I will say: today even among the Christian ranks it's getting harder and harder to find those who are separate from the world, and that's a sad thing.

If we want to look at a standard of righteousness: the Pharisees, oh they had the law. They did everything they could to live according to the letter of the law. We don't have people literally called *Pharisees* today but that spirit is still here.

The Pharisees were a people, if you looked at their life you might say: I'm coming up short. But Jesus Christ said *if your righteousness does not exceed that of the Pharisees, you will in no wise enter in.* [Matthew 5:20] He was looking at something different than going to church, dressing right, paying tithes, and not saying bad words. There was something beyond that.

To start looking at this, let's go to the book of Genesis. Here Abraham is speaking with the Lord about his posterity.

Genesis 15:4  
*And, behold, the word of the Lord came unto him, saying,*

So the Word of the Lord came to Abraham.

Genesis 15:4  
*This shall not be thine heir;*

In other words: Eliezer

Genesis 15:4  
*but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.*

Genesis 15:5  
*And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.*

Abraham is already old, and his wife is also very advanced in age. At this point we would say they could no longer have children. But here it says:

Genesis 15:6  
*And he believed in the LORD;*

Praise the Lord.

Genesis 15:6  
*And he*

That's the Lord.

Genesis 15:6  
*counted it to him*

That's Abraham.

Genesis 15:6  
*for righteousness.*

So the Lord imputed righteousness unto Abraham because he believed the Word of God. Think of all that Abraham had done up to this time: Abraham was not somebody running around living an immoral lifestyle. We know he lived a clean lifestyle and God blessed him greatly. Amen. Abraham did some amazing things yet after all he had done, here when he believed the Word of the Lord, it says it was *counted to him for righteousness.*

God *revealed* to him that he was going to have a son, that this son would be his heir, and that his seed would be as the stars of heaven. And Abraham *believed* it. Praise the Lord. The biggest part of this was that his wife was sterile, but he still believed it even though they were getting up in age.

Now let's go to the book of Romans.

Romans 4:1  
*What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?*

Romans 4:2  
*For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to Glory; but not before God.*

Here Paul mentions works. We know that the law had not yet come but we see again what I just mentioned about the life of Abraham. Many other times Paul would speak of works as related to observing the law. We have to see that because remember: we don't just put works away. The same Paul said we are saved by faith *unto good works.* [Ephesians 2:10]

We are going to look at how those *good works* are tied to this same *righteousness*, but first let's keep reading.

Romans 4:3  
*For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.*

There are a lot of people who say they believe in God. Many times what they mean is: they believe there *is* a God. They look at a lot of general things: they believe God can save them, they believe God can heal them, and they believe God can bless them. But remember: it said *the Word of the Lord came to Abraham.*

This morning I want to say: in our day, in this age of Laodicea, as Jesus spoke of in Luke 12, there have been *three watches*.

The Word of the Lord *came* in the First Watch to the general denominational church world through the message of Brother Branham. *The Word of the Lord came*. It's not that Brother Branham brought his own word, but it's how God *shined light* on this Word and he used the man Brother Branham to bring it out.

Then Jesus said *but what if he comes in the second watch or the third watch?* [Luke 12:38] As we look in time, we see how God used Brother Jackson to *continue* to open up the Word. The Branham movement didn't want anything to do with that, just as Brother Branham himself had spoken of the Pentecostals and the denominations. He said they take what God has given them and they don't want to move one step further.

The Branham movement did exactly the same thing. They said the Word of the Lord comes only to the prophet. I have to ask: what about John the Apostle? The Word of the Lord came to him when he was on the Isle of Patmos. Praise the Lord. It came just as it did to Ezekiel or to Daniel: by beautiful visions, yet John was *an apostle*. The Word of the Lord came in the Second Watch: God used Brother Jackson.

Now Brother Jackson is gone, but the Word of the Lord has come *again*. I thank God. He takes His man but that *revelatory Spirit* remains with the church. Praise the Lord. This is when the Lord tests a movement.

It said *Abraham believed the Lord*. What was it? He believed *the Word*. There are people today who sat at the feet of Brother Jackson. They say: oh praise the Lord we have this truth, but they don't want to move on. They don't realize how the enemy has come in to take away even what they seem to have.

Now the enemy is beginning to muddy the picture of what is *fine linen* and what is *white robe*: what determines the *wise*, the *foolish*, and the *others*. They say: oh you shouldn't call somebody foolish, you shouldn't call somebody a white robe and say that you're a fine linen. As far as having an attitude like that, of course we shouldn't.

But the true church *knows* that there is a calling to the Bride and her desire is to be a part of that. We are not going to be a part of that if we can't recognize what it is that makes her who she is.

The statement was made that somebody could come straight out of the world, give their life to the Lord, be martyred the same day, and that they would be a bride saint. I have to say: what Bible have you been reading and who have you been listening to?

Now would they have salvation? Absolutely! Amen. Praise the Lord. We don't look down on them: we thank God that He has a place of eternal life for them. Even though they didn't have the opportunity to grow to the potential that the Lord would have wanted for them, He still grants them eternal life because of their faith on the Lord Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord. But that is *not* fine linen.

The foolish virgins also do not have fine linen. The fine linen is the *highest* calling. Some may say: Brother, I don't think you should speak like that. So let's see what Brother Jackson said:

- His Bride is robed in fine linen, clean and white. That means that is the highest calling that a human being can attain unto, being called into God's plan of salvation.

In other words: in the salvation plan of God there are other places *that are not* the Bride, but the Bride is the highest calling. Praise the Lord.

Romans 4:3

*Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.*

Romans 4:4

*Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.*

Romans 4:5

*But to him that worketh not,*

He's speaking here of the natural works.

Romans 4:5

*but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.*

Again when we see that word *faith*, a lot of times we think: oh I have faith that God can heal me, I have faith that God can change the situation. And yes that is a part of it. But when we read Hebrews 11 we don't read about having faith that God can heal or faith that God can change a situation. It's always *how God revealed something to the people and they believed Him*. They believed what He revealed to their heart. I believe the very first one mentioned is Abel. Let's read that.

Hebrews 11:1

*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

We could spend a lot of time on that. I'm just going to keep reading for now.

Hebrews 11:2

*For by it the elders obtained a good report.*

Hebrews 11:3

*Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.*

Hebrews 11:4

*By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.*

It says that Abel offered a more excellent sacrifice *by faith*. Amen. Abel was not looking for a healing. He was not saying Lord I've got this terrible situation and I have faith that You can change it. But it says *by faith* he offered a more excellent sacrifice. What was that? Abel had *a revelation of what was going to please God*.

As Abel walked with God, God revealed to him that He wanted the sacrifice of a lamb. Abel believed it and he acted on it. That gave *testimony that he was righteous* because it *confirmed* that Abel had a *true revelation*.

It wasn't that Abel was righteous because he didn't do things like the serpent ~ I can't talk about the bars because they didn't exist back then [laughs] ~ It wasn't that Abel prayed for three hours every morning, although I'm sure he had his prayer life. Here it was the *revelation* of what God would *receive* as an offering. This was pointing to the deliverance that would one day come to mankind.

Cain on the other hand, again to the natural man, we would say he offered a more excellent sacrifice than Abel. In Cain's sacrifice there was no blood shed. There was no death of an animal, of a conscious being. Oh how beautiful it looked! But the lamb that Abel slew, that was a sad picture. Oh how fragrant Cain's offering smelled! If we could look at Cain's life from a natural standpoint, I believe we would say he's a good person.

We hear that a lot today, right? Oh they're a good person. Oh they're a nice person. Well they're nice *until* something happens that rubs them the wrong way. *Then* you see what's really there.

Let's see what John said about this. John writes here:

1 John 3:11

*For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.*

Now you look at Cain and you look at Abel. I can assure you: until the day came that Cain said let's go out into the field, you would have said that Cain *loved* Abel his brother. Remember: they were twins. They grew up together. They played together. They were brothers. But then what does it say?

1 John 3:12

*Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one.*

That should help some people who can't see Serpent Seed. Adam was not that wicked one. Amen.

1 John 3:12

*who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.*

Right?

Now we say: well he killed Abel, that was evil. But that's not what John is saying. He said *why did he kill him?* He said *because his works were evil.* His works were evil *before* he slew Abel.

What's the only thing we read about Cain *before* he slew Abel? What did he do? He brought *an offering* of the best *fruit*. [Genesis 4:3] Amen. This was *his work* because it is compared with what Abel did. What did Abel do? He brought the lamb. [Genesis 4:4]

Here John is saying: this *work* of bringing the best fruit and offering it to God, it was an *evil work*. Again it's not that Cain was in the bar getting drunk or that he was out living in immoral life. John *specifically compares* this to Abel. I'll say this: Cain was living a religious life *without a revelation*. But Abel had a revelation.

The Lord even told Cain *if you do well I will accept you*. [Genesis 4:7] The only thing Cain needed to do was humble himself a little bit and ask Abel: I don't understand, can you help me? But no, he couldn't have Abel above him in understanding. That is *pride*. He couldn't go to Abel and just ask him to explain it.

I have to say: there is a ministry today that is preaching the Word. Some are saying: oh they feel like they are way up there looking down. I have to say: that is a lie of the enemy.

Every one of the true bride ministers would love for all others to be able to come and see the same thing, walk in the same light, and be brothers and sisters in the Lord. The true bride ministry wishes that *all* were bride. That is the truth. But the Bible shows us it's *not* going to be like that.



There are *foolish virgins* and there are *tares*. That's the truth. Jesus said enough about them that if we have the light of God's Word in our life, we can see what their characteristics are.

No, we are not calling anybody a tare. But at the same time: for those who would make that accusation, for those who say they want to be more like Jesus and who just want to love like Jesus did, remember: Jesus looked those Pharisees in the face and said: *you are hypocrites!* [Matthew 23] In another place he said *you are children of the devil.* [John 8:44]

Jesus didn't say: I'm going to wait until the judgement comes, he said *you are hypocrites.* So would not his bride at least be able to discern the spirits when he has given the explanation?

Now it says:

1 John 3:12  
*his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.*

Amen.

So what do we see? We see that *righteousness*, which is by *faith*, was *believing* the Word of God. It was *having a revelation*. It came through a revelation and it's going to be the same today.

When it says that *fine linen is the righteousness of the saints* [Revelation 19:8] I have to say *the saints* are those that have received the Word of God. They are the Bride.

Again let's see what Brother Jackson said:

- Therefore not every person that has white on is to be raptured, just those arrayed in fine linen. They are the bride, and they are the ones that are going to be raptured, regardless of what unbelievers may teach.

Many say they follow Brother Jackson, but look at his own words: regardless of what the unbelievers teach. When he said the *unbelievers*, do you think he was speaking of the man in the world? They are not teaching anything about the rapture and white robes. Can we not see that?

He was speaking about people who say they love the Lord. They wear a suit and a tie. They stand in front of a congregation. But they teach the Word in a twisted way. In the end, they think it doesn't matter whether a saint has a white robe or fine linen. *It does* if you want to be a part of that bride church and go in the rapture. Praise the Lord.

Those who teach otherwise, Brother Jackson didn't say they are confused about their doctrine, he called them *unbelievers*. What's an unbeliever? It's a *tare*. That's exactly what it is. There is no difference. The unbeliever is a tare.

Brother Branham used a different term. He didn't use the word *tare* as often but he said there are three kinds of believers. He said there's the *true believer*, there's the *make-believer*, and there's the *unbeliever*.

The way Brother Branham explained it, when he would talk about the *unbelievers* he was just talking about somebody in the world who comes to the church. But the *make-believer* is the same that Brother Jackson called the *unbeliever*, and it's the same that Jesus called the *tare*.

I would like to read one more part in the book of Romans if we can go there.

Romans 1:16

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

Paul begins with salvation by believing, and then he says:

Romans 1:17

*For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

He says *the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith*. Does that mean a person goes from being a Baptist to being a Methodist to being a Pentecostal? That's *not* what it means. Remember: *faith is believing* what God has *revealed* in His Word.

He begins with the gospel: Jesus Christ shed his blood for you and me. We begin by seeing that and we receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Then as we continue to walk in this life, God brings more of His Word and we grow from faith to faith. He brings us up a level as He continues to shine the light on His Word. Praise the Lord. Then He brings us up a little higher again.

We can say: in our age there was basic spiritual knowledge given to the Pentecostals. Then Brother Branham came on the scene and God used that ministry to move people from faith to faith, *revealing* His Word. *The righteousness of God is revealed from faith in faith*.

Then Brother Branham left the scene. Some may say: Brother, he was the prophet of the age. Yes he was the prophet of the age. Brother Jackson could not have continued if he hadn't first received that message. It was the groundwork for what God was going to do in this age. Praise the Lord.

Once again it was from *faith to faith*. It's a continuance, nonetheless there are people who want to stay back.

I was thinking this morning: do you think it would excite a math professor to hear that two plus two equals four? I have to say: they already know that. It would not excite them if someone came up and told them: hey, two plus two equals four!

But they appreciate it and they use it. They may be doing some great work. And when they get all the way down to the bottom to see whether it is true or false, on one side they end up with *two plus two*, and on the other side they have *four*. They would say: praise the Lord! Maybe not many of them say *praise the Lord* today, but they would say: this is true! I've proven some great theorem!

So they *know* it, they *need* it, they *use* it, and they *appreciate* it. But when they're doing calculus and things way beyond that, they're not getting excited every minute about two plus two is four.

We see the Branham movement: they just want to go through his sermons again and again. The same thing is happening with the Jackson movement today. I never thought I would see that, but they just repeat in the same way.

God is looking for a people who desire the divine truth of His Word. He says *she should be arrayed in fine linen*. [Revelation 19:8] Praise the Lord. Amen.



I tried to find a better picture of a woman in a wedding dress, but nowadays the dresses really don't look much like a wedding dress, if you can understand what I mean.

The Bride of Jesus Christ will be dressed, *arrayed*, in fine linen which is the righteousness of the saints. That shows she has *received* the revelation of the Word of God *for her day*. Praise the Lord.

Abraham believed God and it was counted for righteousness. [Romans 4:3] Abel's works were righteous. [1John 3:12] What was it? He had a *revelation* that one day there would somehow be redemption through the shedding of blood. Praise the Lord. It is by *divine revelation*.

I didn't have time to go into the qualities of fine linen. Maybe we'll do that on Thursday. A few years ago I did a little study and I was amazed at the *type* when looking at *truth* and looking at *fine linen*.

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