

Brought Up, Set Up, Kept Up and Tuned Up

by Leonard Ravenhill

The sermon emphasizes the transformative power of God in lifting individuals from despair and equipping them for spiritual battles through prayer and faith.

Duration: 42:53

Scripture: Psalm 40:2, Matthew 25:1-13, Revelation 3:18

Topics: "Walk With God"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of preaching with a broken heart and being deeply moved by the message of sin and redemption. He highlights the need for the congregation to be heartbroken over sin if they expect to see change in the world. The preacher also discusses the concept of judgment and the belief that there will be a day of reckoning for all. He criticizes the lack of sincerity in some prayers and calls for more preparation and reverence in prayer. The sermon concludes with a reminder that being born again is the only way to truly live and escape the corruption and hypocrisy of the world.

Transcript

My pastor doesn't understand. He doesn't want to put a youth prayer meeting on. He doesn't want to do this, doesn't want to do the other.

It's dangerous to be spiritual. It's dangerous to live near God because you get, like God, you get as angry as God. That's what Moses did.

But anyhow, he says, I cried. He heard my crying. What did he do? He brought me apart of a horrible pit.

What horrible pit? What's he talking about here? You know, as I meditate on this, I thought of little David going down in to fight with Goliath. Maybe when he wrote the 23rd Psalm, he was thinking of that. He went down into the valley of the shadow of death.

What did this fellow nine feet high say? He said, you come up here, I'll break you over my knee and give you to the birds. And so David says, well, we have two minds with a single thought. That's what I'm going to do with you.

All Israel is looking up. Goliath did as he wanted until he met a man of God. He didn't turn and run away when he saw the camp and he said, you see, there's the royal sign on the, on the tent of the king.

There's a royal sign on the, on the tent of the princes. They were the sons of Jesse. They're all the tallest men in the nation.

He didn't tremble about them. There was a boy with five loaves, with five loaves, five stones, I mean. I got, I got a bit early there.

Five stones. Why did he have five stones? Because Goliath had four brothers. I was, oh, you were there.

Okay. Thank you. He had four brothers.

So he says, I want to wipe the whole family out while I'm at it. I wish, I wish it turned up, don't you? I'd have shouted with you then, Dick. He goes with his five stones.

He doesn't care. The man is as tall as he is. But remember this, in front of Goliath was an armor bearer.

And yet David never bothered with the armor bearer. You know, we're so busy chasing demons, we're leaving the devil alone. You can chase demons.

Every, you go to some churches, if you have an ingrown, if you have a hangnail, it's a demon. If you have an ingrown toenail, I'll have a night of prayer for you. Come on now.

We're not molesting the devil. He's doing about just what he wants to do in the world and in the nation today. And yet it doesn't take an army.

I remember maybe, I make a guess, 70 years ago, a man saying this, I've thought of it, and I won't say a million times since, one man with God is a majority. God doesn't raise up armies. He raises up generals.

Generals don't win battles. Armies win them under inspired leadership. And I, through the word of God, you find that in this, in this spiritual warfare.

Again, Jesse's brothers were all, David's brothers were all bypassed. At first the prophet wanted to take them. This man he lied.

Oh this is wonderful, this is wonderful. Well the Lord told me there was somebody in your family. Jesse, what's happened? Are these all your sons? Yes, except one.

Well where is he? Oh he's just a boy. He's down in the fields looking after sheep. You see some people trained by that.

When, when David says I was born in sin and shaping iniquity, he was born illegitimate. His father wouldn't even own him. That's a bypass for some people.

And of course the other people say you're born within, well in sin. You never ask for it. You get sent to hell for having it.

Are we born pure? Are we born innocent? Were the Jeffrey brothers right? Was Finney right when he talked about a cry of depravity? That we're pure up to a certain position where we give the devil access to our lives? I know it's a heavy theological problem, but the fact is this. We've got, what was I thought of today? We've an amalgamation of evil in the world today like no period in history. We never had such aggressive cults.

They never had millions of dollars. The Mormons make three million dollars a day. How in God's name are we going to beat them? What do you do with the other cults? They're wealthy.

And yet the men that God has found, Finney didn't have much money. He just had a revelation of God. The Westleys were kicked out of the Church of England.

George Whitefield just happened to have one lady that paid his fare across the Atlantic about six times. Otherwise he had no money. We're so crippled.

You know what? Our success is our failure. Our wealth is our poverty. We'll do it on TV.

We'll do it this way. We can buy. We can organize it.

God says, well you've tried it 25 years and the nation's going to hell. Why don't you turn around and repent and face the issue? I cried. I cried.

That's all I know. You can be an infant crying in the night tonight with something in here that no language, if you speak 10 languages, you can't express it. But that's something that God is a spirit.

I'm a spirit. And an old Methodist hymn says, spirit to spirit thou dost speak. I guess you are this.

You know many times. Maybe you've come here, you haven't prayed at all. I don't care about that.

I know you're praying inwardly. But many times my quietest times are my most difficult times. I feel I've touched God and he's touched me when maybe I haven't made an expression at all.

But anyhow whatever pit we're in, it makes no difference. Let me skip over this quickly because I do want us to pray. There's so many requests tonight.

He brought me up out of a horrible pit. Isn't that nice? Maybe you weren't in a horrible pit. But let me tell you something.

If you weren't, if you were brought up on the clean side of the road like I was in a very straight but godly Christian Methodist home, I wasn't in a horrible pit. Didn't know a thing about it. My dad had been in one.

But I was going to a horrible pit. Far worse than any pit that man's ever described. The eternal pit.

He brought me up from a horrible pit. Well if not he saved me from a horrible pit. I remember one time we were in New York with Teen Challenge 25 years ago when it started.

We went one night down to West 42nd, 44th, 44th street where the opera house was. And it was about one o'clock in the morning. The opera was finished and they came out in the and the big cigars, Rolls Royces, Bentleys, all the super cars.

Ladies dripping with diamonds, what have you got? I see that so often when I'm praying. If you said to that woman, just a minute lady, take my arm, I'll bring you back in 10 minutes. Around the corner here there are girl prostitutes.

Here's a woman who's one of the best known lepers in the city. I say lady one day you won't have jewels, fabulous jewels. You won't have gorgeous clothes.

You're going to spend an eternal hell with that dirty filthy woman who hasn't been bathed for two years. Stinking rotten woman. And you're going to have your eternity with all the corruption of the earth.

They don't think of that. And once more in God's name, I don't believe the preachers in America believe it. If we did pray meetings we'll be packed.

Some of our loved ones are going there but with no tears for them. I like a point our dear Dave made. If you notice last week when he was talking now about uh about the apostle Paul yes.

And also you remember he said he said to Timothy. Timothy had sat at the feet of the apostle Paul. What a privilege.

And what did Paul say? Being mindful of thy tears. Because Paul himself was a man of tears. I don't think there's anything more moving on God's earth and I've been in thousands of experiences in many countries.

All kinds of things. Miracle signs. One the most amazing thing when I've seen men literally broken before God.

There's a little church in Aberram and Wales. The revival hit it in 1904 before it was an assembly of God. We used to pray.

Maybe it's our sins too. God goes in strange places. But anyhow every Monday morning we met to pray.

A bunch of strong Welshmen. The one man he used to pray in tongues. He didn't know German but I'll tell you what.

He had such a guttural voice when he moved me to the depths. There were other men that came there. Different denominations or abominations if you like.

But boy how they prayed. That's one of the bright spots of my life. To be aware that are holy men.

I remember before anybody knew uh uh uh what do you call him? Campbell McAlpine. Praying in the home of Joy Dawson. She happened to call her home after the name of Wesley's place.

Epworth. It overlooked the sea there in New Zealand. I remember two different nights we prayed there.

When the spirit of God was on the place. The highlights of my life are not being society people, wealthy people, living in castles all that. I forget those.

It's to meet with men who are in tune with God. And they touch the heart of God. And God touches them.

And they don't have to speak in tongues. They speak with an anointing that's beyond any human description. One of the great festivals they had in London.

They made a huge program. All the celebrities. I believe the Archbishop of Canterbury was on the bill.

And various other denominational leaders were there. And Spurgeon was to be there. Of course they had a song leader.

They had a man to give an invocation whatever that means. And then they had some other announcements. And they went through them all in the office or as we call it in the vestry.

You know they say American preachers are businessmen. They have an office. English preachers have a vestry.

That's the difference. American preachers have big cars. I'll say that this way.

English preachers have big libraries. But this celebration. Oh Spurgeon's going to preach.

Oh they came as the Irish would say from all arts and parts. The great Spurgeon. You know he wasn't very tall.

He was too fat and he was whiskery and all the rest. Excuse me I didn't mean anyway. I like your beard dear brother.

You remind me of Peter. I never saw him but I think he'd be like you. Lovely grey beard.

Isn't that lovely? Martha take a good look dear. I may want to grow one like that. Now she won't.

You've got your camera with you. Anyhow this celebration. The Archbishop of Canterbury is going to give the invocation.

Oh it will be so dignified. You have such marvelous Oxford English you know. The Duke of Somerset is going to speak.

A member of the royal family is going to be there. Somebody's going to sing from the Royal Opera House. They had all this stuff charted.

And as Spurgeon went in they gave him a copy of this thing and they said you know. Oh you've already been warned of this. That this procedure goes on for maybe an hour.

And then the whole platform will clear. I'm here to speak to this celebration. The Royal Albert Hall seating about eight ten thousand people.

There's one person allocated for each position. One to lead the singing. One to give the invocation.

One to read the scriptures. One to do this. One to do the other.

But your task is to pray. Your task is to preach. He said I would like to change that.

We can't. There are Dukes. There are royal people here.

They've got. Well he said that doesn't matter. But they want to hear you.

No he said I want God to hear me. Let the man who was going to pray at the beginning of the service preach and let me pray. I would rather pray than do anything at all.

And he brought the power of God down. Finney didn't take song leaders with him or guys with guitars and all these backslid instruments. What did he do? Took a couple of prayer men.

Praying men. Father Nash and Father Cleary. He called them that because they were bearded not because they were old.

We had a lady came to our church. I'll be quickly through. Came to our church in Bolton in Lancashire, England.

She was in 80 odd years of age. We went and had a phase of revival there. We took a tent.

We stayed the whole summer. We stayed into winter. We stayed until the snow fell on the thing.

People would go in a yard and find a brick and put it in the oven all day and wrap it up in a cloth and bring it and put their feet in it because the snow was falling outside or the wind was arctic. We stayed there months and months and months with the result what that church is going today. It was started in 1932.

It's still going. The other two that we founded in 1934 and 1935 are still there. I was asked to go back last year and preach.

Why? Because it wasn't a hit and run campaign. We stayed. It's better to stay a night.

It's more showy maybe. But you don't a woman doesn't have a baby born and then desert it. I've said this and I get into trouble to say it.

So I'm going to get into trouble again. I believe maybe number one or number two enemy of revival in America is evangelism. Hit and run evangelism.

We don't stay for the birth. We don't stay to take care. Anyhow this is what happened.

This precious man Spurgeon prayed and God just came on the assembly and he was known all over London. I haven't kept all records. I wish I had over the years but maybe you need a bigger house for them Martha.

But one record I read they said in the years that Spurgeon was preaching there were more people healed through him. Isn't that a miracle? Healed through a Baptist? Dear Lord. That's not territory for Baptists.

It's only for Pentecostal charismatics I mean. Come on now. They said if you added up all the healings in all the hospitals in London they didn't come any near to the healings that that precious man had.

Do you know in the 25 was it 28 years he ministered in London they ever once made an altar call? He said if God is striving with you this morning it's a quarter of 12 and it's there I'll be through in 15 or 20 minutes. If God is striving with you go home come in the morning to my office at 7. We don't believe the Holy Ghost will linger like that. Then he said to the night congregation if you're troubled in your spirit about eternity come into my office tomorrow morning between 7. I'll be there from 7 till 7 at night.

And the press reporter says it was a like you're looking I look outside of our house we've got a run where the ants go. I watch the little things going up and down. I think how people went constantly from offices and different places they went constantly to that one room where Spurgeon was all day to introduce people to Jesus Christ.

What greater honor is there? Just down the road you had of all men you had Parker. What was his name? Joseph Parker. I've given brother Jack there a little book tonight called uh what's the prayer book no no

Parker's yeah yeah the the statute book of prayer in England is a common book of common prayer that's the book of uncommon prayer it's a listing of all the most of the prayers that that amazing man prayed.

I talked with a woman that actually used to go and listen to Spurgeon and she said Mr Raymond it wasn't his preaching she said he would come in the pulpit and say something made the congregation will be laughing and when they sobered down he'd be up in eternity she said. If you didn't get anything out of the preaching you usually did but he carried it to eternity. Our preachers don't do that they say to some half-backs ridden deacon hey Bill I nearly said Jack but Bill Bill lead in prayer the last thing Bill did was slam the door getting out of the car and say his wife now smile we'll settle this when we get home and the old rascal with sweat on him and anger on him stands up and blubbers out of prayer three blind mice could say as much.

If a man is going to pray he should have a week's notice given to him prepare yourself you're going to stand between the living and the dead. Ruskin the great English critic said preaching is three 30 minutes to let raise the dead. You know that's not that sounds funny it isn't as I told him in a church a while ago I said look that row of people there a row of nice people it's death row everybody is dead if you're not born again.

You're dead you may be rich you may be intellectual you may be smart you may be acceptable to survive it's no fun preaching if it isn't for God's sake give it up. If you can pray without preach without tears you shouldn't preach. If you can preach without being broken about it you shouldn't do it.

Why should the congregation be heartbroken over sin if we're not? We transmit the we bring the atmosphere with us as a Quaker said. Anyhow let me I'm rushing through this you know this quickly bow down and kneel. What does it say? What does it say? He brought me up isn't that wonderful out of a horrible pit.

Okay he brought me up out of a horrible pit out of barricade and then set my feet. So he brought me up then he set me up upon a rock and established my feet. He kept me up and he put a new song in my mouth.

He tuned me up. Boy there's a lot in that isn't it? He brought me up he set me up he kept me up he tuned me up. You see a man that has that miracle doesn't you don't say are you saved he doesn't say well I don't really know.

If a man doesn't know he isn't saved. If I carried a hundred pound weight on my back got up the hill with a van said hey I saw you with a hundred pound sack down the road. You haven't got it now.

Oh I didn't notice I'd lost it. You'd say he's nuts. Do you mean a man who's burdened with guilt and sin doesn't know immediately he's born again? Do you mean that a man who's been living in total darkness and you push him in the room blazing with light doesn't know he's there? Isn't that the gospel to turn them from darkness to light the power of satan to God that they may receive forgiveness of sins? Boy if I were going down the road and I said to Jacob are you in debt? He says well a little.

I won't ask you what about well his car for one thing but anyhow. And I said to him how much do you want? He says well what mood are you in? I said well I'm not in a good mood but Martha is. She's got the bankbook.

Well supposing I give you I mean would ten thousand cover it? You say well not quite. Fifteen thousand? Not quite. He's nodding his head.

What are you in debt a million? And I say well supposing supposing I say I've had some money. I'll give you I'll give you thirty five thousand dollars. One to cancel all your debts.

The other to give you some money to live on. Will you forget this place? He wouldn't. He put a mark on the driveway.

Big metal mark. That's where Len Ravenhill gave me thirty five thousand. And all the angels would say wake up.

Are you going to tell me that a man who's morally bankrupt and Jesus touches him doesn't know that he's been redeemed? Regenerate? He doesn't know he's a new creature? He doesn't know when he's lost his burden? He doesn't know the pollution has gone? The guilt has gone? The condemnation has gone? You see we just get people come up and nod their heads and say Jesus I love you. And go to hell and love the world as ten minutes after. This is a miracle.

It's a supernatural operation of the Holy Ghost. It takes the blood of Christ. It takes the mercy of God.

It takes the power of the resurrection. And it takes the indwelling spirit of God to bear witness. Okay so he lifts me up.

And then he sets me up. Then he keeps me up. Then he tunes me up.

You wonder Paul said if any man. I like that. There's a holy arrogance if that's not a contradiction in terms.

If any man be in Christ. Yeah I've seen rich men, millionaires that have been saved. We had a banker in England got saved.

And God wonderfully transformed his life. There's a man who used to drive around in a carriage, a couple of horses in the carriage. God saved him.

What? He said go live in the slums. So he went. I have his life story on my shelf.

Instead of servants waiting on him he went to the gutter, to the ghetto and lived. And took his money and built a hospital. And gave them free hospitalization.

That's 60 years, 70 years ago. Put all his money there. God says you don't lay a treasure here.

Lay it up in heaven. Take care of the poor and the needy and the outcast. And instead of servants and everything he just did the ordinary thing.

Traveled in the streetcar. You see once a man gets a vision of eternity. I'm not amazed at anything he does.

After all when a man falls in love. Let me say this in Scotland there are lots of castles now empty. Folk can't afford to live in them anyhow.

But I remember 70 years ago they told us about a beautiful castle on the hill. A man stood there every morning. Took his great big glasses and he watched his daughter.

She's riding a horse. She went down to the crossroads and met the son of another duke. And they were taught together.

And he got it in his mind. Oh we love a society wedding. We love royal people here.

These two are going to get married. She still kept going. And then she didn't seem to go so often.

One day one of the men came to him and said. Lord whoever it was. Duke so and so.

Maybe Duke of Argyll. Your excellency I would like to tell you something. Oh well tell me he said.

It's very secret. I hope I won't be able to. Tell me.

Is it concerning me? Yes vitally. What is it? Well that beautiful daughter of yours. A brilliant scholar at Cambridge has come home.

She's been seeing the Duke of so and so. I know that. No no she doesn't go there now.

She's desperately in love with a man who has no money. They say he's a very religious man. He goes to church often.

She isn't going to see the Duke's son anymore. Who is this man? Well he's the man that saddles her horse every morning for her. Cleans out the manure in the stable.

The father waited and watched and he saw this fellow go around time and time again to the stables. Bring the horse out for the girl. She'd mount the horse and off she'd ride away.

He'd clear up the mess with all the junk and so forth. One day the Duke brought the girl into his home. I want to ask you a question.

A very serious. Sit there. She said yes daddy.

Are you in love? Yes very much. With whom? Oh John McTavish. John McTavish the stable boy.

You know your mother, your grandmother left you a beautiful home on the side of the loch as they call the lake. And then a certain inheritance. I can't touch the inheritance but you won't get the land and you won't get the house.

If you marry that young man you get nothing from your father. I'll disinherit you. You won't get a house.

You won't get an inheritance. But if you say I'll marry the Duke son. I'll see you get lots of money.

I'll see you get everything you need. She said daddy I can't do that. I love the man.

He's poor. I'm not marrying a stable boy. I'm marrying a young man who is a prince unto God.

The Bible says it's a royal priest unto the holy nation. And she said I'm going to stay. And she stayed with the fellow.

Well isn't that what love does? Isn't it easy to sing we're the whole realm of nature mind. Then somebody says you know I was going to the prayer meeting Friday night but it was raining. Isn't that sacrificial? I don't think the Lord believes us very often anyhow.

We sing such amazing hymns. No we're the whole realm of nature mind. We won't even give him our bank balance.

But coming down to nitty-gritty love is so unreasonable. That's why Paul says I want you to know the height, the depth, the length and the breadth of the love of God. There'll have to be a new wave of love because love basically is sacrificial.

I remember Alan Redpath he's a well-known writer. And somebody said to him one day well you've fallen in love with a very beautiful lady. You must love her immensely.

And he said I thought I did. But he said I was praying one day and asking the Lord. Lord I want to marry that girl.

She's so beautiful. She's so versatile. She's such a good Christian.

She's so well received. And the Lord said you don't want to marry her because you love her. You love yourself.

You want her because she'll enhance your ministry. You want her for your own end. Get rid of that.

Love her. Love her. He said that turned me around completely.

And I said yes Lord. If you say no it's no. But he said when you show me that basically I love myself.

I was gratifying myself. She would bring me some esteem. She would bring me some advantages.

Boy that's love. I'll tell you why. Because I knew the same thing.

I was leading a team of young men and one man one of them said the curfew was 10 o'clock at night. Isn't that wonderful for a team of college boys. And Friday was our day off.

And he said Skipper as they call me. Not what what they call the president. What they call him? Something else.

Gipper. Gipper. No they call me Skipper.

I thought it sounded more sanctified. And he said Skipper would it be all right if I came in at 10 30 ton tonight. I said not unless you have a real reason.

Well he said you know Sister Wilson that comes with a bunch of nurses. I said yes. He said I believe I'm in love with her.

He said I want to go see her at the hospital and take her out to dinner. And I guess I won't get back from Manchester which is only about 10 miles away. Till about half past 10.

And he said so it would be all right if I come in at half past 10 or maybe a little later. I said not much later. Half past 10.

Oh he said oh I feel so wonderful. He said are you going to wish me God's blessing. I said sure I'm not.

He said you're not. Why not. I said because I love her.

That's right. His name was Bent and he was bent on that one thing. He came in the next morning.

He didn't see you. I don't think he saw you that night. No my Martha said no the old one is better.

So she turned him down. Did she love never counts the cost. Let me quote a little poem and quit.

Love ever stands with open hands and while it lives it gives. For this is love's prerogative to give and give and give. I'm poor.

Where are you poor. If we started here at the beginning with Brother John and forget about your pocketbook. I mean talk about other things.

I'm poor what. You might say I'm poor in faith. Oh what about my friend there.

What's he poor in. Oh I don't know what is poor in grace shall we say. Somebody's poor in mercy.

Somebody's poor in love. Somebody's poor in vision. Somebody's poor in strength.

You see it's going to be such a showdown when we get there. The classical example of this is a church that's functioning. You know what.

People think because the crowd is there God is there. That's not necessarily true. Maybe the reason is there's no conviction there.

There's nothing that disturbs them. They're comfortable to sit there. Here's a church rich and increased in good.

She has need of nothing. She gives to missions. What does God say to her.

Listen to the contradiction. The church in Laodicea. He says you say I'm rich and increased in goods.

What's God's answer to that. Poor. Side two.

Here it's chief export was clothing and God ironically says you're clothing the world and you start naked in my sight. The other second greatest import was eyesalve. They didn't have glasses to wear when the sun.

And so when their eyes got sore from the burning the sun on the desert. Their eyes got sore. They used eyesalve.

They exported it all around the world. And the Lord says you sell eyesalve. I counsel you to buy of me eyesalve.

Are we all going to get to heaven. What a day. What a good song that is.

As I've said to you we're going to be very different in heaven. John Wesley disciplined his life for 53 years. The dying thief got into the last breath.

Are they going to be the same in heaven. People say well be careful you know you can't buy anything from God. Can't you read the King James Version.

As our David said last week. Did you notice that. There are 10 versions.

Five are wise and five are foolish. I wonder where he's getting his wit from. And what was it saying.

This is a counsel of God. It's not Gabriel. He says I counsel thee to buy of me.

Buy of me what. White raiment. Gold tried in the fire.

How can we buy. How do you get a checkbook to heaven. I'll tell you what it is.

It's one word obedience. We sang it tonight again. Trust and obey.

There's no other way. No other way. Not a highway in a long way.

There's no other way. But trust and obey. There's no other way.

I counsel thee to buy. You're the richest city in the world. Laodicea.

At the judgment seat you'll be stark naked. I'd rather be naked tonight in God's presence than 10 billion eyes looking on me. The Apostle Paul, Zachariah and all the other great saints of David.

Watching me stand there while I get my just reward. Or I get my condemnation. I don't want that.

You've heard me. Many of you cry to God. Week after week.

Here Lord. Don't let me stand at the judgment with billions of eyes looking on to me. And then you say I had many things to tell you when you lived in Texas.

But you couldn't bear them. You couldn't hear them. You couldn't see them.

You were so wrapped up in your program. You were serving me. No many of us are not serving the Lord.

We're serving a mission. We're serving a ministry. It's a costly thing.

But it's poverty. Jesus starts alright the kingdom. Here's the last word.

Poor. Blessed of what? The intellectual not. Blessed of the poor in spirit.

Financial poverty doesn't necessarily mean that people are poor in spirit. And being wealthy doesn't necessarily mean people are rich. I've seen some very poor people.

I worked in some tough areas where poor people can be as arrogant as rich people. As conceited and as difficult to approach. But this is a constant cry.

I bow down thine ear and he says over and over again this poor man cried. In this psalm he finishes the 17th verse in that same psalm saying I'm poor and needy. And it's only when I nail it down.

As I say when Isaiah had a revelation of himself. He didn't say Lord I'm slack in my prayer life. Lord I'm behind in my tithing.

He summed it all up in two words. What did he say? When he had that vision of the glory and wholeness of God. Fun? Yeah.

And the other one what? Yeah. Oh if I'm undone I'm unclean. Two words that's all can start personal revival in anybody.

That we measure ourselves with ourselves. We measure ourselves among others. Other people in the church.

Other people in the fellowship. Well dear God I'm sick to death of living amongst dwarfs. I'm tired of men who are mediocre.

There has to come a breakthrough somewhere in this day. This day of such organization. This day of such cheating.

Robbing the at least in the highway men in England the robbers. They did rob the rich to feed the poor. Now TV boys they rob the poor to feed the rich.

We've turned it right round. And God isn't going to put up with this rubbish much longer. I want to cry Lord poor.

I'm poor. I need more vision. Lengthen my vision.

I'm poor in passion. Stir give me a fever. I pray today God give me a fever.

A holy fever like the apostle Paul had that you couldn't stop him. Prisons couldn't do it. Whipping couldn't do it.

195 times they skinned his back. Once I saw that ship wreck. Thrice I was stoned.

I don't think that man ever had a healthy day after he was saved. I think his eye was slit. His cheeks were slit.

His leg he had to drag a leg. He must have done good Lord you couldn't beat his body up the way it was beaten up and be a whole complete good looking guy. But he's living with eternity's values in view.

He's seeing right through time into eternity. He had to. He makes the greatest boast.

Isaiah never said it. Jeremiah never said it. Zechariah said he said it.

He said God lives in me. You wonder why I do what I do. God lives in me.

The preacher down the backstreet and preacher down the road says well remember the apostle Paul finished in Romans 7. He's a liar. He didn't. In Romans 7 he says it's not I but sin that dwelleth in me.

You get further up the road he said it's not I it's Christ that liveth in me. You can't flatter me. I have nothing to be flattered in.

You can't appreciate me. I have nothing. I'm an empty vessel.

Every day I need quickening. Every day I need filling. Every day I need my eyes to be cleared from blurredness.

Every time I look around I don't want to see the other preachers, the other denominations. I just want to see as Jesus sees. There's that hymn.

We won't sing it but we sing that hymn some nights. Breathe on me breath of God written by Edwin Hatch, an Englishman who lived in Canada. There's a verse in that that I may love what thou would breathe on

me breath of God fill me with a life anew that I may love what thou dost love.

Do I just love what God loves or do I love things I can write my name on and say they're mine they're in the bank they're my possession. Perishing things of clay is that young 29 year old saint of God said McShane. Perishing things of clay they're born but for one brief day.

I want us to pray heartily tonight. It's still young pray. If you have to go you can slip out quite a little later I hope you can stay a while.

I'll tell you what we usually have a bunch of fellows the Indians around here tonight they're in Oklahoma. Spencer and his brother Mark and the others they've gone up to Oklahoma this week. He was telling me about, I forgot the name of the tribe now, but one tribe they're so poor.

As I said to somebody today some people in America are saying we ought to apply sanctions to South Africa. Why? Because the way that they're butchering the blacks. Why not apply sanctions to America for the way that we've liquidated the Indians? Two and a quarter million of them we've driven them into almost perpetual drunkenness.

He told me the other day in his tears we have a prayer meeting now Thursday morning and remember John was there. My neighbor didn't make it. John was there.

Yes John. I remember he prayed with tears and he said that do you remember the tribe? Rappahoe. Yeah the Rappahoe tribe are so poor what are they doing? They're drinking Lysol to get drunk and going blind, going insane and then going blind.

We drove them there. He can give you the date when the American army came into Oklahoma and shot every horse that the Indians had so they couldn't go hunting. We've done the most diabolical things to them.

But nobody talks about applying sanctions to us. We stood by talk about homicide but what about genocide? China liquidated more than two million people. Did we do a thing? Not a thing about it.

Why haven't we gone to the help of Afghanistan? Because we have no oil interest there. That's why. If we'd billions of dollars invested we'd have been there.

But we let them burn every day and get blasted and torn apart every day. Do you think God's going to watch this carnival much longer? Soldiers were killed today in Northern Ireland. Well people say what's England doing in Northern Ireland? That's another tremendous battle.

Russia liquidated 60 million people to get to power. What do we do? There has to be a day of judgment otherwise the world is insane. If I am sane a lot of people doubt it.

When I was about 17 I got hold of the text, shall not the judge of all the earth do right? I don't whether it's Gary, Gary, what's his name? Gary Hart or Pete Yeller, who in the world it is. We're all going to meet there at the judgment one day. Where is history going? Bryce Montgomery asked.

I'll tell you what it's going. It's going to the judgment seat of Christ. This is my twist on this.

Think it's crazy if you like, I won't think you're crazy. Doesn't the scripture say it is a fearful thing to what? Fall into the hands of the living God. Everybody's going to fall into the hands of the living God whether

they're saved or not.

They're lost at the judgment seat. Do you think all the nightclub mob think that? Yesterday morning we saw the end of the news and Elizabeth Taylor was there. She's only been married eight times and they said you defended AIDS somewhere recently.

She said of course because people think somehow. We shouldn't talk about AIDS in a social gathering. She said somehow people think it's dirty.

But what in the world is it if it isn't dirty? Is that her idea? But they're going to meet at the judgment scene. We're going to be judged not for what we've done but what we could have done. Not what we held back but what would have God have done with it if we'd given it.

We need a turnaround. I do in our thinking I'm hoping to spend tomorrow on my face before God about this very thing. I think we ought to read that scripture about the judgment at least once a week.

Saints or sinners we ought to read it. It's the most awesome thing ever. I'm not concerned about its location.

I'm not concerned about its duration. I'm concerned about its investigation. There's not a thing I've ever done since I was saved.

Not a penny I've ever earned that God doesn't have an account of. He has a duplicate. I hear the Coors beer people.

The wife is a Baptist I think. He's supposed to be. She's a Pentecost I think.

But every bottle of beer they've ever put out God has a listing of it. Every bottle of whiskey they've put out. These other people.

It's going to be wonderful that day. Do you wonder that they all burst into heaven with a glorious hallelujah such as the world has never heard? That's the only way to live. I can't live looking at the world round about me.

It's so stupid and chaotic and foolish and deceptive and hypocritical. Hypocrites in Washington. Hypocrites in PTO.

Hypocrites in Wall Street. It's hypocrisy everywhere. Or as it says in, is it the sixth chapter of Genesis there? It talks about the world is what? Full of violence and corrupt before God.

The Red Brigade, the Suicide Boys are in almost every country and there's corruption everywhere. There's no way, there's no rationalization. Even men in the streets say we don't understand it.

It's panic. I think the Lord has sent a big curse over the earth. They believe a lie.

And only the church of Jesus Christ is going to be used to take anointed men. So maybe as we pray, the first thing you should say, God have mercy on me. I'm so poor in vision, give me vision.

I'm so poor in passion, intensify my passion for Christ and then for the lost. I'm so poor in love. I'm so poor in patience.

I'm so poor in something else. It says confess your faults one to another. It's easy enough just to confess your faults with your eyes closed at the altar.

But when there's somebody listening that knows you, it's a bit embarrassing. It's going to be more embarrassing at a judgment scene. I'm poor and needy.

Where are you needed? We're going to pray now for who? Spencer and his group. And the other group that's away, Gates of Life are away for their annual retreat. Brother Dale is usually here.

Mother's Day is going to see his 93 or 94 year old mother, which is the right thing to do. And there's a host of other people away. There's some that could come, but they'd have no heart to come.

And they're giving them that way to be missionaries. Yeah. I wasn't reading that, reading something else that said in most of the countries now, you cannot go as a missionary.

You can go as a doctor, you can go as a teacher, but you can't go just as a missionary. What have they seen in the missionaries that have gone? We haven't exported Christianity, we've exported American Christianity and English Christianity. They don't want it.

Too much hypocrisy and emptiness. Well, I'm glad you mentioned that. What's that thing Sunday night? Josh McDowell is in the oil palace.

I hope he anoints his head with oil while he's there. He needs it. Let's pray about that and pray for the last days.

They're having some reorganization here. I don't know all that's going on. And pray for Joe Foss, he usually is invading Mexico.

There's some tremendous needs. Let's forget our individual need, except Lord, I'm poor, I don't have any inspiration to pray. Well, say I'm Lord, I'm poor, inspire me now.

Doesn't matter if you pray five minutes, I was going to say five hours, but that would be too long. But let's unload before God. Let the devil know that we believe in God.

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