

Persecuted

by Leonard Ravenhill

Leonard Ravenhill's sermon emphasizes the urgent need for spiritual revival and the responsibility of Christians to live out their faith boldly in a world filled with darkness and complacency.

Duration: 1:42:30

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 7:14, Isaiah 60:1-2, Matthew 5:10, Matthew 5:13, John 16:33, Romans 12:2, Ephesians 6:12, Philippians 2:15, 2 Timothy 3:12, 1 Peter 4:12-14

Topics: "Persecution", "Spiritual Awakening"

Description

Leonard Ravenhill emphasizes the profound need for spiritual awakening in a world filled with darkness and confusion. He calls for believers to recognize their responsibility in a society that often prioritizes materialism over spiritual truth, urging them to seek a deeper relationship with God. Ravenhill highlights the importance of being 'salt' in a decaying world, reminding the congregation that true persecution comes from living righteously for Christ's sake. He expresses a longing for revival, where the name of Jesus is proclaimed and the hearts of many are turned back to God. Ultimately, he encourages believers to live out their faith boldly, knowing that they are in a spiritual battle against the forces of evil.

Transcript

...descending to the abyss to bring me up. Where'er we seek thee thou art found, and every place is hallowed ground. We have sung an expression of our own hearts, we lift our cups to thee.

They may be large or small, but you will not deny us. You have said, Blessed are those hunger and thirst, and how great our thirst is. Will we know how much we get filled this afternoon? What areas we open to thee, we're sure that you will fill them.

And the areas we close, we're sure that you won't break your way in as it were. We come to thee and ask you to cast over us the mantle of thy peace as we are still in thy presence. We ask thee to extend the lights of divine revelation on any dark areas in our thinking, on our hearts, in our understanding.

We're glad that with thee there is no darkness. Whether somewhere you live, darkness and light are both alike to thee. Again you said that he that dwelleth in God dwelleth in light, for in God there is no darkness.

And though we want to be in the light, we walk in the dark too long and in the shade too long, and in misunderstanding too long, and in spiritual infancy too long. As we were singing there are millions, and this word nearly chokes on us as we sing it, there are millions this afternoon who have never heard the

name that is, as we sang earlier, that beautiful name, that wonderful name. And most likely they'll hear the name of communism before they hear the name of Christ.

In these days of evil propaganda and evil men, the name that's so dear to us is so strange to others. But again if we draw nigh to thee, we have needs that only you're able to supply. Maybe some of us have wounded hearts and you have the balm that can heal and there's no chemistry in the world that can heal them except the enormous healing touch.

There are deficiencies in us that can only be adjusted by thee. No psychiatrist or psychologist or any other person could do it. Lord we pray that we do at least come with sincerity and say we believe the supreme thing in this life is that we're spiritually right with thee, in a right relationship with thee.

If we're right with thee vertically we shall have as much as life in us. Be right with others horizontally because you said as much as life in you lives peaceably with all men. We come to thank you again for the light that you've given us.

We thank you for your patience during another week. Only each of us knows in our secret hearts whether we have obeyed the light you've given us and whether we have been consistently pressing on, giving priority to things eternal. Very conscious we're in a commercial world in a materialistic world in a world that believes only what it can see or thinks it does anyhow.

In a world that's more confused this afternoon than it was last Sunday afternoon. It can't find its way out because there is no way out except through the way of the cross. We thank you for that happy day that fixed our choice on thee our savior and our God.

It's still fixed this afternoon. We have no desire to go to another master. We have no desire to go to another teacher.

We have no interest in finding another book. We would explore it by the aid of your spirit. And again we would remember those who sit in darkness in the shadow of death.

How strange, how strange that two thousand years after Jesus came there must be more unsafe people at this moment than any period in history. And the church slumbers on doesn't disturb us too much doesn't disturb the preachers too much it seems. There's a contestment with nice buildings and good incomes and good social gatherings.

I think about him we've sung from childhood on the Christian soldiers that says hell's foundations quiver at the shout of praise. Every little rail shout of praise. I'm sure Satan doesn't fear too many of us.

I'm not sure if we want to be on his danger list. I'm sure he has one. Because there was a day when the demons said Jesus I know.

Surely demons knew Jesus they had to. He was forever trampling on them. He was forever chasing them out of people's lives.

He was ever ending their dominion and showing that he was Lord over all. But the demons also said Jesus I know and Paul I know. I'm sometimes worried if hell didn't have a half day holiday when Paul died.

He troubled everything everybody. He marched into nations that were solidly opposed to everything that was righteous. He took freedom where there was slavery and he took light where there was darkness.

He took truth where there was gross error. He took the gospel where the intellectuals strutted around in their diplomas and gowns there on Mars Hill and showed them the answers. Nor we long for the day when from the White House to every house people will fear the name of God and fear the name of some man who might stand majestic in God.

The great prophet for the last days in which we live and God's superman. We long to see them arise. We can't decay much further.

We can't walk much longer in rebellion. We can't blaspheme your name and break your Sabbath and smash up your ten commandments. This is where you run the laws.

Nobody's ever done it in history and we won't get away with it. And supremely we desire that Jesus shall reign as Isaac Watts said 200 years ago Jesus shall reign where'er the sun doth its successive journeys run. And his kingdom stretch from shore to shore till moon shall wax and wane no more.

We know of its more than poetic licence to say that blessings abound where'er he reigns. The prisoner leaps to lose his chains and the weary find eternal rest and all the sons of wands are blessed. We think of this appalling need even physically.

We're told again of the millions on the verge of dying. Mothers watching their withered bodies unable to feed their offspring and laying them in the dust. Not strength even to drive the birds off or the animals that come to steal them and eat them.

We live in our comfort. We live in our ease. Maybe a lot if we look back we might be a little embarrassed and blushed if you open the book and read it out publicly to us as you will do one day that maybe we didn't stop one day this week and really sincerely thank you for our lovely homes and our well-stocked refrigerators false aware fidget around some days don't know which to put on and what to put on and others who can't cover their nakedness.

It's all absurd it's all unreasonable that these human beings should suffer no disease and the inward biting pain and hunger as though they had something in them that was alive and eating them up. Lord God we know at least I don't have any way out I don't believe there is any way out except a great manifestation a super revival for our day. One great sweeping stroke of your majesty just like they put the dragnet in the ocean and pulling everything with it.

We know they got everything unclean things as well as clean but anyhow they got more stuff that way. We are looking for you to send the dragnet through again. You said I'll make you fishes of men and again we don't know just how or where or through whom might be some little widow praying in the back room might be some young student we don't know but Lord somewhere there are hearts pure and passionate and fervent and longing to see hell's foundations quiver to see the devil push back in the game of the dear Christians in Russia this afternoon and China.

Dear Lord we perhaps hardly remember to pray for them. Oh what misery what hellishness yet in the nation we blindly go on and shake hands with these wicked brutes seek trade with other countries and are so totally godless. Lord God we ask thee save us save us save us from being just like others that have eyes but they don't see and hear and don't hear and live only to eat and to get and to sleep and the other things.

Lord if we bear your name we should bear your nature we should bear responsibility for we are responsible for this generation of evil. So do help us may we again have understanding hearts we come to your word we would open it with reverence we would open it tenderly we would open it remembering we are handling a book that is so easy for us to handle but it costs not only the blood of martyrs and the profits but the blood of martyrs too in fairly recent years it couldn't be bought for a dollar it couldn't be bought for a hundred at one time it was inaccessible we thank you for its propagation we thank you for its translation we thank you for all who seek to put it in the hands of those who are without God and without hope we thank you for blessing all our lives this week bringing us together as a family in Christ thank you for sparing Kay he might have been killed apparently in that car and been hit a bit harder disfigured rotten for life others of us on the road or maybe flying in the air or somewhere we thank you for physical preservation spiritual and moral preservation tell you again we have one supreme desire that is there may be less of us and more of thee and then none of us and all of thee totally abandoned yielded to thee you may find in the travel of your soul in us and whisper your secrets to us that you can't share with others after all you do do this now and again your word says the secret of the Lord is with them that fear him we don't shout our secrets from the house top and you don't shout yours and give him a strong relationship with thee that he won't be a follower he will be a in truth and righteousness there will be lots of corruption we pray you keep him pure there will be lots of error keep him in truth give him strength and body and mind and spirit we pray for the youngsters of school the schoolyard leave the family the family become unclean by what we read and there is every evil association the parents job is a big job these days but we thank you that there are sources in thee for these situations we don't look to the enemy we have to recognize them there but we look to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith we look to the one who said greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world so if all hell is against us it doesn't matter too much when you are for us and Lord in this confidence we go forth in thy name and we give thee thanks in that name that beautiful name of which we serve the name of Jesus I don't know how much information you picked up this week but I I always try to see something in the affairs of the week that kind of points to the coming of the Lord and it seems that there was a quite at least in my thinking quite an acceleration this week usually when we talk about or at least when these prophets or attempted prophets on the TV talk about the coming of the Lord and then they always associate it of course with Israel which is not illegal it's a good point Mr.

Kissinger is trying to get the nations together and I see the Adams are divided because they are not all going to fall for his agreement with Egypt and again the scripture came to my mind when you see Jerusalem surrounded with armies the Lord says look up and I know that that was partly fulfilled when Titus attacked Jerusalem in A.D. 70 you know it's a horrible thing when the Lord quits on a nation there's a scripture that says it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a living God Robert Louis Stephenson said it's only the one thing more awful that when you fall out of the hands of a living God when he's quit but he won't bother with you and when the Jews thought that they had got Jesus where they wanted him actually of course there were a lot of folk involved there but remember

Jesus turned and said in essence he said you're not rejecting me I'm rejecting you your house is left unto a desolate empty and in 70 AD 70 40 years after Titus came and sacked as we say burned Jerusalem blood flowed up to the knees of the horses and it was one of the greatest most devastating massacres in history but it's still going to be fulfilled again I don't think we've yet come into that period the scripture calls the time of Jacob's trouble it's the greatest unpaid bill in history the Jews refused to have anything to do with the Messiah and they suffered and they still suffered and they will suffer because of it but that's not the only indication of the near return of Christ Daniel talks about the days when people run to and fro in the

earth and surely we're getting faster and

faster even though the speed limit's gone down this week they shot a piece of scrap metal up in the sky that's going 500 million miles you told your grandfather that he would have your head examined it's gone up it's going to settle on Mars or somewhere send us a report of soil which we're all so feverishly anxious to hear about whether you can grow mushrooms there or not or if there are any cows to milk it's fantastic I hope you'll sleep before the news will be back because it won't be back until next July but we're rushing to and fro it's a sign of the last days when I was a kid I remember in England they would write up the news column in the Manchester and Guardian or the London Times saying that Duke and Duchess of so and so have gone to the Bahamas or gone to America and we thought

well that's fabulous only the wealthy people there now you can go on credit and thousands of people do you don't know who they are I remember one night on the Queen Elizabeth we got dinner and I was walking through a breath of fresh air and I noticed these ladies all in gorgeous mink coats and all these things wraps and things they had and a fella talking to me said these are all Yankees I said yeah obviously it's not only a land flowing with milk and honey but flowing with mink and money and he said yes but he said you don't think they're paid for do you and I said well why not I never no he said they rent them in New York just before they leave on the boat they rent a mink cape for two months and live like Queen of Sheba and when they get back they're broke go now and pay later pay

later but everybody's rushing to and from India that's another education another sign is again in Daniel that knowledge should increase and you know really it is fantastic when you think that you can shoot something from Cape Canaveral and guide it through space all those 500 million miles and it's going to hit the target and you know the day that it's going to land it's marvellous what man's mind can work out it's greater of course really than any computer and then another thing that came to my mind is really the great falling away the Lord speaks of before Jesus comes and it's an awful falling away and if you're shopping for religion well the supermarket full was talking with Henry this week about this fact again of this man Moon this fellow from North Korea from Korea that says

Christianity is his greatest enemy and those who follow him have to go knocking on doors for I think what three months and know what rejection really is because this is part of his discipleship program but he's become a multimillionaire and in about a year has built this fabulous morty used mansion over there and this is another sign the man in the street is totally bewildered somebody knocks on his door well it's a Jehovah's Witness the next door is the next knock is a Mormon the next knock is Mr.

Moon's group and he wonders who in the world is coming next well quite many spirit filled people there they're all at banquets usually they're all people trading heresy and again I say you don't wonder that the man is confused then they show the thing that I was very interested in a dialer language did you see that you speak into a machine and you set the dial at what you want to come out if you speak to a Japanese friend well it's Japanese and if it's French French you set the dial you speak in English and it immediately translates your voice and speaks your message in Japanese to the person who is listening then that's as lazy as you can get but I'd like one anyhow I encourage laziness but it's fabulous now they're talking about another one that you speak into a machine and it types

whatever you speak it's not incredible because after all you have a little bit of metal like that you're talking to it some people around our area talk too long but they talk in it and it vibrates at a town or a house or in Australia if you like that little impulse your voice comes out at the other end how are you going on well why

shouldn't it work on a typing machine just the same why shouldn't it work on a machine to translate these again are to me just amazing signs and man's brilliance you see he is the crowning creation of God women came second but man is the crowning creation of God and God said well done when he made him he was just what God wanted and it's fantastic what the human brain is capable of last year when Paul was home it's almost a year since he was here here and went

and somebody gave him one of these fairly new then these quartz watches and he said daddy have you seen this watch no I've heard about it a man gave me it the other day showed me lovely they were about four hundred dollars the fifty five this week and I wondered why because the new watch isn't a quartz watch the new watch is you just do this in the sun and it's charged it's solar rays operate your watch I'm old enough to remember when you used to wind them up anyhow you used to have to wind your watch up and if you wound it tighter obviously when that spring went down it wasn't as accurate as when it was really tight that's why there was such a modulation but we went from the spring watch to the battery watch the battery watch the quartz watch the quartz watch now to a watch that just

works under the rays of the sun and these things to me are all signs again that knowledge shall increase men are rushing to and fro in the world and so forth kissing him up a tree he doesn't know which way he's going tries to fool us that he does last night of all things Russia said the new danger in the world is China she's scared stiff of China oh Mao Tse Tung is what 81 years of age Chou En Lai is 77 Mrs Mao Tse is 16 very brilliant woman maybe she'll control the government and it's going to go one way or the other either totally anti-american or an alliance with America because they need so much of the know-how that we have after all we give it to Russia so why not give it to them but she these again are things that I find tremendously tremendously challenging science leaping on this

as fast as ever Nobel you know gave us a prize because he what did he do he put glycerine and something together made an explosive and found it could blast the world and so he left his fortune as a piece of his conscience the Nobel Peace Prize I think is just an outlet for his guilty conscience but look how far we've gone since then we've split the atom and from the atom we've gone to other bonds and I don't know where we're going to stop but it's all in this little brain box that man has and you think that if that was adjusted to a right principle you could have the millennium on earth you could have a place on earth where there would be no poverty at all if we spend all we spend on the last war the last world war world war 2 let's put it that way the Korean war and the Vietnam war you

could give everybody a cadillac or a bed of snow if you like and a house and a pension and nobody do a stroke and work all their lives don't have to but we'd rather put it in the gutter we'd rather destroy and kill and maim and do all the devilish things that we do and so it's a pretty insane world when you come to look at it and there's only one hope of it getting straightened again and that is through the true revival of christianity because there's nothing else that can change the disease spot in the human personality which of course is the heart which is sin I read an interesting thing the other day that somewhere there had been a kind of poll a gallop a harris poll or something on among religious people if not church people but what is the most popular heaven I don't know whether

you'd guess it maybe you'd guess one of two or three but anyhow the most popular they said was three dollar of prayer and I began to think about that three dollar of prayer that calls me from a world of care but you know very often when you've had your hour of prayer it hasn't changed the world that world of care is still there sometimes your prayer will move the mountain and sometimes it won't all it will do is give you strength to climb the mountain one of the psalms that the psalmist wrote said when I'm overwhelmed lead

me to a rock that is higher than I but the Hebrew says when I'm overcome lord give me a good stiff climb I want to challenge I don't want somebody's shoulder to weep on don't want somebody to put their arm around me and say poor thing oh life's going hard for you no

come on you're going to injure me perhaps doing that lord give me a good stiff climb in plain voice it was school boy language give me guts to do the job and I was quite blessed as I meditated yesterday on that fact my lord if a sweet hour of prayer does not change the mountain it will change me I say so often I'd like to make some signs prayer changes things no no no no prayer changes people and people change things you go into the place of prayer discouraged and bruised and confused and if you stay long enough you come out washed it has a detergent effect you've lost your fear you've lost your doubt you've lost your discouragement you say lord you've put something in me like putting an iron girder in me and I'm able to go out and tackle the job that I couldn't do otherwise so a prayer

again doesn't move your mountain stay there till you get enough strength to come out and climb it and when you climb it you'll get a better view of life than you had before you set off well that's the introduction you want the text now back into Matthew chapter 5 Matthew chapter 5 and the verse we finish at 9 so we go to 10 blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven now there are those who say that the beatitudes end there and this is really an extension when you go past this but remember that this is where Jesus started isn't it blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven so he begins with the kingdom of heaven and he finishes here with the kingdom of heaven you see in the first three beatitudes you find man is

turning from his sin to God in the first three beatitudes in the fourth beatitude you find that God is turning to man and clothing him with the righteousness of Christ then the next three beatitudes show man working out that righteousness that God has worked in him remember the scripture that says it is God that worketh in you to will and to do of his good pleasure and then what he's worked in he puts you on exhibition that you may work it out and then this is the last the fourth the second fourth is well you see how men react to you now you can read this I think you can read let me say this first I think as I've said that the beatitudes should be attitudes are attitudes to the world alright the beatitudes are our checklist if you want to know how you're getting on you stand on the scales

or physically you weigh on the scales or check with the doctor if you want to know how you're getting on spiritually read the beatitudes now you can read this two ways you might say well I don't get much persecution blessed are they which are persecuted wait a minute wait a minute that isn't what it says it says blessed are they which are persecuted for my sake you can get persecuted because you're pretty unbearable to live with you can get persecuted because you're too zealous even in giving out tracts or trying to stuff them in people's ears or interrupting folk when they're working because you're over zealous because you're too dogmatic because you're taking a course of action which is out of line with the standard accepted standard of what Christ teaches now you may say well I don't

get much persecution well let me put it this way is that because your salt has lost it's savour because that's in the context you know we're living again now I don't know what we're going to do we're staying bed all day before long you don't have to make your own bread you don't even have to slice it I'm trying to find a way to butter it and put it in the places then I'll make a fortune you don't have to defrost your refrigerator you lazy people it defrosts itself marvellous what things are doing for us now everything is getting easier and easier and easier so it seems except the Christian life that doesn't get easier but in the old days they had no refrigerators like we have oh you say well I remember the icebox well your grandfather remembers

what an icebox is so what did you do if you

were going to shift a barrel of something over from New York to Los Angeles what did you do you packed it in salt these people knew what Jesus was talking about the salt because if you were going to take anything from Jerusalem say to the coast the only thing you do you put it in layers of salt they used to hold a salt marking only once a year and people would get a stock of salt like you get a stock of some other commodity and they knew how effective salt really was now salt has a healing power and salt has a very disturbing power I can remember first as a little boy when I cut my finger once and I got it in some salt and I thought oh I howled more with the salt than I did with the cup what's wrong I've got some salt in it well I'll run it under the water the water was nearly as bad but

anyhow I got it out now if you're going to live the true Christian life you're going to be a salt in somebody's womb and you better face it you see when people get saved I tell you guys come here if anybody comes to the altar I get the name and address I give you a paper and this week don't dare put your head in this church you're looking to visit them I remember once going into a Salvation Army Hall they were going to rent it for a convention place held about a couple of thousand people when there was an old man pushing a broom and I told him what I wanted he says hey lad that's great I said are you a salvationist oh yes I came in this place and he mentioned how many years it's the only school in which you can't graduate it's the only school I'm not the only one but as you get further on

it you wonder where you've been the last 20 years you wonder where you missed the turn in the road you wonder how little I really matured and as I said it's so healthy you can get too introspective I know that but I don't think our generation suffers from that I think we let ourselves go by very easily but again there's no escaping if we're going to walk in the light from the very day that Adam sinned the human race has been in a state of emergency we're passing through enemy territory is this vile world a friend to grace no it's certainly not and it's going to get tougher it's going to get harder to really live full stretch of a girl I breathe up with all my heart and soul and mind and strength but I'm quite sure with it again there's a corresponding grace this is the very reason Jesus

came and left the glory and shut himself up into a human personality and as I said before he said well the first Adam failed you father let me go now show you that a man can live in a human personality and be more than conqueror in every situation and he did it there's no escaping somebody will trump up a story if they can't get in any other way and you know the lord won't come to your rescue the first time you pray and maybe not the second remember man came home he'd been off fighting somewhere and he came home and he went in the room and he saw something and he said his wife was asking him he was asking his wife some questions and she brought something and she said whose is that whose is that there's only one cult like that in the world I know who that is it's Joseph what are you doing

with it yeah yeah Joseph the holy man he doesn't bow down to the images of Egypt he has a holy god he's never seen him sitting up in the skies of heaven he's the true god he's the man you say the holiest man in the world yeah but what are you doing with his coat yeah that's what I wanted to tell you he came in my bedroom last night and if I had to scream my head off I'd be telling him another story isn't that right he whistles for a guard and says get up boy Joseph no questions asked circumstantial evidence there's many lives being ruined temporarily through circumstantial evidence after all he left his coat in my room didn't he no no no when that woman said get out of the way you see and it said if you're going to walk this Christian way do you know there are times when you pluck your

eye out literally no no no it means this you say you can't expect I mean supposing you've been on the beach for 600 million people and you've got to see them yes but you don't have to stare there are lots of things you may see but you can turn away from them if your eye offends you pluck it out shut off that avenue if your foot offends you well cut it off don't walk in that way if you're handling things in a shady cut your hand off stop that temptation in your own life don't ask God to do what you can do do it yourself well it's cold bang him in prison and you can almost figure out that he went to prison when he was 17 as I've told you before he started up here he took bread to his brothers in Dorset and they put him down in a pit and his brothers sold him down into Egypt and then he goes

down into prison and the bottom falls out he prays for his friends in prison and they got out and he didn't and God's up there taking the knowledge of kids only 17 and he stayed there till he was 30 in prison well it seems as though God's on his throne just not bothering about the poor little guy with a broken heart he's no parents he can hardly speak their language the food's rotten everything's bad year so what well the song says God is his own interpreter God's never late but he's never in a hurry either you wish he was sometimes but he isn't and then he starts working and the boy that went down down down starts going up and up and up and up till he sits on the throne with the king and one day his brothers come and he says to everybody go out go out they say what what's he going to do

I wonder if he's heard about us killing our brothers selling our brother and he takes his robe off and shows himself and he says well how are you how's my dad and how's what do you mean how's says boy I'm going to tie you all up to a big stone and make you dry and cold you're going to be thrashed 40 times a day you're going to be put up to your neck in the water out there and then when the sun goes down your skin is going to pickle and I'm going to dry you out I'll teach you a few lessons you know what he said says no just a minute don't start shedding tears and getting worried you've suffered enough already you meant it for evil but god meant it for good isn't that great huh what you mean you mean all these years you've suffered you're turning it all around like that he said yeah yeah 13

years I had nothing but look did you hear the king just left town see me come down the road in his Lincoln I was riding in his carriage see this chain of gold around my neck I have the keys of the kingdom your little brother that you put in a dirty lousy hole and then sold him to the Egyptians and then put him in prison you know god's very slow at paying his bills but boy when he pays them he's going to be like that in eternity you know we're going to be so amazed when we get there and Jesus said well thank you sister so well thank you father thank you mom and then another day you helped me what well excuse me I don't like to suggest you losing your memory but I mean I I wasn't on earth when I I mean no I didn't do that thing for you oh yes yes I got it down here in the register let me

look 1975 you were living in Baton Rouge well how do you work it out well in as much as you did it to the least of my children hey it's going to work the other way too that little widow around the corner that had nothing and you you have to spend a week praying to get white walls and black walls on your car and she's around the corner there and hardly had anything and when you missed her you missed him more of these roots go deep in the christian life don't they oh think of the lady that sang this morning in the first church took her five hours to get a hairstyle yesterday so everybody would see her the TV camera then she missed the note but anyhow she looked so imperious and gorgeous and maybe the lord says look it stinks this week you could have done this and that a little woman that

scrubbed the floor for you you could have given her an extra buck because you've got a child that's sick you could have done you didn't and in as much as you did it to the least of my little one you don't reach

everybody but you do it to the least of my little one you ever hear this I've never heard this saying I guess you say it in this country but they often say at home that blood is thicker than water do you say that you know you mean kinship blood's thicker than water well I've got some news for you blood is thicker than blood and I don't need to know your name I don't need to know how your uncle died maybe like the man who said is it true your brother died I've been in Australia 10 years he said yeah my brother died what did he say he had throat trouble but I don't need to know how

you died or what happened in your family look as far as I'm concerned whether I live 10 years or 10 months or 10 days you people are precious to me I wouldn't pray for you night and day if I didn't your problems are my problems your sorrows are my sorrows your hurts are my hurts your children are my children I've got to do it I'm not a hero for doing it it's an obligation as a shepherd to look after the sheep and the lambs and the other and if I go to another time which we'll go to before it doesn't ease my burden you're still my family John and his wife have promoted me up north with a rich folk and soon as in a way she's going there nobody else does but anyhow and I don't know these folk won't be in the house too long in that sense but we're still in the family and if you go down you'll

hurt my heart I'll sorrow over you if you get promoted I'll rejoice over you I can't help it I'm in the body and if you touch one nerve center in my body the other nerve center is going to react as well but as we go back to the world again we're made a spectacle you won't if we tarry we're here next week you haven't called any of us we'll have walked six more days seven more days with demons looking on with men looking on in an arena every day we're in an arena your home is an arena your children watch I'm not suggesting you fight the good fight in the house but I mean in the right sense you know I mean the Christian life you fight that surely little eyes are watching little ears are listening the power of example the good book says he was so we in this world the greatest thing is the

most challenging thing in the world to say I want to live in this world like Jesus lived because if I do I'm going to have tribulation I'm going to have misunderstanding I'm going to have criticism but by the same token I'm going to have all the compensating grace and power of God in my life to enable me to live the life that he asked me to live and show me the way that he asked me to live and show me the way asked me to live and show me the way asked me to live and show that he live and show me the way that he asked me to live and show me the way and judge with tenderness as your word says lest ye also be tempted to judge that person who is in that situation as we would like to be judged if we were in it and with meekness and with love again we do thank you for our creature comforts lord

god how blessed we are our appetites are almost jaded we don't hardly know what to eat one day or the other we are so spoiled and again we think of a hungry and needy world but supremely we think of the great need of the precious gospel of the lord jesus there is still slavery in the world there is still wickedness there are still diabolical systems we think of the middle east it is still an explosive center that is capable of blowing its top any time we know that there has to be that final battle of armageddon whether it comes quickly or you will be late we would almost ask you again as we have prayed before here together that you would be late a little season that we may dig around the tree and fertilize it that it may bring forth fruit to your glory spare us as a nation god you could

work through other nations but oh there is so much potential so many bible schools so many broadcasts so many that could be gotten hold of lord i think as i go to that meeting we will be there two weeks today if a couple of hundred preachers are coming i pray that every one of them will get a life transforming experience i pray god you will tear up all the carnality in them and empty them of all their pride and

laziness and selfishness and set some men on fire that will go back and set churches on fire lord it doesn't take much with all this terrible forest fire out there in california burned and burned and burned one of the greatest ever and somebody some foolish voyager threw a match in and set that vast forest what a waste what a cost of money and lives and lord if you would just drop

the flame once more not for america's sake not for our sake but for thy holy names sake we want these wicked modern philistines and hittites and perizzites that is the communists and all the other ists to know that there is a living holy god that what we talk about is not a historic fairy tale but that jesus christ lives this afternoon in splendor and in glory and majesty as psalmists cry and we cry lord lift up your heel and scat your enemies shake every abomination in this world every devilish system the mafia the underworld the crime the race crosses the filthy movie industry and the horrible solid pornographic literature every one of these kingdoms shake them lord oh god we think of these marvelous earthquakes that come and lord in seconds they can toss a city over like they did in

san francisco years ago send us a spiritual earthquake like that that won't put any glory on the head of any man we're tired of men getting glory we're tired of men stealing the glory we're tired of denominations do something lord so quick so majestic so vast that lord everybody will know it's not the work of men's hands it's the mighty operation of god let your heart burst in love upon us again spare us spare us not for our sake but first for jesus sake and that the heathen may hear for lord if there's going to be an outpouring every country is going to know this time you'll send your thought out your spirit and all flesh we believe it and we thank you for it and ask you that humbly reverently we may have some little part in it whether it's the republic or secret makes no odds but give

us a heart that will yearn to see god glorified to the fullest extent in the shortest period of time we give you praise in you and in the things

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