

Sinner's Prayer

by Leonard Ravenhill

Leonard Ravenhill's sermon emphasizes the necessity of repentance and the transformative power of God's mercy in the life of a believer.

Duration: 1:19:45

Scripture: Psalm 51:1

Topics: "Prayer", "Repentance", "Revival"

Description

Leonard Ravenhill delivers a powerful sermon titled 'Sinner's Prayer,' emphasizing the necessity of genuine repentance and the transformative power of God's mercy. He reflects on Psalm 51, where David pleads for cleansing and restoration after his sin, illustrating the deep anguish of a heart burdened by guilt. Ravenhill stresses that true revival begins with personal brokenness and a sincere desire for holiness, urging believers to confront their sins and seek a renewed relationship with God. He warns against the complacency of modern Christianity and calls for a return to the fervent faith of the early church, where the Holy Spirit actively convicts and transforms lives.

Transcript

Reading from verse one into verse thirteen. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness, according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out my transgression. Wash me truly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my transgression before thee, and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in my sight, that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. Behold, I was chafed in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, thou desirest truth in inward parts, and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean. Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me to hear joy and gladness, that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from my presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners shall be

converted unto thee.

D.L. Moody said on one occasion, he was the evangelist, or the singer you heard about, Sankey. And he said on one occasion, if God would give a man the ability to take a photograph of our hearts. None of us would sit for a picture, and if we got it, we wouldn't show it to anybody.

Is that true in your heart and mine? The Bible contains 70 books. If you went to Bible school, they told you 66. But they don't know much of Bible schools anyhow.

You see the book of Psalms is a Hebrew hymn book, and it is divided into five books. So if you add four to 66 books, you have 70. If you take the first five books of the Bible, Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, the fifth book is a recap of the other four.

If you go into the New Testament, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, then you come to the Acts of the Apostles. What is the Acts of the Apostles? It's the Church doing everything Jesus did. Isn't it? The Church, the Living Church, kind of tingles my flesh.

Because you see one morning in England, one of our sleepy clergymen had had a pretty bad weekend, and Monday isn't a good day for preachers. And he turned round in his swivel chair, and he reached just blindly for a book, and he got his New Testament, and it opened up the Acts of the Apostles. And he read it, and suddenly it exploded.

And from that J.B. Phillips began to give his great exposition, his translation of the New Testament. It is a translation, it's not a transliteration, it's not this dirty thing down here, living Bible, a paraphrase, a bit of guesswork that a man had when he was sick I think. Phillips is a scholarly translation, it's got teeth in it.

And when he read the first few chapters of the New Testament Church, this is what he said, this is the Church of Jesus Christ before it became fat and short of breath by prosperity. This is the Church before it became muscle-bound by over organization. This is the Church where they did not say prayers, they prayed in the Holy Ghost.

This is the Church where they did not gather together a group of people to study psychosomatic medicine, they healed a sick. My prayer is for this Church. I pray for this Church every day of my life, to never come back again.

I'll still go on praying, that God will make it a New Testament Church. And if it does maybe the preacher gets thrown out. But anyhow, the thing is a lot of you get thrown out.

You know everybody wants revival. You know I don't want revival to fill up the vacant pews. Many revivals enter the Church before they fill them.

God empties before he fills, he strips before he clothes, he casts us down before he lifts us up. He wounds us before he heals us. Well that's free, it won't cost you anything but it's not in the message.

The book of Psalms has a hundred and fifty psalms, roughly 75 of them are written by David. Many of the psalms are prophetic, some are historic and some are biographical. Out of the 75 he wrote, 18 of them are autobiographical psalms.

Out of the 18, 8 of them are penitential psalms. Out of the 8, one is the greatest psalm. This is the greatest psalm ever written as far as I'm concerned.

It's an amazing psalm in its construction, though we don't have time to deal with it all. But in the first two verses you have two different words, pardon me, you have three different words for sin in the first two verses. You have three different words for cleansing in the first two verses.

Three times in this psalm brokenness is mentioned. Three times in this psalm the spirit is mentioned, twice of the Holy Spirit and once of the human spirit. Three times in this psalm sacrifice is mentioned.

Three times in this psalm burnt offerings are mentioned. Did you notice that I tried to put an emphasis in reading it. The unique thing amongst others about this psalm is this, that it's a monologue.

In the life of David one hand is stained with adultery and the other hand is stained with murder. And he doesn't go looking at the woman that nakedly sported herself. He doesn't obliquely refer to Bathsheba, nor directly.

He says have mercy upon me O God. According to the multitude of thy tender mercy has brought out my transgression. Wash me foolish for mine iniquity.

Cleanse me from my sin. Acknowledge my transgression. My sin is ever before me.

Now if you want to put into practice the commitment you made a little while ago. Maybe the thing is to draw a circle and stand in the middle of it and say Lord start revival right inside this circle. You know what's wrong with the deacons in your church, the pastor, somebody else.

You know what's wrong with yourself. It's easy to go out looking for scapegoats, but David is not doing that. David here says have mercy upon me O God.

According to the multitude of thy tender mercy has brought out my transgression. Oh David don't get too worried about this. The man that wrote this psalm was a monarch.

But do you know what he said he had one of the most blessed experiences in the world. And the blessedness was he was miserable about his sin. We try to get people saved and not even believe the lost.

We try to get people to come to Christ as though Jesus is in heaven winging his hand hoping you'll give him a vote. Forget it. You can go to hell as far as he's concerned.

And I mean that. Because when he hung between two thieves on the cross he never said a word to them. You say to people Jesus is living in heaven to make him just certain for you.

No he's not. I don't believe he is for sin as it's for sense he's doing that. He's made an offering for sin.

Once in the end of the age he appears to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. Now David here has a thousand things tearing his spirit. It's worse than a cancer in his breast.

It's worse than a fire in his bones. It's worse than a weight that's crushing him. My sin is ever before me.

You see when he looked out of his palace window there was a guard. And he remembered that the captain of that guard he'd put to death because he'd stolen the wife of that captain. And he heard a baby cry somewhere there a certain girl's baby cried.

And he remembered the sin that he'd fathered a child without Sheba. And so his sin was ever before him. His sin came in his ears.

His sin came before his eyes. His sin burned in his conscience like a living flame. That's just about norm for revival.

We want an all the night sweeping in. Now I'm not saying God can't do that. But every revival I've discovered is this.

That there's been a gradual approach to that. And something like a disease has spread amongst people and they've had to say eventually fowl I too that fountain fly wash me Savior or I die. Have mercy upon me O God.

According to the multitude of thy tender mercies. You know I'm very slow on the uptake. I guess you've already discovered that.

Anyhow I've not been too humble about that. But you know as I read that psalm again. I felt something kind of turning inside of me tonight.

When David says take not by Holy Spirit for me. You know I never discovered that until fairly recently two or three years ago. Why does he say take not by Holy Spirit from me? Now notice will you that he mentions the Holy Spirit at least twice.

The Holy Spirit is exactly that. He's the Spirit of holiness and he convicts of unholiness. He's the Spirit of life.

He convicts of death. He's the Spirit of power. He convicts of weakness.

He's the Spirit of fire. He convicts of coldness. He's the Spirit of purity.

He convicts of unimpurity. Now David says take not by Holy Spirit for me. Why? Well just before David there had been a king by the name of Saul.

You see in America we, we, we love to think we don't have a monarch. We don't have a king. But I'll tell you what at the coronation of a British king there are more Americans looking on than anybody anyhow.

You like to see the pomp and the circumstance and the Queen's chariot come drawn with the six horses and all the rest of it. But all when they anointed a king in Israel. It was far more than a social thing.

It wasn't something that somebody was at the top of the pyramid. It was God's selection and he had selected a man who in the poet's language was tall and dark and handsome. Apart from Goliath maybe the biggest man in the world.

Tall handsome Saul the king of Israel. And millions of people gathered and he was anointed. They took the horn of an animal and cut the end of it and filled it with oil.

And the priest took it there and and he dropped the oil on the head of the, of the, of the king who was also the priest in this instance. At least at the moment. He had the anointing.

Oil is a type of permanent type of the Holy Spirit. And Saul the king of Israel is anointed and it says the Spirit of the Lord rested upon him and he had gifts of the Spirit because he prophesied. But he died a

suicide.

You wonder the scripture says, however mighty fallen. You know the road of Christian living is strewn with a wreckage of half-beings. Men who want might in God.

My wife and I were in a certain place. I think it was California we were when I received a call from the president of the famous school in this country. And he asked me to go and teach for a month and then he asked me to join the staff.

After they'd heard me preach a month they didn't renew the invitation. But that's all right. I said to him but my accent on the Holy Spirit is not on gifts.

It's on character. He said that's what we want. And he went down the list he said remember Stone Saul.

That man used to get 10, 12,000 people in his tent. Do you know how he died? Do you know Stone Saul? That man would have a great healing meeting and phone for a call girl on the way home. Do you know Stone Saul? He went down the list and he said we need more than just terms and phrases and gifts.

We need holy living, holy character. And holiness is not a luxury, it's a necessity. If you're not holy you'll never make it to heaven.

God says nothing but the Father shall enter into heaven. David saw that King. The man who stood and prophesied in the name of God.

The man with great authority. The people got so thrilled they wrote songs about him. Saul had slain his thousands.

They saw him cringing at the feet of a miserable spirit. Saying bring up Saul. And when Saul came up to remember he said the Lord.

No he said call upon my God. Not my God, not our God, my God. He said listen the Lord has forsaken me.

And the Prophet didn't say now of course he won't do that with you. Particularly you being a king. You being the anointed one.

He never does that. He never forsakes his own. Oh you can use scriptures and distort them can't you.

When the man said, the King said the Lord has departed from me. Do you remember the answer of the Prophet? He said the Lord hath departed from me. Do you know the most miserable.

Do you know the man who needs to be pitied most in America tonight or anywhere in the world. He's not the man feeling his way down the road in total blindness. He's not those poor forgotten heroes in our VA hospitals that have been there from World War II.

Minus legs, minus eyes, minus arms and they get nothing for it but misery. He's not the man who lost it all on the stock market the other week. No sorry.

The man who is the most pitiful object in America tonight is the man who once had the anointing of God and he lost it. There is no money will bring it back. There is no way you can manipulate it for him.

I often pray and thank God that the Holy Ghost is incorruptible. Some of you if the pastor said tonight I had a special privilege. I want you to be filled with the Holy Ghost.

It'll cost you a thousand dollars. You do whiplash check, look out and sign a thousand dollars. But he still says your money perish with you.

David had seen the misery of this man that God had left. And he says take not thy Holy Spirit from me. This is the young man that sat on the hills of Bethlehem playing, playing a harp.

I wrote maybe the most beautiful psalm of all. The 23rd Psalm. The Lord's nice shepherd I'll not want.

You want to hear it sung you'd have to go to Scotland. It's their national anthem. Boy they can sing it.

Like nobody on earth. The Lord's nice shepherd I'll not want. And he gets so brave and he says even the valley of the shadow of death I fear no evil.

You remember what he did in Psalm 139. He takes his heart out and he says search me O God and know my heart. Try me and know my thoughts.

I dare you to say that right now to a Holy God. Not to me, right up to heaven, right where you're sitting. Search me as you search Jerusalem with a candle.

Search me, search all my thoughts. The secret springs, the mountains that control. The chambers where polluted things hold empire of the soul.

Search till thy fiery glance has cast its holy light through all. And I by grace am brought at last before thy face to fall. All right he says there in that psalm he's brave.

He's living as near to God as he ever lived. He was living in the fullness of blessing. And therefore he says search me O God and know my heart.

Try me and know my thoughts. And see if there's any wicked way in me. He doesn't say that to God here.

He says hide thy face from my sins. Then come near to me I'm already tormented. What a tragic situation that this man is found like this.

He wrote this 23rd psalm with its balm, its healing. He wrote the 139 psalm with its boldness. He writes psalm 51 with his brokenness.

This psalm isn't written on paper. It isn't written with ink. It's written with blood and tears.

It isn't punctuated with periods and commas. It's punctuated with grief and psalms. And groans.

And I believe that the groans of penitent men and women make more music in heaven than all the singing gallagherts he ever offered. And all the music Handel ever put together. When a man loathes himself, woe is me I'm undone, I'm unclean.

God says that man's getting some place. I think one of the great tragedies of present Christianity is that we're, well we've such a shallow conception of sin. We tell people to get rid of sin because it will get rid of you.

But the first point is you should get rid of sin because it hurts God. Not that it hurts you and hurts the folk you're sinning with. It hurts God first of all.

And after all what's this book about? From beginning to end it only has one subject. The subject of sin. The subject of redemption.

The fall of man. The recovery of man. It's simplified very easily.

There are two ways. The broad way and the narrow way. There are two gates, there are two masters, there are two kingdoms.

Not three, two. You're in one you're in the other. There's a broad way that leads us to destruction.

Dear pastor was saying tonight about sacrifice. My God I'm honestly for God we don't know a thing about it. You've got some ungodly neighbors you say.

We've got some drunken filthy folk around us. We've got some adulterers and liars and cheats and thieves and they fight and they swear and they shoot and all the rest of it. Okay.

Did you ever think to ask them if they tithe? To who? To the devil. You think an ungodly man says well of course I take out my billfold I only give the devil a ten for what I've got on gambling and smokes and drinks and nightclubs and all the rest. I never give more than a ten.

Do you think he says well of course I'd like to go out for the night but I'm always in bed by half past ten so. Oh no. Go through Las Vegas and see if they ever go to sleep.

Kentucky Derby this week I noticed. Man people go from the ends of the earth to watch a bit of horse flesh run for about three minutes or less than that. And it'll cost them thousands of dollars.

You remember the apostle Paul going down the, that fantastic man. Oh I don't know how you read him brother Peter but I, I always finish up on my faith when I read about Paul. He began in the ancient capital of the world Tarsus.

He ended up in the military capital of the world Rome. In between he went to the religious capital of the world Jerusalem. He went to the intellectual capital of the world Athens.

He went to the rotten capital of the world, capital of sin Corinth. But you remember in Athens he argued with intellectuals there. He knew their poetry, history, philosophy so forth and so on.

But when he went down the street he said I saw altar to unknown God. And in the sleepy Elizabethan English which is still the best translation. The King James by the way is still the purest of all the translations.

And in the King James version it says that when he went down that street his spirit was stirred within him. I like the amplified where it agrees with me. And it agrees with me in that 17th chapter because it says he was angry in his spirit.

Why? You go down the street. Ah see there's a new kingdom hall there. Isn't it pretty.

You ought to hold your nose and vomit. Beautiful Catholic Church. For what? Tells me that the Virgin is equal with Jesus.

Call it empty. Forget it. Blasphemy.

You go down another street and you see something else. It doesn't move us. You go to Washington for the bicentenary.

Most likely you'll go to the thirty million dollar Roman church and look around it and some other thing. But when he saw these rivalries. You see he was so madly in love with Jesus.

He hated the devil's possession of every man and every woman. Every thought, every desire they had. It'll take that brother Peter to get men on fire for God.

You say that's pretty intolerant. Sure it is. Now it's gonna get worse, better I hope.

Jesus was intolerant. Didn't kiss the Pharisees as far as I know did he? Didn't put his arms around the neck of the high priest. I preached at the great Carrizal convention for missionaries in Japan a few years ago.

And afterwards, maybe two years after, I saw a man's name mentioned and I said to Martha Sweetly, the director of that great conference is in town. Let's go see him. So we went along.

And after the meeting I said to him, well how are you going? And he said fine. I said where were you yesterday? He said well these marvelous days I was in Japan. Did you have a good trip? Yeah, yeah.

I wasn't feeling too good. Oh what upset you? Body, stomach, time lack? No, no, no, no. No I thought hmm Japan things were a bit cheaper.

I'll get a haircut. So he said I got my haircut and the man said you know snipping away, are you a Yankee? No, yeah, no I'm not really a Yankee, I'm American. Oh, oh, oh I see, I see.

Businessman? No. Tourist? No. Well what are you? I'm a missionary.

Oh good, he said. I am a missionary too. Oh I thought you were a barber.

Oh yeah I'm a barber from eight in the morning till five. Then I go home for supper and I bathe. And then at seven o'clock I go out and I have a little attachment and I have some material and I have some phonograph records and and I go from house to house.

You know this new philosophy they have, Sagagaki, which is a combination of religion and politics. And I go from door to door and I go in a house and I sit down there and I I play my records and I give them instruction and I move on and I move on and I move on from seven at night until two in the morning. Oh, how many nights a week? Seven.

You don't go to bed till two in the morning. I didn't say that. You said that you were out from seven at night till two in the morning.

I don't go to bed there. I go home and for two hours I go in a little shrine and I kneel down and I renew my strength. It sounds a bit like Isaiah 41, they that wait upon the Lord.

And I spent two o'clock till four o'clock every morning. And the missionary said I began to feel pretty mad about this. Is it even propagating of devilish doctrine? And he starts at seven o'clock at night till two in the morning.

Then he needs two hours to recover and he gets into bed at four and he's out of bed by seven and he's at business by eight. And I said well how long have you done this? He said for seven years. Does that make you feel bad or sad or mad or glad or what? You don't have a deacon in your church as fiery as that do you? Some of you pastors can't remember the last night you stayed out of bed.

You know I'm convinced of this if the church has anything she better say it right now because nobody else is saying anything. If she's got anything she better stand up speak up or shut up. And when you've tried to find fault with this that and the other and where the weakness is.

The whole problem in the church of the Living God tonight as well as the world is a problem of sin. The one thing that God desires of his people is that they be pure in heart. Blessed are the pure in heart.

Not that they shall see God. They do see God. They see him now.

They see him in his majesty. They see him working. God made his ways known unto Israel.

His acts known unto Israel and his ways unto Moses. All right there are many three's in this chapter I've already quoted. Let's say there are three prayers in it.

The first prayer is the prayer of a sinner. I don't like David's sin I'm sure you don't adultery and murder. But I like his confession he begins in this first verse by saying well have mercy upon me.

That's a great, great word mercy isn't it. Oh go to Scotland and hear them sing the 23rd time. Go to Wales and hear them sing Cumbranda.

And stay there until they sing the deep, deep love of Jesus. And then when you're just about saturated wait until they sing another beautiful hymn. Great God of wonders all thy ways displayed I'm after you divine.

But countless acts of pardoning grace above all other wonders shine. Who is a pardoning God like thee? Oh who has grace so rich and free. I said last night wouldn't it be awesome to have been that wonderful man John Baptist when he was the only man in the world with the truth of God.

Well I want to put it on you tonight. You know it's equally as responsible that you're a Christian with the only true message of salvation in the whole world. Every other things are fake.

There is none other name given on the head whereby men can be saved. If you say you know I'm looking for Jesus coming. He may come tonight.

You forget it he won't come tonight. Why won't he? Because the gospel must first be preached to all nations and we're not even pushing the gospel. There are more heathen people at this given point of time tonight than in all the periods of history.

And this generation of is. IS is responsible for this generation of heathens. David here says have mercy upon me O God.

Oh we think of sin we classify it so many ways. But let me just leap over and say this. Do you remember that the Apostle Paul used this very word.

No no no no he wasn't an adulterer. He was a man of impeccable morality. He was of the tribe of Benjamin of the seed of Abraham.

A Pharisee he belonged the greatest holy club in the world and they guarded it day and night that nobody unclean would get in. And with all that pedigree and he writes one day to a young friend and he says but God who is rich in mercy. So maybe God needs more grace with Pharisees than he does with adulterers and unclean people.

They're going to get there on their own merits, on their own righteousness, on their own goodness. As I was thinking tonight I was thinking of one night I one afternoon I preached at a Catholic convention in London England in a church called Orange Grove. It's a beautiful old Gothic church with stained glass windows the pulpits all magnificently cast.

And I got hold of that pulpit like this and I rubbed my feet there and and I gripped there and said to myself you know this is this is nice to stand here. Because the pastor of the church was a man by the name of Toplady many years back. And he wrote that lovely hymn Rock of Ages cleft for me let me hide myself in thee.

And he had such a conception of sin because this is what sin does. You either get rid of it or it gets rid of you. And when he saw what it was he says how I to that fountain fly wash me Savior or I die.

Now if you die with sin in your heart you won't go to a third class heaven because there isn't one. You'll go right back to hell itself. You don't hear much hellfire preaching over your pretty Sunday morning groups do.

Those pretty boys that want your money and have nice little girls swinging their hips and clapping their hands and saying to a world that's doomed and damned something good is going to happen to you. The biggest lie ever told but they tell it every week. We're heading for judgment.

We've had more light than any people in history. Oh yes sir I spent two years in the subculture of New York with David Wilkinson amongst prostitutes and jailbirds and yuck. Thought that I had sex relations with animals and every devilish thing.

But I'll tell you one thing. You never had to get them to, you never had to prove to them they were sinners. And I remember going in the chapel one morning.

Usually I just had the privilege of talking to the staff twice a week. And they said would you take the chapel this morning and I went in and this side of the room was filled with girls and this side with young men. Some of those girls were the prettiest girls you'll find in New York and the most expensive prostitutes.

A little Puerto Rican fella there. I remember he stood there that morning his faith radiance and you know he talked very very quickly and he said well praise the Lord here we are this morning but the radiance is going to drop. Isn't it wonderful to be here and let's stand up and sing our song.

What do you think they sang? Oh my they sang, they sang, they sang better than any choir you ever heard in your life. You know they sang and they sang with tears running down their faces and they sang it with their hands up. They sang amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.

And you know what every one of them believed it. I was lost now I'm found, I was blind now I see. We sang the last stanza.

Remember we've been there ten thousand years. A little fella said Mr. Benny could we sing another stanza. I said go ahead sing all you like.

And you know I look around and those girls blouses were all soaked with tears. And those boys who told me they used to pull out the switch blades and cut a man's belly open if he wouldn't give them his pocketbook. And they'd raped women and they'd done every devilish thing and there they were standing with tears running down their faces and I'll never forget it as long as I live.

Amazing grace how sweet the sound. You see the man that wrote it used to raid the the coast of Africa and steal slaves. And then he got so bad they made him a slave.

And when he'd been to hell and back Jesus rescued him. And the trouble is that some of us we've been so good all our lives that after all we should have made heaven even without redemption. And after all when your uncle's been a deacon and your grandmother bought the stained-glass window in the church what you can't do much more can you.

Amazing grace. Oh then I went to a church and it wasn't about this. Sunday morning a few months after.

The little doll down here she was very beautiful. The Avon lady had worked on her about three days before she came to church. She'd as much paint on as the Queen Mary may be and boy I don't know if she'd hair or a wig or what.

But one of the hairs kept spraying and she was singing. Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once.

Well see she was three streets behind by the time we finished the hymn she hadn't got through the second verse hardly. And I felt saying you dumb doll what are you singing you're not a wretch. If I told you you're a wretch you'd get mad.

If your husband told you you'd get a divorce I suppose. But you're not a wretch. You're singing something that doesn't mean a thing to you.

The banner of truth book group have recently published a, or republished a book by Brown Law North. He was a grandson of Lord North. And he went to the devil and eventually ended up in the gutter in Paris.

He got so bad even wicked women didn't want him and wicked men left him. And one night he went down to the River Seine there. He stood on the edge of it and he said that this is the only way out.

There's no other way. Here I go. Years afterwards in Scotland there was a banner across main street.

Come on here Brown Law North. Brown Law North. The man went in the meeting he scribbled a note and said would you pass it to Brown Law North quickly please.

And Brown Law North was just going to come on the pulpit when they handed him a note and it said hey Brown Law this is your old buddy so and so. You stand up there tonight and I'll stand up and expose your immorality, your perversion, your lying, your depravity. Boy will I have a time.

The man with him said he went as pale as death and he stood for a minute. Are you all right sir? Yes I'm all right. He went up in the pulpit and he said somewhere in this great crowd there's a friend of mine just sent me a note.

He's going to tell you about my life story. Would you kindly stand up? I don't know where you are, I haven't seen you for years. Stand up, stand up, tell them, tell them, will you tell them? Tell them, stand up, he was shrinking down, down, down, down like this you know.

He didn't, he didn't want to get up at all, he didn't want to say anything. And Brown Law says let me tell you what he said. He says I was with the vilest women in, in Paris.

I went with the most rotten of the prostitutes. I drank, I spent money, I cheated, I lied, I stole, I did everything. He's right.

But I want to tell you something else. That when that man pulled out on me. And when I had to sleep under the arches.

And when I had no food or anything else. And when I stood one night, a black midnight, I stood there on the edge of the river just going to jump in there. And he said all right, all right I guess it's true there must be a hell and if any man or most deserves it I do, here I am with all my sin.

And I just leaned forward and he says I did. In loving kindness Jesus came. My soul in mercy to reclaim and from the depths of sin and shame in love he lifted me.

From sinking sands he lifted me, with tender hands he lifted me, from shades of night to planes of light. Yes he said. I had all the sin he mentioned and the Lord he didn't know anything about.

But I came to Jesus. You know we sing in all our conferences, meetings rather, Billy Graham popularized it a great deal. That lovely old hymn, Just as I am without one plea.

But mostly we sing the first stanza. I like the other stanza that says, Just as I am and waiting not. To rid my soul of one dark blot.

To thee whose blood can cleanse each spot. Oh Lamb of God I come. And brother if you're going to the hell holes of America and there are plenty of them.

If you're going to the savages in South America and God knows how many they are nobody else does. When I go around the world and I remember in Australia not a while ago. I took a plane one night in the dark obviously.

And as we came out from that magnificent city of Sydney. We flew inland. We were going up to Port Darwin.

My son Paul who's a missionary now was sitting with me. And I said Paul you see all those lights on the ground. Those fires uh-huh.

You know what they are? He said yes daddy I know what they are. You see those people don't even wear a G-string. Those people don't even have houses.

Those people are the lowest in the world. They don't have cooking utensils. I've been to tribes.

I've been to places where there were cannibals. But they have some utensils that those people in the northern parts of Australia don't. And the thing that always burned me up was this.

That I could go to a hotel in the city and it's like a New York hotel. It's got hot and cold water, lovely bathroom, TV, all the modern conveniences. And you take a jet plane for an hour and a half.

And instead of being 1976. I know Dominic. It's 1976 BC.

I went into a home in Papua New Guinea. The door was about 13 inches high, 13 inches wide. So I had to crawl on my hands and knees.

Very nice. They got wall-to-wall dirt. They got big beautiful women naked.

And there's a dog there with six pups and one of them can't get to feed. And so she picks it up and puts it on her breast. She lays the baby down, puts it on her breast and she, she suckles the dog.

And she puts it on the floor when it's quiet and picks the baby up and feeds it. You go in the next place, there's a woman feeding a pig. They feed everything.

The children come in and grab the mother's breast. They feed on the mother till they're about six or seven years of age. And some ignoramus with a PhD tells you leave the heathen alone.

They're happy. I'll tell you what, they're about as happy as they are in hell. They're terrified of the dark.

They wail and they gnash their teeth and they scream when they bury people. They've no hope. Oh here in America or England, the so-called civilization, we've got drudge.

Creep to comfort to the nepotizer. The gospel, we become choosy about it. We spend our days arguing between Tweedledee and Tweedledum, theologically.

And the world goes to hell fire. See that's why as the pastor was saying tonight, it'll cost you all your habit. I mean after all, it cost Jesus all he had didn't it? The exceeding sinfulness of sin needs to come back.

I know some of the problems the pastor was talking about. I have fellows call me all over the nation. I have people come to my home hundreds and hundreds of miles, sometimes thousands, to talk about problems.

And suddenly they've discovered now their sons and daughters have got to 14 and 15 years of age. And they didn't correct them. And the girl comes home to tell you that last night she met a nice guy and she experimented in sex.

Well I may as well tell you, last week I smoked a little marijuana. And she gradually breaks down and he says, you know I think my daughter's in serious condition. Serious condition.

If you want an in-plane theologian, he's damned. Have you stayed out of bed? Have you wept for her? Have you looked her in the eyes and said, listen darling I'm gonna fast and weep and pray and I'll die on the spot rather than see you perish. Or didn't you send a request for prayer to the church and write a little note, Pastor pray for my daughter she's coming in late.

As Dave Wilkerson used to say, most of you daddies helped your daughter. The first bedroom she was ever in was the backseat of that automobile you loaned her. When she got mad that she couldn't have it like other girls.

Man I've listened to stories in my office in New York that turned my hair nearly blue. I realized again as the pastor said, we're living in the most dangerous situation. Our threat is not communism.

Our threat is not otherism. No sirree. Our threat, our problem as I said that was it last night, that God's problem in America is not communism or otherism.

God's problem in America is dead fundamentalism. We know the phrases, we know the terms. But sin breaks the heart of God and sin breaks the heart of everybody that indulges in it.

And David thought he could get away with it but it's a good book says it's sweet to the taste but it makes your belly bitter. He played with fire and now he finds that though he got rid of the man and though the baby was his and and so forth and so now he's stayed. Now he's guilty.

Now here he feels what a leper he is. There's nowhere to turn and so he comes to a merciful God. I think the second time Billy Graham came to England they sang that big Methodist hymn I don't know you perhaps don't have it in your book and can it be that I should gain an interest and they sang it in the Victoria station and it was reported all over all over England.

Hundreds of people greeted Billy Graham and can it be that I should gain and somebody some old soul there that wasn't there just for the feeling and the trimming. He struck up the second stanza. Reminds me of a big fat man that was in our church.

It's an important man he gathered the garbage. And man he'd been a fighter drunkard. He'd done every devilish thing he could do and Jesus saved him.

And you know what they never muzzled him after that. The respectable ladies didn't like him because you know I knew when he was gonna blow his top. Because he sat across the aisle from us and I could hear him go mmm mmm mmm mmm.

And I thought all right all right hold it hold it in his way. Hallelujah. Oh all the ladies go.

And when the preacher, a visiting preacher, our preacher cut the hymn out he was pretty straight and smart. But a visiting preacher would say before I give the message we shall sing Charles Wesley's lovely hymn and can it be that I should gain an interest. We'll omit verse three.

I thought will you. Well you'll see if you will. So they sang verses one and two and four.

And they sat down and the big fat man who always rested his belly on the pew in front. It was too big to hold up anyhow. And he put his hand up and the tears rolled out on his face.

And he'd sing oh with a voice like a bullfrog. But I'll tell you what again heaven got excited about it. Do you know why? He'd strike up like this long my imprisoned spirit lay fast down in sin of nature's night.

Thine eye diffused a quickening ray. I woke the dungeon frame with light. My chains fell off my heart was free.

I was a little guy I didn't understand it. But I knew when they said omit verse three I thought you wait till that boy gets cracking. And the girls in the crowd I thought you you stinkers you've never been to hell like.

God rescued him he was just about in the last stages any man can be. And he was so full of gratitude. He didn't care if he sang ten degrees off the center.

But I'll tell you what he changed the atmosphere of that church every time he stood. You see you were never far down in the pit were you? No I've had a good upbringing. Well I'll tell you what if you don't get saved you'll end up in the pit anyhow.

We need a lot of guitars and I'm not against music but I'll tell you what once you've tasted the mercy of God and something happens deep down there whether it's in the pit of your belly or in your heart or where it is. And you see what redemption really is. And you say he loved me because Paul believed that God so loved the world.

And he wrote that Christ loved the church but he said greater than loving the world and greater than loving the church he loved me and gave himself for me. The prayer of a sinner. The joy in the presence of the angels of God when? When we have a parade? No.

When 25,000 or 50,000 people gather for a gospel concert? No. When everybody meets at the Bill Godford meeting I don't think so. I think the Lord likes it but I don't believe it makes heaven excited.

I'll tell you when heaven gets excited. When a man staggers up to the cross. I like the hymns about the cross.

There was an old American preacher 50 years back who said he'd never had one meeting without, that there was a hymn about the blood in it. I never leave the blood out of any service. And if some old drunken reprobate came down this aisle tonight and found mercy there'll be more excitement in heaven than if you published 10 new books on the work of Jesus Christ.

When I was at Teen Challenge I used to come over the bridge from Brooklyn on to Canal Street. And I always looked sideways if I had time before the light changed and there was a sign. Water Street.

Oh I wish they hadn't changed it. It was that place where a man walked in one night on his rubber legs you know and he staggered in and they said do you want to be saved? And he said yeah I want anything you've got. He didn't want saved.

I think he thought they meant shaved. He was scruffy and dirty and he knelt down and somebody said save us in his prayer. God be my Saviour.

We'll baptise you Wednesday night. This is true. Do you know how many times they baptised him? 19.

He holds the record except for Mormons. He got saved and back slid and re-baptised. One night he went to the front and somebody said John pray with the old man.

Forget it. Prayed with him 3 times. You pray with him.

Well said I prayed with him twice. Tell Jack to pray with him. Jack go pray with that old reprobate.

Man, I prayed with him 3 or 4 times. One man went up to the side of him and he said listen I want to tell you something. I can't explain it to you but it goes something like this.

Jesus said, Jesus said if you come to him he will no wise cast you out. If he doesn't cast you out what does he do? He said he takes me. Oh I see he takes me in.

He takes me in he said. He got in that night. Some years after there was a funeral.

It looked as though they were burying the mayor of the city. They were burying that old drunk. Jerry McCauley.

And his casket was there. It wasn't worth much and his eyes were sunk and his cheeks he was old. And the place was jammed up.

And they opened the door and a bunch of rough-looking women came in. Every one of them had a white carnation in. Every one of them had a jail sentence or had been a prostitute.

And every one of them had been led to Jesus by the old corpse lying there. And after they'd been to and kissed that old man till his eyes were just full of water. Their tears had flown into the socket.

They opened another door and a hundred men came. All wearing a red carnation. Symbolic of the blood that redeemed them.

And they went and they they touched him. And some of the old rascals even knelt there and they kissed him. And they stood round and they said something like that.

He loved us. He loved us. Do you know why he loved them? Because he'd been one of them.

Because he'd been one. Some of you people say you know my if I'd been saved earlier. I'll tell you what I'd have done.

I'd have been on the mission field. All right start a mission field. Fill the back seat of your car up every Sunday for the next year.

And show God you mean business. Much easier to give a dollar for gas for the church to run buses isn't it. Then you'll get some people that might leave fleas in your car.

You can't, you can't impress God with words. He's smarter than that. He knows you too well anyhow.

You see we'd all like to be Billy Graham's and address the crowd. We'd all like to be heroes on a mission field. Somebody write a book about it.

Get down to business. Get down to the hellhole. My daddy was rescued out of sin.

A Saturday night he put all clothes on. His elbows sticking out and a beaten up cap. And he stood outside of the taverns.

And when a guy came out on his rubber legs. My daddy put his arm in his. And he took him to the basement of our church.

And they gave him hot coffee. And got them sobered up and led them to Jesus. And Sunday he'd say Lucy to my mother.

She's a lovely lady Lucy. I love Lucy. And I need to say Lucy.

I'll see you in church. Where's daddy going? Oh oh daddy, daddy last night. He didn't come in.

Did you hear him come in at one o'clock this morning? He, he, he, he was able to take a man he found outside of a tavern. A man who, well then he'd been a naughty man, a bad man. He'd been to jail.

He'd been a wicked man. And daddy took him home. And and you know the man didn't even have a bed to lay on.

He had some rags in the corner. And I'd see that man come to church. And my old dad with one or two others would buy him a suit and a shirt.

And the next week he'd come all cleaned up. And before long with a whole string of people like that in church. You know I kind of think my dad was a missionary.

I think he spelled out his love. Not, not in a communion service. Well the whole realm of nature mind.

Forget it. You won't even give him a prayer meeting. You won't give him a night out of bed.

Who are you fooling? You may fool your pastor. You may fool yourself. You won't fool God.

There is no other way for America to be saved, unless we have a Holy Ghost revival that makes men hate sin, and loathe sin, and turn from sin, and repent of sin. All right the second prayer. Quickly he prayed the prayer of a synodary.

Prayed the prayer of a backside. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation. Hmm.

Yeah we sing culp of him amazing grace. You remember some of the other hymns he wrote. Where is the blessedness I knew when first I sought the Lord.

Where is the soul refreshing view of Jesus and his word. And he thinks of those days. When, when, when, like you used to have.

Days when this, this book was sweet and a mahami, a mahami come. And now you have a bother. You hardly ever bother with it.

Hmm. Days when prayer was so real, that you hardly knew whether you were in the body or out of the body. Now he doesn't save you much.

You pray at night. Lord bless me and the kids. Amen.

And get into bed. Synodary says restore unto me the joy of thy salvation. But the bones which thou hast broken.

Did you ever break a bone? I jumped out of a burning hotel. It was higher than this. And I jumped on the sidewalk.

I didn't want to, I had to. I brought my back in three places. My leg was hanging in three places.

My feet were broken. And I was lying in the street at three o'clock in the morning. That's not a good example for a preacher.

But anyhow there I was. And a man came round the corner. He says what are you doing here? I almost said playing tennis can't you see.

But anyhow here I was crippled. And he said let me put you on the side. Because something might come round the corner and you'll get hurt.

I said listen I'm hurt enough. Don't touch me. Do you know what he did? He put his hand under my back.

And he put his hand under my broken legs. And he lifted me up. I actually bit a piece out of my lip there.

I'd always been taught you should be a British bulldog and not squeal you know. I didn't want to let the side down. So I bit a piece out of, but you know when he lifted me up and those bones stuck together.

It was like two live electric cords that sparked and agony went through my body. And he laid me down in the snow. And you know what? David says when you're out of relationship with God it's like a broken bone.

The bones which thou hast broken. He hadn't a broken bone in his body. It's a broken relationship with God.

The song had gone out of his heart. The joy had gone out of his spirit. And you can give all you like permissions.

And you can do all the things you like. It will never bring the joy back until you repent. And ask God to bring the glory back into your life.

It happened so easy. I was preaching at a church in Ohio a few years ago. A beautiful girl came to the altar with a bunch of other people.

She'd long braids. And I stayed at the altar more than an hour praying with men. And I was going to her home to cross to the hotel.

I got one my arm in the sleeve of my coat. And somebody said brother Angel would you take a little time with this girl. And I went to the front and I said hi how are you? And she was sobbing.

I said you've been crying an hour Chris. There's a time to weep and a time not to weep. Let's get to business.

What's your trouble? I'm a backslider. Oh well that's great. You know the problem.

Most people don't even know that. You're a backslider. Well I can tell you the way back.

I'll tell you what God says. He'll heal your backslidings. And he'll love you freely.

And so forth and so on. Now I was prepared to tell God about it. He said yes.

You see Mr. Rameau I like to swim. And that big shop next door had some swimsuits. And I saw one on a model.

You know the old story. He saw it and he looked it, coveted it. I went in another day and it was there.

I went another day it wasn't there. It was on the edge of the counter and there's nobody looking and I flipped it under my coat and walked out. So my mother I found it in the street.

And she said in the middle of the meeting tonight your voice dimmed away and I heard a voice saying swimsuit, swimsuit, swimsuit, swimsuit, swimsuit, swimsuit, swimsuit. What is that? Swimsuit a thousand times. I never mentioned swimsuit.

But when he is coming and convinced. And the only way to get to that girl was to say swimsuit, swimsuit, swimsuit, swimsuit, swimsuit, swimsuit. Till she just wished I'd shut up she said.

Of course that's common everybody does but apart from that. Swimsuit, swimsuit. I said okay are you prepared to go back to the shop and tell them what you've done.

Bring forth fruit meat for repentance. I don't have enough money. Well I'll give you some of mine.

I'll get the pastor to give you a little. We need to change our tone about sin. You read one John and see what John says about it.

He says that he the man that is born of God doth not commit sin. And I remember when Nora Brown said to me been talking with a woman. And she said my favorite scripture is when we sin we have an advocate.

He said would you find it for me. And she said it's in John. Oh I see well could you find it for me.

Yeah it's in the first epistle of John. Hmm read it. If we sin we have one.

Oh I thought it said when we sin. No no it doesn't say when we sin. It says if we sin.

Sinning is not normal in the Christian life. It's abnormal. It's abnormal.

You see Jesus didn't say if you fast. He said when you fast. But the scripture here doesn't say if we, when we sin.

It says if. If by some reason you slip. What's the difference between a man committing adultery if he's a Christian.

Or stealing if he's a Christian. Or lying if he's a Christian to the sin of adultery and lying of a man in the street. There is no difference.

There is a difference. Not in the deed. Not how diabolically it is.

The difference is there when a Christian does it. When he's being caught in temptation does it. He flees to Christ for mercy.

He goes with a broken heart. You see the thing that got to the heart of God with David was this. He says I've got a broken and a contrite heart.

Did you ever have a broken heart? It's worse than a broken limb. It's worse than a broken business deal. It's worse than a broken friendship.

A broken heart. My sin, my sin, my sin put him on a tree. And I hate it.

I loathe it. He says create in me a clean heart. He says wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Do you know that every, every flake of snow has one little black spot of dirt in it. And this man must have been a scientist. He says wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me to hear joy and gladness of the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. The sacrifices of God are what? Oh I'll tell you I'm awfully glad that God doesn't let you rich folk get in any better more than the lousy man that's been to hell and back through the gutter. You may have never said a bad word in your

life.

You may be the best moral people and that's very nice. But I want to tell you something. It doesn't merit anything when it comes to salvation.

You've got to come with a broken and a contrite heart. And David doesn't say well after all I'm a king. I believe in you know the divine right of kings.

He comes calling and he says God in heaven I've messed it up. I've broken lives. I've hurt my nation.

But most of all I've hurt you and my heart is broken over this sin. And a broken and a contrite heart. Thou desirest not sacrifice.

He would have filled the whole valley with sacrifices. But all the blood of beasts on Jewish altars slain could not give one guilty conscience peace or wash away one's stain. But Christ the heavenly Lamb takes all our sins away.

A sacrifice of nobler name and richer blood than they. Is it amazing that if you sinned for 60 years and you've broken every loin the Decalogue and committed every sin a man could commit. That one drop of the precious blood of Jesus Christ will turn to ice and snow.

You may have a record as foul as any man that ever lived. But such is the gospel of redeeming grace. That if you come with humility and you come with brokenness and contrition.

You can be cleansed. And then he says give me thy Holy Spirit. Isn't that lovely.

You know a lot of us have been wanting the Holy Spirit without God cleaning the mess up. There's a little cancer down in one area. A grudge you had for years.

And you felt like if you kind of rub it over and then the Holy Ghost would come in. Because you said you were sorry. Well I'm telling you he won't.

You may have got a lift in a meeting and two days after you were flat on your face and on your back. You were stumped. And if you couldn't get to a meeting every night you can't live in victory.

Well you'd never make it in a concentration camp. David says give me thy Holy Spirit. This is what you can do with the Holy Spirit.

You can obey him. You can disobey him. You can resist the Spirit.

You can grieve the Spirit. You can quench the Spirit. Do you think I enjoy preaching? Sure I do in one sense.

Because I feel I'm an ambassador for Christ. But I didn't sleep much last night or the night before. I lay awake for hours.

Thinking about some of you that are holding on to something that's worth about as much as you can find in the dime store. No your problem isn't adultery. Your problem is you're too proud to admit that you're proud.

Too proud to admit you've a grudge against. You cannot be a Christian and have a grudge. You can be a backslider and have a grudge.

Thou desirest truth he says in the inward part. I like that. I like that.

Right deep, deep, deep down in the recesses of your nature the Holy Ghost can bear witness that you're not covering anything up. You're not hiding anything. You've no secret grudges.

You've no laziness. You've no unwillingness. You've no rebelliousness against God.

I say respectfully the pastor led you into a trap tonight. He led you into a trap. He asked you to stand up tonight if you're willing to let God have your life or even your wife or your bank account.

If you're willing to let him put a fast of ten days on you. If you're willing to let him break up and shatter the plans of your life. If you're willing to lose everything and I didn't open my eyes but I understand a lot stood up.

Maybe a hundred or more. Have you got what it takes to see it through. The Holy Spirit of God.

Not a feeling a person. The Holy Spirit that comes and touches that thing in you, that conscience, that thing you're hiding. That's when you commit.

I preached one night. A young man came to me. He said, Ramiel do you mean what you've said tonight? I said I certainly do.

That God has a record of my life. He certainly has. That I have to repent of all sin.

Yes I have to put things right as far as you can. Well he said I'm going to tell you something. I'm going to be quite honest with you.

When I was in the army a number of years. I went over to France and England and he said I'll tell you this. That I'm possibly the father of 30 children.

Every woman I went with he said I spent the night with them. And he said felt you know I hired a woman like you hire a car. And if anything went wrong well I'd paid her 30 bucks or something.

And he said maybe there are little children in France and England that call me daddy that I'll never see. What do I do about it? Nothing you can do about it. Except repent in misery and ashes and confess it before God.

And flee to him. But you see Jesus says oh you put a card on that man say the dirty rotten leper. But Jesus says I want to tell you something.

If you look on a woman to lust. And listen sister if you run about in your bikini and make a man lust. God Almighty will punish you when you get up there too.

I preached at the Baptist Convention in California two years ago. And there's a notice in the newspaper across the newspaper about that size. And it showed a sign.

And it said on this certain beach. I won't tell you the name of it. But it said on the beach notice this.

And there's a big N-O in the middle of the sign. And it said bathing's N-O-T. Bathing suits not compulsory beyond this point.

And a thousand people meet Sunday morning stark naked and take little children boys and girls. And hundreds of men are on the bank there with cameras watching all these nude folks fool around. And the same thing happened in New England this past year.

Man alive we're far beyond Sodom and Gomorrah. So they never had any Bible. Sodom didn't have a preacher.

Sodom didn't have a church. Sodom didn't have a Bible. Sodom had nobody to pray.

But it perished. How long do you think God's gonna put up with our sins as a nation? David says, I have a broken heart. David says now clean me.

And when you clean me will you put something in? Do you know what Jesus says? If you have a room full of evil spirits and you chase them all out and some bigger spirit doesn't go in, other spirits will go in worse than the ones that quit. But if the Holy Spirit of God comes, the heaven of heavens come to contain him. And yet somehow he'll come in your personality.

I'll tell you what, he won't play second string. If he comes in he's gonna be bathed. If he comes in he's gonna take your appetite for food away sometimes.

He's gonna take your appetite for your golf or something. He's gonna take your appetite maybe even for the word itself. Because you can lean on the Bible sometimes, when you should be doing something else.

What are you gonna do? Obey the Spirit? Grieve the Spirit? Resist the Spirit? Cleanse the Spirit? Which? I'm through with this thing. The Holy Spirit is likened to a dove. A dove is a unique bird.

As I said the other night, it has, it has two wings and it has nine feathers on each wing. Nine feathers for the fruits of the Spirit and nine for the gifts of the Spirit. A dove has no gallbladder, no bitterness.

The dove only marries once in its life and if its mate dies, it doesn't take a second partner. The dove is very easily offended. You know what Noah did when the waters were going down? I wish he'd have found another bird.

But he took a raven. I don't like that. Took a raven and let it out of the window.

Oh boy he said, this is great. The Millennium has begun. More food here than I can eat in 10,000 years.

And he swooped down and he took a bit of the carcass of an elephant. He took a carcass out of a piece of something else. He took something else.

Oh he had a great time. He had a great time. And he stayed out.

Because a raven is a carnivorous bird. It eats flesh. It won't steal out of your garden.

It won't steal feed. It won't eat your plants. It loves flesh.

It likes dead flesh. You see those big crows, they're part of the raven family. Eating all the dirt on the road when folk run over old cats and dogs.

That raven stayed out. Had a great time. So a day or two after, he put a dove out.

And the dove went out. And he was just going to settle down. Oh, that's the carcass.

The raven will eat anything. The dove will not eat flesh. The dove will not touch blood.

The dove will not touch anything dead. And he's going to shriek, no that's the body of an elephant. I'll shriek, no that's the body of a man.

I knew what he did. He got tired and he went back. And so, nor open the window and put him in.

He wouldn't settle on flesh. He still won't. He won't settle on your flesh, your carnality, your pride, your envy, your jealousy, your unclean thinking.

No sir, he won't. The last thing. A friend of mine, a pastor in Manchester, England.

The houses there are all connected like they are up in New England. And on the roof, they build little houses for the birds. And this man had some beautiful doves.

And a friend went along one day and he said, got any new doves? Yeah, I just got a beautiful. Oh, you must see it. Want to see? Yeah, all right, wait a minute.

He reached down, he got some grain and he whistled. And the dove came. And it settled on his hand and it was just going to peck the grape and he shut his hand like that.

And the dove went back on the roof. Oh, you shouldn't do that. Ah, come back again.

It's a real pet. It's a lovely dove. You ought to see it.

The dove came and it was going to peck, shut his hand again. Don't do that. Nothing in it, he said.

It's only a dove, it doesn't know any better. Come again, what? The dove came, he shut his hand. And the dove flew back on the roof.

No, he didn't. The dove flew over the roof. He's never seen it from that day till this.

He grieved it still. That's why I say I get sad when I go home at night. I can read a congregation like I can read a book.

I know those of you who are hiding sin. I know those of you who are hiding in hypocrisy. I know those of you who are rebelling against the light.

You think I go home happy that you dare to grieve a holy eternal God that can rub you out with less trouble than you kill a fly. That happens to have put inside of you something that will live a thousand billion billion years from tonight. You'll be an entity, you'll be a personality either in eternal glory with its embarrassing wonder and delight or in a burning smoking hell with all the filthy people you will walk down the street with tonight.

My little stint in New York taught me to hate sin I'll tell you that. I wouldn't like to live in hell with all the unclean people, the Hollywood bunch and the mafia and all the dirty rascals that have ever lived, present, past or future. But I'll tell you what God said, sin made such havoc of this world that he loved that he's not going to let one person get into heaven with one spot of sin.

And he's not going to get rid of it in the grave so you better get rid of it now. Because nothing, God said it, that defilers shall enter in. Thank God we're going to be in a place one day where there'll be no curse and no sorrow.

Where there'll be total obedience to the Son of God. And they're going to raise their voices in eternal hallelujahs. And you know what they're going to sing unto him that has loved us and loosed us from our sins.

We're going to remember it in eternity. I remember Peter on the street one day and say, and say what did you do Peter? And he said the Lord showed me how much sin I had. It weighed 3,000 tons.

All the sin of my life and he forgave every bit of it. And I go to somebody else like Nicky Cruz and say oh what did the Lord say? And he said your sin weighed, I'm putting figures on it, cost three million tons. And one day I crawled at the feet of Jesus.

And he told me himself that he ripped men's bellies open. He told me one day he put his switchblade through the eye of a boy and cut it and it spilled out like an egg. And he cut the other one and then he said they all put their knives in him and cut him to pieces on the sidewalk in New York.

While women looked through the windows and didn't do a thing. Brother I don't want to go to a hellhole like that. But I don't want to be saved from sin just to make it safe into heaven.

I want to be saved from sin. I want to be a God-directed man that in the life I have I may live for the glory of God. For the devil's got enough people bringing glory to his rotten name.

He's got people that have given every beat of their heart, every bit of their money, every thought of their mind, every instinct they have. They're sold out to the devil. The pastor asked you tonight would you sell out to Christ? Oh my.

I'm just thinking if I could lift the lid of hell and just say, do some of you want to come out and get saved? There'll be a stampede out of hell tonight to get saved. But there's no mercy there. Are you saved tonight or just a nice moral person? Are you a hypocrite? Are you a professing Christian without any anointing of the Spirit of God? You've got eyes but you don't see.

You think the pastor's a strange kind of a fellow these days. He sure is unusual. I love him very dearly.

Why in God's name don't you stay at home? I've got a beautiful home. I've got a fine library. I've got lots of things.

This year I'm ending my 70th year. I'm getting old. No, I'm not getting old.

I'm getting older. But anyhow, you know I wouldn't give this job up for all the world. No sir, I wouldn't.

The biggest job in the world is getting men out of sin into salvation, into holiness and getting them there fixed up with God. I'll tell you how to get there. Sing 92 will you? Please.

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