

Dead Orthodoxy and How God Brings Men to Salvation

by Rolfe Barnard

The sermon emphasizes the need for revival in the church, the importance of prayer, and the mercy of God as the foundation of salvation.

Duration: 58:13

Scripture: Psalm 107:1, Psalm 107:28-29, Matthew 6:33, Romans 10:9, Ephesians 2:8

Topics: "Holy Spirit", "True Faith"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of truly understanding and internalizing the word of God. He highlights that the world does not provide true peace and does not care about what we believe. The preacher encourages believers to demonstrate their faith through prayer and witnessing. He also emphasizes the role of the Holy Spirit in bringing people to salvation and the need for individualized approaches to preaching. The sermon concludes with a call to passionately and urgently share the message of Jesus Christ and rely on His strength and power for salvation.

Transcript

I appreciate the graciousness of this young preacher. The courtesy itself and everything is so wonderful, and he's taking care of the visitor and he's stepping aside and bragging on the preacher, he may trust the preacher himself, but he brags only to you, and that's good. I appreciate it very, very much.

Now, I share with you, every child of God that's here tonight, I share with you the shame, the distress of soul, the heartache of the empty seat. An empty seat in the house of God now is terrible. I'm not satisfied with empty seats, are you? I'm not sounding a low note, but I don't want us to get used to the seat.

I want us to claim victory, and I want us to press for it. I picked up a book some time ago, written by my friend, a preacher of the holiness group of Scotland and Britain, Leonard Ravenhill. I've had the joy of getting personally acquainted with him.

He's a saint of God, and he's doing some provocative writing now and calling mourners, and in one of his little books, he made this statement, and I've been under conviction about it. It's haunted me. He said, some of these days, a simple child of God is going to pick up the word of God and read it and believe it, and when that person does, he'll make the rest of us ashamed of ourselves.

Did you get it? One of these days, some simple child of God can pick up God's word and not try to understand it, not try to get it all together, not to harmonize all the doctrine, not to square everything by your pet doctrine, but he's just going to read it and believe it. I told him, wouldn't it be wonderful if we could get converted to some of his little children just to read the book? Well, we can't understand it, we'll just worship it. They set us on fire.

If there's any crowd of people under God's shining sun, it ought to have fear and fire and warmth of people who try to believe in the grace of God. I believe that all of the sects and all of the movements today away from the Bible are a result of dead orthodoxy. People who say they believe the Bible in their head but doesn't control our tear ducts, our prayer lines, our deadness, the most terrible thing this side of hell, the fellow that's orthodox in his head, doesn't have a broken heart.

I want us to get excited about the Lord. I believe we ought to cross swords with every enemy of the gospel but revival would be people excited about the Lord. You're going to lose in every one of the other battles, but a drifter knows he's fighting a losing cause.

I'm for it, I rejoice in what the Lord's doing for us, but he's going to lose, he knows it. That's none of our business. This thing's gone.

You're not going to save America, God's going to judge us. There's not enough Christians in this country to control the politics. The church is going underground, hallelujah.

When we get there, we'll learn how to pray. We'll learn how to weep. We'll see victory, you know.

There's any way on earth we could generate, not put on some excitement about the Lord. We've got nothing to apologize for if we're knowing because God's answer to all the wisest men was to put his son on the throne where men can't get to him and turn the world over to him. We ought to have a holy bonus.

It's time we quit apologizing for being believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and work up our zeal. The most exciting thing in this world is still the Lord Jesus Christ. I'm trying to encourage you to get excited and to begin to put your money where your mouth is, to witness and to begin to feel Birmingham full of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Don't worry about anything else now. I told you, but the hour has arrived and I rejoice in you. If you believe what the young pastor preaches, why don't you get on fire about it.

Do you know what it is to mourn? Do you? You nice little Orthodox Calvinists, do you know what it is to weep? Do you? How long then since your heart was broke? You see, the scriptures teach God's people to break up the solid ground in their own hearts, and yours looks to me like it's a standard goody or a clown. Have you learned yet that this world don't give a hoot that you are Orthodox? Have you learned yet this world isn't interested in what you believe? Now, this is a day of demonstration. Amen.

Television has changed the whole advertising world. They don't tell you now, they show you. Now is the time to put in the tears, wept, prayer, witness what the Savior believes.

Brother, get something you believe in. Believe in it all over. Used to quote a little limerick when I was a boy, I had a little dog whose name was Rover, and he died all over.

For God's sake, get excited. You're the nicest little people in the heart of my place. Get excited.

If you can't get excited about the Lord, join the Communist Party. Get excited about burying America. Get excited about something.

None to God, I'm telling you. Amen. And let's open our mouths.

Are you mad at me? Do you think that this world is going to be won by truth that has to be saturated in tears, and in blood, your blood and mine, and the power of the Holy Ghost? Do you weep over lost men? Do you, sister? Are you one of these nice Orthodox people? If you don't weep because of the way the claims of my Lord are despised, you need to pay a little attention to the Scripture, to a click and more, and to break up the solid ground in you. Amen? I want you to get excited. Those who saved America, which we ain't going to do, and all went to hell.

It'd be a bad plot. But we turned it a lot longer. In a few little days, you got left there on this earth.

Get excited. I was up in Pennsylvania, and I'm going to spend a little time trying to encourage you. I'm not standing on the outside throwing stones, but you nice people, I go from place to place, and you've got your doctrine pretty straight in your head.

If you're afraid you're going to be unorthodox, you're going to let your own kin vote. Don't be afraid to make a theological mistake. I made one 31 years ago.

It hasn't made any sense, but I lived over it. I'm trying to say that what we say we believe, we must get to where we believe it all over. It's the greatest thing, or it doesn't amount to a hill of beans.

I wish you'd get excited. I wish the people could note excitement and passion and urgency and tears in our voices as we plead with men to be reconciled to the Lord Jesus. How long then since you've pled? I mean pled like a lawyer pleading to get his file acquitted.

You've pled with somebody to be reconciled to the Lord. Huh? Is that good scripture? We've pled you, Paul says. We've pled you.

I can see the heart throb of it. We plead with you. This is urgent.

We need it. We beg you in Christ's name. You one of these folks think you can get that old sinner Satan out on his doctrine, he'd go to heaven.

No, he'd just learn the doctrine and go on to hell. Ah, let's get excited. I had a happy letter today.

I got back home Thursday and left Friday at noon to come up here. And I had a letter waiting for me from Pennsylvania. I'm going to take this down.

I want to fill these seats. And I want Mr. Wet Eyes to start coming back to the Minor Heights. Well, what happened to Brother Wet Eyes? Mr. Amen.

Doctrine for the people. Somebody said along, Mr. Wet Eyes, Mr. Amen, don't come to church. We're not going to have doctrine.

I didn't mean hard. I said melt. Like my Lord.

Remove with compassion. Oh, for the heart a little like this. And I got this letter.

I've been up in Pennsylvania. And they put down all the messages on tape. And now they've got a stenographer.

And they're taking all the messages down on tape. And they're mimeographing them. And they're saying they're going to put one in the hands of everybody in that city.

130,000 people. And they're taking the tape and making copies of them and going into unsaved homes. And asking people if they'll let them say a sermon.

They're beginning to believe what they say they believe. If you believed it, brother, you'd want everybody together. Huh? I was in, I tell you, you folks been sitting, you know, in your town, darling.

You're dead as old hay. You know, you remind me of old cows. When I was a boy, we had this, you ran it.

It was awful rich stuff. They fed the cows. Mixed it with cotton seeds.

Old cows broke in the crib one day and ate about a half a bushel of that high-powered stuff. Too sick for two weeks. You see, what truth you keep for yourself, you will lose.

You've got to. Pass it on. Amen.

Ah, let's go build a fire. Let's see a fire burn. Let's start somebody's fire.

And then it'll spread. And we'll get excited about our Lord. And what God's turned over to us.

And the issues in God. And the gift he has in his hands. We'll get excited about it.

And we'll begin to have a note of urgency. And compassion. And God's helpless agony in our voices.

As a membership of our churches that know Christ throughout from the house of God. So witness a good compassion and a plea with men and women who pass a cross in the name of their eternity. Down souls, please.

I beg you. You too good to that? My Lord, did all day long have I stretched out my hand to a disobedient and gang-slaying people? You're not too good to stretch out your hands and beg sinners, are you? Are you? Are you? That's the spirit of Christ. Let's fill mine a height full of tears and urgency and compassion.

Amen. Build a fire in your heart, brother. Break up the solid ground in your heart, sister.

Huh? That's the way you can weep over souls. You can't weep over them. You can't win them.

I'll tell you that. Can't win them. I want to talk to you a little while tonight from the 107th Psalm.

And I frankly am going to preach tonight so I can preach tomorrow night. God willing, tomorrow night I want to speak on how God gets men lost. How God gets men lost.

The message tomorrow night breaks my heart every time I speak along that line. For I share a crushed and broken heart, brother Griffin, for the preachers of America and for my own part in lying to sinners. I charge that this filled America full of church people who are not hypocrites, but they do not know my Lord.

And it's almost impossible to see anybody saved if they've ever had some kind of religious experience, made some sort of suspicions, been around some sort of decision. Chances are they'll go to hell, drinking

water at that end of the system, and thinking they're being satisfied. And I do not preach down to brother preachers that usually are passionate to get on the mourners' benches with me.

I don't believe we've told this generation the truth about them. I don't believe we've preached the gospel to this generation. It breaks my heart.

When I first started out to preach, a great crowd, getting littler all the time. Everybody was so tired up as far as I could see. We'd all like to go to heaven, but we just ain't got time.

I think most of us are going to wind up in hell because we're so busy killing ourselves, paying for our luxuries that mom and papa never heard of. And we're just going to have to go to hell because we ain't got time to preach God. And our employers own us, and school teachers own us, and somebody else owns us.

If the picture says we'll enter the kingdom through much tribulation, that's exactly what it says. It may be that a new note needs to be found, and we need to tell people the awful truth about them. For that reason, I flip up on the subject tonight, and I just have one purpose in mind in speaking as I do tonight, and that's to encourage and beg you, after everything else I've asked you tonight, to be in grace, agony, and respect for the preacher, in order to tell men the truth about themselves.

They'll never be into the truth about Christ if they've not faced with the truth about themselves. And they'll never become speakers after the Lord until they're facing with the truth about them. I've preached all my life to generations where we thought that we could get people saved by keeping the truth from them.

Now we've got a monstrosity. I want to encourage you to be in agony of prayer, and that's what I'm going to preach for us tonight. With your Bibles open, we'll return to the 107th Psalm.

May I see? I think maybe you've got Bibles, haven't you? Would you mind listening? I'd be very happy if you shared it with that person next to you, but tonight we're going to be largely reading the Scripture. And what I have in mind now may fail, but ladies and gentlemen, you've got to listen to me. A sure mark of spiritual death is prayerlessness.

And if that's a true statement, I am scared to death about church people who are prayerless. But that's a mark of death. It's the very life of Christianity, with one grace, leaping out at them, seeking out after the Lord.

That's our life's pursuit, and that's what prayer is. I want to talk to you a little while tonight to encourage you to quit making your prayer fruitless, because you're asking God to work in a way that he won't work. If we've just got two weapons, that's the proclamation of the Word.

And then it says to prayer, and that's all the tools we've got. All the other things ain't worth a dime if we don't have these. All your tricks won't work.

All your promotion won't work. We offer lollipops to see all these things, that won't work. We've got to stick to just two things.

That's not simply the proclamation of truth from this pulpit, but the proclamation of truth from this pulpit and from your lips. And prayer. I want you to notice how God works at bringing men to salvation tonight from the 107th Psalm, first three verses.

I trust this is very familiar to you. And I want to give you an outline. Verse 1 of 107th Psalm speaks of the work of God the Father in the salvation of sin.

Now you who study the Bible much will understand that we are bringing an application, not an interpretation tonight, but the Scriptures will allow it. You could preach from this chapter that God will ever save a nation, which he's never done so far. He'd go about saving that nation, just exactly like he outlines in this psalm.

If God ever were to save a church, make a power out of a church, save it from its deadness, and we are facing that now. Every godly pastor cries all the time inside over this deadness. Or if God saves an individual, he'd go about it exactly as outlined here in the 107th Psalm.

Verse 1 speaks of the mercy of Almighty God. No one will ever be saved unless God Almighty makes him an object of his saving mercy. We're in mystery here.

You cannot understand it. Nobody needs to understand it. Nobody can understand it.

But after you get saved, you will naturally start tracing back where it came from and head right back to God. Oh, give thanks unto the Lord for his mercy forever. The word endurance, if you have the authorized version before you, as I do, is in Italian.

The schoolchildren can tell us what that means. It means it ought not to be there, is that right? And the men who translated this thought it would help the meeting, but it ruined it. I wish you would rejoice with me just a little bit before we get down to the burden.

We have to make a mockery out of setting aside days to try to get men under the influence of the gospel. Just rejoice. Oh, give thanks unto the Lord for his mercy forever.

In the providence of God there is a cross in the heart of God forever. Some people get afraid of some of the terminologies of Scripture. If I tried to understand them, they'd scare me.

But I don't try to understand them. I worship that. For instance, suppose I get somebody here that thinks he knows what he's about to buy.

I'm giving you 15 hours to explain such an expression as from before the foundation of the world. You couldn't do it to save your life. But to me it means that this salvation isn't a happen so or an aftermath or a second thought.

It's forever in the heart of God. Or take the expression Jesus Christ was as a lamb slain from before the foundation of the world. You understand that? All I can get out of it is that it is in the heart of God and still must be.

Yet in time we had to go to the cross. But I can tell you now that the cross will never be erased. It's still at the center of the heart of God.

And so is his mercy. So is his mercy. I wish we wouldn't try to be theologians and we'd just rejoice in the wideness and the wonder and the glory of the mercy of God.

I wish that it would thrill our hearts again and again and again that he shows mercy to us. And I wish it would so thrill us and melt us and tenderize us, if that's a good word, that we'd come up with this solution

that, if all might is good, would set his affections on such a worm as ours. Surely the wickedest sinner that ever arrived and wriggled his way to hell need not be disturbed, for as it should please God, he wouldn't have any trouble showing mercy on anybody's head.

And the reason I know it, I have felt the power of being an object of his mercy in my own soul. And if he show mercy to me, there isn't a sinner in Birmingham too big for God. I remember my seminary professor, I mean president, Dr. L.R. Scarborough.

He was a man who couldn't read over soap. God help you if you ever get where you came. You are terror, you are scourge, you are disgrace.

In the name of my sight, you can handle the grave truth of eternity without a tear in your heart. If you can talk to lost men and women, they cannot hear a tear and a tear and a heartache and a heartache and agony. If you talk to them, you need to pray, pray, pray, weep, weep, weep, that God will break your heart.

And then break it again, and keep on breaking it. And if you share some of the compassion with him, who is looking on with a multitude, with birds of compassion, which means he'll pull out his heart and let it bleed over them. Dr. Scarborough could weep.

He told a story when he was a pastor in his young days in Abilene, Texas. He preached one Sunday morning, came home and lying down flat on his back on the bed while his wife was preparing the Sunday noon meal, resting a little from the message. And said his little six-year-old boy climbed up on the bed and straddled his stomach, was jumping up and down to help him relax, you know.

And finally the little boy said, Daddy, I didn't believe what the Sunday noon teacher said to me. Dr. Scarborough said, You didn't. He said, No.

And the preacher said, Well, Sonny, what did the teacher say that you didn't believe? Why, he said, You know, Daddy, the teacher told us about a big old fish following a man by the name of John. He said, I don't believe a word. He said, I don't believe there ever was a fish.

Big enough to follow a man. And the preacher said to himself, Yeah, I got a rebellion in my own right. Let's see what I can do about it.

Boy, he doubted. He racked my brain. He said, Well, Jimmy, that's the boy's name.

He said, Suppose that God made the man. And suppose that God made the fish. Don't you suppose that God could make a fish big enough to swallow a man? And the little boy said, But now, Daddy, if you don't bring God in it, that's different.

Well, thank God that's where it is. We're a fool. And what purpose, and what joy, and what expectancy a child of God will have in speaking to any and everybody about the power of God in salvation when we're at first Jesus Christ, the one who was humiliated by being born in a couch table and crucified in the most terrible death that the mind of man can conceive.

Buried in a man's grave, wrapped in borrowed clothes, perfumed in spices he couldn't pay for. And now, he's been exalted to be a Pope and a Savior for the year. He's got something in his hands.

He can give repentance to the vile that sent her out of hell and grant the knowledge of forgiveness to everybody that pleases him. My, if you ever soak your soul in that shit and sit down there juicing the devil's

face and tell him to go back to hell, we can occupy some territory for this exalted Christ, and we can look every man in the face and know the salvation, the gifts of the sovereign Redeemer, who brought to men and women the grace of repentance and the gifts of the forgiveness of sin. Because that's what he's raised for.

If he'd show mercy to me, he wouldn't have any trouble showing mercy to somebody else. Oh, give thanks, ladies and gentlemen, for what happened to the praise our father knew about. Just praise him, just praise him.

Brother, cry out your heart, cry out your heart, until you're just bubbling. Give thanks! Come on! Come on, Mannerheit! Wash the pan off your feet! Put out the defeatism that characterized us! Stand up on your hind legs in the glory and the power and the joy and the assurance of an exalted Lord! And no, we can't lose, come hell or high water. Give thanks unto the Lord.

The second verse speaks of the work of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Redeemer. Get out of the way! While God's people ask whom he hath redeemed. I've got some scars in my body.

Them old spirits that have tried the battle for one who's not sent to let some bother. He's done something. He's a part of us.

Of the redeemed. Rained. Sanctified.

Keeping. Raised of Almighty God. On the basis of the purpose and the work of Almighty God.

The most terrible sin I find in the catalog of the Bible. Is taking the name of the Lord by God's name. And it disabused yourself of the idea.

That that happened down in the garages and business places and on the streets as men did what they did. Cursed. No, no.

That means to dare. To stand up. Listen to me.

To stand up in a hostile world. And take his name on you. Unless you've got a right to.

God bless your heart. If there's one thing you ought to do. Dead person.

You don't rush into it. It's this business. Of daring to claim.

Look at me. Look at me. I'm not my own.

I'm bought with a price. Look at me! I'm the apple of God's eye. I'm the object of his affection.

I'm his magnificence. I'm part of his inheritance. His inheritance.

Look at me! You see what a powerful God they are. Look at me! You see what the mercy of God's power. What a difference it makes.

Look at me! I'm not the end of a proposition or the result of a formula. I'm the handiwork. I'm the purpose.

I'm the grace of God. I'm a miracle. I'm a new creation.

Only God can create. You can't make a flea or grow a tree. And a Christian is a new creation.

He's created in Christ Jesus. He's a part of the person that you are. That's the redeemed of the Lord, say so.

Not somebody that cooperated and God did part and you did the other. But God's always the giver and you're always the receiver. I'm a charity.

I am what I am by the grace of God. Just look. What? How great thou art! Who can change a poor man's state? Make him clean and set him free.

Put his feet on a rock. Establish his glory and put a song in his heart. And give him heaven on the way to heaven.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so. I've closed lips to give you testimony. You say, Brother Barnard, I'm loyal to the Church.

You can't be loyal to the Church unless you head over heels in love with the head of the Church. Well, I support the program of the Church! Well, I know. How about this? Let the redeemed of the Lord say so.

And verse 3 is the work of the Holy Ghost. The work of the Holy Ghost. Whom? Let the redeemed of the Lord say so.

Whom he's redeemed from the hands of the enemy. And gathered at the Holy Ghost's Word. And gathered them out of the land from the east and from the west and from the north and from the south.

And this is God the Holy Ghost. He knows it's me. I'm going out here around the world.

I'm going over here around the world. I'm going over here around the world. He's gathering me.

It's the Holy Spirit. In order for man to be saved, he becomes an object of God's mercy. He becomes an object of the dying of man.

He becomes one for whom the Holy Ghost brings the dead. Bring the dead! The work of the Holy Ghost. And the rest is the psalm.

Here's the most beautiful thing in this picture showing how the Holy Ghost gathers the objects of God's mercy, the objects of the working person of man into the fold. Have you ever read these lines? Let's read them. And then we'll go home.

Verse 4. Here's how the Holy Ghost works. These folks, the objects of God's mercy. These folks, the subjects of Christ's death.

Here's the Holy Ghost gathering them in. How's he doing? Well, he brings them, as verse 6 says, in verse 13. We'll read them in a minute.

In verse 19 and verse 28. Four different times. He brings them in different ways, the Holy Ghost.

Using this means and that. No two people ever have exactly the same spirit. You can't get your little recipe.

Not as long as you're preaching a great gospel. I've had to fight for this. They say, well, our custom here is so-and-so.

And I've actually had people come up to me and say, Brother Barney, you ought to give people a chance at the Savior. They mean by that that we ought to stand and sing a song. And give what we call a public invitation.

People can't be saved unless you do that. And that's the poor people they've been taught that. But isn't that terrible? The poor little old fellow like me has got to do something for a sinner.

Got a chance to be saved. That's terrible. And yet we've had to battle it.

Other people say, well, I tell you, I believe you've got to go do more of those things. I'm not against any of these things. Any way on God's earth.

You can get into a living relationship where you touch the living Christ and P-O-W-E-R power, supernatural power. Flow from a living Christ into your life and make you a brand new, utterly different person. Any way you can get that's all right with me.

I ain't going to worry about which way you will go at it. I'm just simply saying that you can't get it all fixed up and say God's got to work this way. And here in this chapter, he always brings a person to a certain place where he's saved.

And that place, verse 6 tells us, the Holy Ghost, and this is what I want you to see tonight, beloved. He brings people to the place of trouble. And he brings them into a place of such terrible trouble that they'll do what they'll never do.

Otherwise, they'll call on the Lord. Then, we'll go back and see how he brought them there in a minute. Then, that's when things took place, you see.

Then, they cried unto the Lord in that trouble. They wouldn't cry until they got in trouble. Yes, one place I know, Brother Barnett knows what he's talking about.

God Almighty doesn't cross your path and whittle you down and take all your peace away from you and rob you of all your assurance and get you down to where there's not a wiggle left in you and hem you up where you've got no way of getting up except to look up. He don't, in mercy, deal with you that way. You're going to go to hell, it sure is off on you.

Then, they cried in their trouble. And where's Charlie? A personal worker king, God bless him. I wish you was a personal worker.

I don't think you're a Christian unless you are. But a misguided personal worker comes to that old boy in trouble and quotes him a verse of scripture and gives him assurance of salvation. And the boy goes to hell, sucked into assurance the personal worker gave him.

But does God ever change you? He's going to, by the work of the Spirit, using the means of God's grace, bring you to such terrible trouble you'll take nothing but the deliverance power of God for an answer. Nobody on God's earth will have to pump you up and assure you every six months that you're a Christian. Our Baptist churches have to have revival every six months to get people to rededicate themselves.

They never have experience in deliverance. And so, they don't know whether they save them or not. They're awful worried about it.

So they have to get the backsliders to come back. People to rededicate themselves. I've been going up and down the land for 37 years.

Nearly every place I go at three, four nights, people say, if what he's preaching is so, I don't know whether I'm saved or not. Well, God bless your heart. I'm looking you straight in the face and telling you this.

This ain't no makeshift damn stuff. Salvation is delivered from the spirit of this evil age. Salvation is delivered in him that power comes into your life that wasn't there.

I hope God will get you in such trouble. You'll cry to him. You'll keep on crying until you experience deliverance.

So use it. So use it. In God's name, don't go to hell trusting the doctors.

In God's name, keep tugging at the coattails of the risen Lord until it is nailed to his hand. He delivers you from deep guilt and burden of sin. Know this, captain, and I'll let you go.

Verse 4. Look how the Holy Spirit goes to work. That's how I want you to start praying around here and witnessing as you never have done before. Be an instrument in the hands of the Holy Ghost.

What does he do? Well, he begins to deal with men and he makes wanderers of them. They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way. They had a revival meeting and they got converted.

You see, this generation got converted, but they never got acquainted with Christ. They can tell you when they're saved, but they don't know the Lord. We isolated, we separated salvation from Christ about 50 years ago and made salvation an heir.

When people get salvation, they never get Christ. How about you? They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way. Wanderers! They lied here, but the Holy Spirit comes, take a stick and punch them, cut them up.

And then the next meeting day, they rededicated themselves. And that made them feel good for a week or two, but the Holy Ghost came and took all of that away. They started looking somewhere.

They changed churches. This is some other different person. He gave a dime to the beggar.

He did this and did that and did the other. But praise God, the Holy Spirit wouldn't let them alone. Praise Him.

They couldn't find any place to lie. They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way and they could find no place to dwell in. No place for foundation.

And they wandered, couldn't find any resting place until they were hungry and thirsty. And then they got so hungry and thirsty that their souls faded in there and all the wiggle was gone. Then they cried unto the Lord.

Couldn't do it till then. They trusted Brother Griswold. They said, how many of you folks want me to pray for you? And you lifted your hands.

You trust old Brother Griswold's prayer and you go on home and go to sleep while he stays up all night and prays for you. You don't trust anything on God's earth until the Holy Spirit is approved for His disposal.

He just routes you out.

He closes you out and you wander. You get hungry and thirsty. You've got no strength.

Then when all hope is gone, hallelujah, the most glorious times I've ever had this part of eternity. It would have been a long run and then they shut up and they go to quarrel with the Lord. That's where salvation's been all time.

It's in his hands. And the attended Lord. And all power to transform a life is there.

If you do not have supernatural power in your life, you're not in touch with the source of power. That's the living Lord. Four times in this chapter, He comes out in different directions.

He brings people to the places. I pray as I go up and down the land, Lord. Whittle us down, church people.

We're not hungry, we're hungry yet. We'll still sleep well, eat well, live well. While the power of God's still not on us.

We're not very hungry yet. We're not very thirsty for a living God. Lord, bring us this.

Maybe I'll live to see the day in America when the church will have to meet on the ground. Maybe we'll start living there. Oh, I do love to see an old man.

I just took a little food out of him. I love to see him. He ain't sleep, he ain't eat.

Oh, God. If something happened to him, he'll get into trouble, he'll call on the Lord. And that's where blessing's been all time.

He's got it now. And isn't it great when they do? Doesn't have to, but he delivers. Amen.

And I want to close by reading you verse 7 and 8. And then I think one other verse. How does this do here for a picture of what it means to be a child of God? There's indeed trouble and they call him. He delivers! He delivers! How does that express it? Praise God.

He led them. By the R-I-G-H-T. R-I-G-H-T.

That they might go to a city of heaven. Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness. And for his wonderful works to the children of men.

And then say in the end of this next verse. For he satisfies the longing soul and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. He does.

He does. I think I want you to turn to verse 29. I'm going to teach you another one and then tell you a story.

Verse 28. Verse 28. Amen.

I got a right to ask this congregation. If you haven't had the truth, I'll choose up and take that. There's no excuse for you not knowing the way God works.

Oh, I got a right to ask you. The salt that goes down with your tears in any state. God brings people to the end of themselves.

He has to. Or nobody will ever call on you. Isn't that right? Do you believe that? For water is with tears in prayer.

That's how I miss him most these days. But I want to read you this description of what it means to be a child of God. Verse 29.

They're in deep trouble. He brings them out of distress. He makes it a storm of calm.

He does that. So that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad? Because they be quiet.

So he brings them under their desire of healing. Isn't that blessed? Isn't that blessed? He does that. He leads his disciples along.

Some through the waters, just floods. Some through the fires, all through the floods. He leads them along.

But they may come to their desire of healing. Pass me not. Will you stand and sing a gentle lullaby.

Hear my heart cry a lullaby. Sing, sing a lullaby. Is that right, my friends? Is that right, my friends? Oh, this confused religiously cockeyed generation of Christian people.

To demonstrate that we can get the attention and air of almighty. And that in our day, men shall feel ...

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