

You Can't Resist the Holy Ghost and Get By

by Rolfe Barnard

Rolfe Barnard's sermon calls for a recognition of Jesus as both Savior and Lord, emphasizing the urgency of repentance and the reality of God's judgment in a pleasure-seeking world.

Duration: 1:02:16

Scripture: Luke 13:6, Galatians 6:7

Topics: "Gods Grace", "Sin Judgment"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher reflects on the powerful hymn 'Amazing Grace' and its significance in his life. He recalls singing the hymn with an elderly man, emphasizing the transformative power of God's grace. The preacher then shares a personal experience of witnessing to a young boy about the love of God and the gospel. However, he realizes that he should have started the conversation by addressing the issue of sin, as Jesus always did. He passionately speaks about the consequences of sin, including hell and judgment, and questions why God has not yet punished sinners. The sermon concludes with a mention of the preacher's desire to spread the message of revelations to G.I.s and encourages Christians to do the same.

Transcript

I'm speaking the only message of the campaign on the second coming of the Lord. The signs of his coming, what the scripture teaches, what we believe it teaches, and the subject will be why I pray that the Lord will return in my lifetime. I don't know whether he will or not.

I couldn't tell you that he will. But I sure know from some study of the word of God about what's going to happen when he comes, and what can't happen until he does come. I sure pray he'll come while I'm alive.

Then Saturday night, we want the greatest service if we can be in the will of the Lord as far as crowds. The weekend comes, we'll need all of these seats, and people will come as they do anyhow, and sit in the cars that the model has to, we believe, over this weekend. And we're preaching our message on revelations of an ex-chaplain, a message that I want a great hearing for if God will be pleased to honor that desire.

I want G.I.s to hear me especially. I want every Christian to do what you can, and get a G.I. to hear that special message. And then Sunday night, the 830 o'clock hour, we're bringing the best message God has ever been pleased to give us.

The only message that we preach in every campaign, the message that God has used to bring so many to the Lord, the subject will be that God of the Bible kills people where they kill you. You know, this generation has built them a little God. The truth themselves and the holy character of the Bible, God, is well not unknown.

This generation knew what kind of a person God would be. This generation would be afraid to flaunt their sinfulness in his holy nostrils. Now, God never set out to save everybody.

Before the foundation of the world, God looked down and saw everybody that he, by the use of his means, could make willing to be saved on his terms. And he's going to save those people. But even God, using the means at his disposal, can't save everybody because they're not willing to be saved from their sin.

And God Almighty is going to do the job he started out to do. I'm glad for that. I'm certainly glad for that.

You know, just a few people are going to be saved. Do you believe that? Jesus said so. We didn't come to Nashville expecting that everybody in town would like our message.

I do not believe any man can preach the truth now and get great pride. I don't try to get great pride. We want to get everybody who can.

But most people will just worship a God that will let them live like the devil and not bother them. And most people want a Jesus that will not interfere with their own way of living. And this generation's got to the challenge, brother.

And God's going to accomplish his purposes through preachers and churches that stay true to the books and the souls of men and press the responsibilities upon men, hold them up before his character and his holiness, and shut them up the best we can to the Lord Jesus Christ. Today I received so many phone calls. I rejoice in them.

Hardly any rest because the phone's ringing, but we thank God it rings that way. And I say to you, my friends, that of course, after a little over a week of hard preaching four times a day and under the tent, you can put it down that not everybody in Nashville is as happy about preaching. But God is saving sinners.

They're being saved now as they listen to the radio. And we are grateful for it. A little woman came to me tonight after I got to the tent and said, God saved me last night.

She said, I never knew a person could be as happy as I am today. And she said, my husband will be here tomorrow night, Saturday night and Sunday night, and I want to see him saved too. And then a woman said that last night she came to study and her pastor was able to help her.

Now, of course, no God-called pastor will heal the wounds of a sinner slightly. We're not here to make people where they don't have any burdens and to settle all their problems. We're not here to fix it so you can just rest your arms and close.

Brother, I want Christians to be knee-deep in trouble all the time, fighting the devil and resisting sin. But I do maintain that it's the Christian's privilege to have peace of heart while you're in that battle. While the darks are flying from every direction, the child of God can have a peace that the world cannot give, and thank God it cannot take away.

Now it's praying time in Natchez, folks, and we ask all of you to keep on praying and witnessing. And we know, now I've got this much sense, I know that unsaved men and women, the first thing they do when they're challenged is to run. I did and you did too.

And I know that's so. And I know, unless this generation sees some more real agonizing at the throne of God and prayer, that we haven't got a bit of a chance for revival in your day and mine. Now we just will face that.

We cannot be spectators and have God give revival. He's not going to wish revival upon us. But people are being challenged and some are praying and some are being saved, and the devil is fighting.

We're bucking all of the little league baseball and everything else that picture shows, and the sinfulness of men and the work of the devil. But thank God if you keep on praying. Nearly where I go, I drive my first crowd away, and then we pray and preach them back, and then a lot of them go to get saved.

Did you know that? There's never been a revival any other way. You can't have revival and keep the devil in a good unit. Sister, you keep on praying, will you? Just keep on praying.

I want to see sinners crying out to God, and I thank God for the victory last night. Now tonight, why can you revel? Why you can revel in booze and lust? Some of you know that God rejects Jesus as Lord, rejects the strivings and woings of the Holy Spirit. Why can you do all of that and not be cut off at once by a holy God and sent to hell? My friends, I'm not a pessimist.

A pessimist is a person, an optimist, somebody says, is a person that's just got one eye open, and a pessimist is a fellow that's just hasn't got any eyes open. But I'm not a pessimist, nor am I an optimist. I try to be a realist.

But ladies and gentlemen, there never was a time when this world of sinners had as much light from Almighty God about his character and his will and his provisions of grace and mercy as today. And sin is measured in terms of life. My friends, listen, if that be true, and it is, every progression of knowledge and life brings responsibility.

And when men sin against what they know to be wrong, to be right, their responsibility is great. There isn't a man or a woman in the city of Natchez, hardly, that isn't doing, isn't sinning against what he knows to be right. This generation of unsaved men and women weren't born in ignorance or in heathenism.

They were born in America, in the shadow of gospel churches. Now God hasn't got a big preacher on the horizon today. There isn't a living preacher on the face of the earth that can get a crowd to hear him preach.

That's so. But God's got hundreds and thousands of little peanut preachers, just little one-gallon preachers, that are preaching the truth as it is in the Bible, as it is in Christ Jesus. This is not the day when God's doing big things.

This is the day when he's not using one man, but he's using hundreds of little men. This is the day not when he's got a John Wesley or a D.L. Moody or a George Whitefield or a Sam Jones or a John Cine. This is the day when he's got hundreds of little preachers and churches that are standing on the street corner crying aloud, causing the people to hear about that transgression, calling people to mourn and to wail their sins and afflict themselves and plow up the sour ground in their hearts and, as the scriptures say, convert

themselves.

The scripture says, the sinner saves thyself. There is a responsibility upon the part of the sinner. The old-time preachers used to say that man's not on trial, he's on probation.

Sometimes if you do not use that word probation in its right sense, it might give the wrong impression. But rightly used, the old-time preachers said that that simply meant that man's not on trial, he's already tried, but he is on probation. God is letting him have some time to see whether or not that man, in all his faculties, in possession of his willpower, his brain and his heart, hearing the truth, getting light from God, to see whether man will apply himself to repentance of sin toward God, to faith in Jesus Christ, and to perseverance in holy living.

Probation. But men and women increasingly today, instead of spending their time seeking God are spending their time seeking pleasure. This is a day when men revel in everything imaginable to satisfy the desires of their bodies and of their minds and of their sinful hearts.

Be captured on the life of most people today is eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die and the devil notwithstanding, to the contrary, we've just got one life to live and we're going to have a good time in this life while we have it to live. Never in the history of the world was so much booze being drunk, so much lust being indulged in. So many people gone plumb, slack-dab crazy over some kind of silly pleasure.

This is a day when this old world has the Saturday night carnival spirit. Nobody ever stays at home at night. They're out going somewhere.

They're too tired to go to church, but they've got to go somewhere to have a good time. This is a day of eat, drink, and be merry, and yet almighty God doesn't take this pleasure-mad world and cut it off and send it to hell now. Tonight we want to ask if we can in the Bible why.

This is a day when people bum their noses at a holy God. In Galatians chapter 6 and verse 7, I think the verse is verse 7, the Word says, Be not deceived. God is not mocked.

What things soever a man soweth that shall he also reap. Now that expression, God is not mocked, the Greek on it is, Be not deceived. Don't thumb your nose at God.

Don't thumb your nose at God. And yet that's what people do today. Let a preacher begin to draw the line and let him preach that the gospel is not less holy than the law of God.

And let him preach that God's Son didn't come down here to die so that men could do as they pleased, but he came down here to die so that men unable to, and yet blamable because they do not, unable to please God because of their heart imitated to him in his holy law. Jesus Christ came and endured the penalty that was our just due. And the power of the Holy Spirit, no man's saved unless he's got the Spirit, the power of the Holy Spirit gives us that which God requires and we have not been able to perform, gives us the ability to live as God would have us live and to please Him in our daily walk.

And yet this is a day when men and women lawlessly cry away with all restraint and we'll show to the wind and we'll not hear anybody that tells us if we show to the wind we'll reap with the whirlwind. If we show to the faith we'll reap with the faith corruption and men thumb their noses at a holy God and God doesn't cut them off and send them to hell. Why doesn't it? Why doesn't it? This is the day, superbly the day, preeminently the day of rejection of Jesus as Lord.

My preacher brethren, you hear me? I'll get out on my back here and let you walk over me if you want to, if it will help you to preach as we ought to preach. And I remind you that for nearly two generations we've lost the Jesus of the Bible and we've preached a mutilated Jesus and a cut half in two Jesus and we've left out the fact that Jesus was declared by the resurrection to be Lord as well as Savior and that the Lordship of Jesus Christ cannot be ignored by men and women and get to heaven when they die. I thank God I had the privilege of going to Southwestern Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Dr. W.T. Conner, he's now gone to Glory, was the teacher of systematic theology and he used to drill us young preachers in the doctrine. He taught us what election means. He taught us predestination.

He taught us adoption. He taught us justification. He taught us regeneration.

He taught us sanctification. He taught us glorification. He taught us the doctrine of the fall.

He taught us the doctrine of the cross. He taught us all the great doctrines of the word of God and he used to ring the changes on the fact that God Almighty demands as a condition to salvation upon the part of the sinner repentance toward God and he said repentance toward God means that the love of sin must die, must die in a man's soul and that when the love of sin is died the sinner must turn his heart absolutely and really no sham and no make-believe he must renounce it and repudiate it and forsake it and turn from it all of it and try to God for deliverance from its power and then he said the other condition that God Almighty requires of sinful men is absolute saving faith and he said what is true is what I wish would be sounded from every pulpit in America for the next era that saving faith means surrender to Jesus Christ as Lord and trust in his atoning work as Savior and I say to you that the Lordship of Jesus Christ is the doorway to the kingdom of God in spiritual salvation and there is no other God Almighty requires a heart's objection to Jesus as Lord and a mouth's objection of him as such and he'll save nobody who tries to get into the kingdom by denying the Lordship of Christ in his life now everybody wants a Savior everybody wants a Savior you can go to the jail and you can preach a harsh gospel and present the Savior and all the folks are anxious to have a Savior but they don't even want a Lord don't even want a Lord but I tell you you can't have my Jesus as Savior if you deny him his place as the absolute King and Lord and Master and Ruler of your life did G.

Campbell Morgan said young preacher start at the beginning and preach the Lordship of Jesus Christ since I've been in this town over the radio and here I've been preaching repentance repentance look and listen toward the Lordship of Jesus Christ no man can have my Jesus as Savior until he mourns in his heart and renounces and repudiates the fact that he has placed hell where Jesus demands that he alone shall be Jesus must reign he's going to reign in this whole world some of these days we'll hear Friday night but he's going to reign in your heart if he saves you I believe in salvation by grace but not salvation by disgrace I believe in Roman 5 21 where as sin did reign grace doth now reign but not apart from righteousness grace reigns through righteousness that means that salvation by

grace is not something that God accomplishes and makes possible for you and does away with his righteousness to man but it means that God almighty conquers your rebellion and establishes a multitude in your soul that makes you want to do right before he puts up the white flag of peace and forgives you of your sin and constitutes you a citizen or a member of his eternal kingdom this is the day of the redemption of the Lord Jesus Christ he's got a right to reign he's got a right to reign he ought to reign oh and yet he doesn't till the cry of this generation is we will not have this man to reign over us and the tragedy of this hour is this is a day when people if their preacher insists that Christianity means submission to Jesus as

absolute Lord and Savior why they'll just quit dishes and

go call a church that's got a preacher that'll let them do as they please all week and come in at different holy hands on the Lord's day and proclaim the holy people of God and call it Christianity but Ralph Barnard doesn't know much I don't know much if their preacher knows everything about the Bible he's a dead duck I want to learn I study like a dog I want to preach the truth I wouldn't go up and down this country these meetings get hard I tell you they kill me my wrists are blue I want to die and I just can't stand it in my strength and I have to go to the book of Revelation and go over there and find out that poor blood that's going to gather a bunch of people redeemed out of every kindred and tongue and nation and I dip my hands in some of the blood of my Lord and I put it on my

heart and my lips and my eyes and my tiny body and I throw some of it at the devil and tell him to go back to hell I'm going to keep on preaching I'm going to keep on preaching for I've got to stand before God at the judgment and I want to preach as a dying man to dying men I haven't got any time to pat people on the head oh my friends everybody I have preached to needs to get down to the business of wholehearted loving obedience to Christ I'm going to surrender him and be saved that's right folks that's right I don't know the hearts of people I'm not God almighty but I tell you that this generation denies my Jesus the place he demands he demands absolute lordship in your lives my heart breaks within me people say I don't think there's anything wrong with this nobody asked you nobody

asked me Jesus must reign you must bring every thought into captivity to him you must let him control you he'll be lord of all or I insist he will not be lord of all so in a meeting where God was blessing and all hell was fine in my home city Western Salem a big worldly Baptist church was being shocked and God was saving and lives were being changed and a broken hearted woman cried out while I was preaching in the morning service and she said there about had been told all my life that Christ ought to have first place in the life of his child I said that's not so sister Christ does Christ does he won't have second place he won't have second place you can't crowd him out oh I know you talk about you got saved and then you went back to the world and you said goodbye to Jesus and then you

came back I just sat there fresh my friends oh my sheep hear my voice and they follow me oh they may make imperfect tracks like this poor old sinner and they like this poor old may make imperfect tracks like this poor old sinner and they may make imperfect tracks like this poor old and they may make imperfect tracks like this poor old sinner and they may make poor old and they may make imperfect tracks like this poor old sinner and they may make imperfect tracks like this poor old and they may make imperfect tracks like this poor old sinner and they may make imperfect tracks like this poor old and they may make tracks like this poor old and they may make imperfect like this poor old and they may make imperfect tracks like this poor old and they may make imperfect like this poor old may

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Then he said unto the dresser of the vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none.

Come to the ground, for I cumbereth at the ground. And he answered and said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it, and if it bear fruit, well. And if not then after that, thou shalt cut it down.

Why hadn't God already cut you down? Why don't he? I was only meeting Chicago years ago, and I went down State Street to the Pacific Garden Mission. About a block before I got to State Street during the Depression, every communist in America had him a soap box and was standing on the corner. In some cities, in New York City, I tried to hold street meetings, pastor of the church in the city where I was preaching, they wouldn't let me.

But the police would let communists stand on the street corner, and the police would give them protection. The communists cussed the government, cussed God, and cussed everybody. And I stood there, a communist was just raised and came, and oh boy, he's having him a time.

And he's calling God every dirty, unthinkable name he could think of. And finally, he's just getting so all roused up that he began to shake his fist up toward heaven, and he called God a lot of dirty names, said you're dirty, so-and-so, so-and-so, God. They say you're up there, I don't believe you.

And if you're up there and you don't like what I'm saying about you, why don't you come on down here and do something about it? God didn't do a thing. Why? Why? Why? Why didn't God kill you? God had the power to. Ladies and gentlemen, why hasn't God killed you? You're a haughty rebel.

You won't let God run your life. You tell Jesus he cannot rule in your heart. When the Spirit knocks at your door, you say, not tonight.

I got other fish to fry. I'm not willing to surrender to Jesus. People tell me, Brother Barnard, I want to be a Christian, but I'm afraid I can't hold out.

That ain't so. That ain't the reason you don't want to be a Christian. The reason you don't want to be a Christian is you're afraid you might hope that your Lord, if he ever becomes the absolute Lord of your life, will demand perfect obedience and holiness of heart and hard obedience to him.

And you say, I don't want to, because I can't hold out. You know you're telling a story. Why don't God kill you right now? You're a haughty rebel.

You defies his authority. I warn you, God's love is a holy love. And the Scriptures say, thou hatest all workers of iniquity.

Thou hatest all workers of iniquity. God's not less to send down as to how he regards those who've openly and persistently defied him. Again and again the Bible makes known to us the solemn fact that God looks upon the wicked as combers of the earth.

Why don't he cut you down as repugnant to him? He says they're gross and not gold. They're worthless cats. They're vipers.

They're vassals of dishonor. They're vassals of wrath. He says they're as trees whose fruit withereth.

Without fruit, why is it plucked up by the roots and baffles it for nothing but the fire? Why does God cut men off now in disenviwing the fact that the reason, that the fact that they're not being cut off now leads men to presume and sin presumptuously and take advantage of the mercy and long-suffering of God? In Ecclesiastes 8, verse 11, we read the cause. Sins against an evil word is not executed petally. Therefore, the heart of the sons of men is foreshadowing them to do evil.

Though a sinner, watch it, though a sinner do evil a hundred times and his days be too long, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God which fear before him. But it shall not be well with the wicked. Neither shall he prolong his days which are as a shatter because he fearest not God.

Why doesn't God cut this generation off? The day's coming when he is. The day's coming when he's going to cut one generation off. The day's coming when he's going to thrust in the sickle and the blood of men shall form a pool a hundred miles around, deep enough to form up to the bridles of horses.

Is that literal? I don't know. But it's a terrible picture of the carnage when, by God, pity is no more. And in the day of the feast, of this is his wrath, sending his armies, he comes and takes the wicked and them that do iniquity, and everything that offends, and casts them into the lake of fire and the lake of brimstone.

Why don't he do it now? He doesn't do it because Jesus Christ hung on Calvary's cross and changed God's throne from a throne of judgment to a throne of grace and mercy. And grace now reigns, and mercy is now extended, and God delighteth in mercy, and good smoke waits, and oh, men and women are now to hear the wondrous story of the grace and the mercy of Almighty God. The scriptures say three things about God's mercy.

Paul said, I obtain mercy. I obtain mercy. The scripture is very clear that men need mercy, not justice.

Brother, if you get what's coming to you, you'll be sent to hell. Your heart is against God. Your feet are swift to shed blood from the time of your mother's womb.

You go about speaking lies and hypocrisies. I'm quoting the word of God. There's none that doeth good, no, not one.

There's no none righteous. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Oh, my friends, we need mercy and not justice.

When I was living in Oklahoma, in Tulsa, a man by the name of Cunningham in Oklahoma City was arrested and accused of having murdered his wife. The police had found his wife's body cut in many little pieces and put in a tow sack and tied and sewed securely and then some iron weights were put on the tow sack and it was floating down and floating, going down to the bottom of the river that flows along to the side of Oklahoma City. And they got some evidence, I was torn up, but they arrested the husband and

they brought him to trial and they tried him before twelve men and the jury said he's guilty and the judge pronounced that he should be hanged by the neck until he be dead on a certain day.

They took him down to the Huntsville Penitentiary in, to the McAllister Penitentiary in Oklahoma and there was awaiting the time of the execution of the sentence of the court that had already been passed. He was a multimillionaire and he used all of his money. He hired a set of brilliant lawyers and they circulated petitions all over Oklahoma and got hundreds and thousands of people to sign the petition and urge the governor to commute his sentence to life imprisonment.

They went to try to get appeals, they took it to higher courts and higher courts and every time the court would say, guilty, guilty, guilty, they influenced newspapers and they worked for a solid year and got him state after state and finally the governor of the state issued his statement. He said, I've considered the evidence, I've examined the trial, I find that the evidence was properly handled and according to the evidence of the trial this man is guilty and I cannot face my God and commute his sentence and so this man had to go on and let him hang by the neck until he was dead. Oh my friend, oh, if all Ralph Barnard could do was go up and down the land and tell men of the strict justice of God and tell you that every sin is worthy of death and that God will by no means spare the guilty, I'd have played out long ago.

I go and I try to get men to see death die until they see that they need him to die and break the heart of any orphan out of hell if he ever faces it. But I tell you, I get a kick out of going and trying to get men along with it and trying to get them to see that they have no claims of God and then tell them if you're interested Jesus Christ, God Almighty's Son died on Calvary's cross for sinners in the blessed wonder-working hour in the shed blood of Jesus Christ to cleanse a man's heart to get his sins out of the blood and wiped off of this curtain of God's honor and to get him entrance into the kingdom of God. But that mercy, my friend, not just in the second place the Bible says that God's got plenty of mercy.

I sure am glad of that. God's not a pauper. Nobody's going to exhaust the storehouse of mercy.

Not many folks are ever going to feel they want mercy. Not many folks are ever going to cry for mercy. Most folks that get into the halls are going to pray, Lord, I thank you that I'm not like other men.

I do this and I don't do that. Not many are ever going to smite themselves and refuse to look up and say, God, be merciful to me, the biggest sinner out of hell. Oh, not many will do it.

Not many will do it. But everybody could, thank God. And if everybody could, God'd have plenty to go around.

God'd have plenty to go around. Let me read it in God's words. And you happy quickens who were dead in trespasses and sin where in time past he walked according to the course of the world according to the prince of the pow'r there I'm reading your biography before you receive the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience among whom also we all had our manner of living in time past in the lust of our flesh fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind and were by nature the children of wrath even as others but, thank God, but God, thank God, but God, oh, those are the two biggest words I've ever found in the Bible, but God, but God, who is rich in mercy, thank God, mercy thou was great and grace was free pardon thou was multiplied to me, thou light-burning soul found liberty at Calvary God got plenty of mercy the vilest sinner that ever writhed and wriggled his way to eternal hell if he just applied the courts of heaven for mercy, he found how God got plenty there's no sinner in this world too big for God oh, no, no sinner in this world too big for God, and the last thing the scripture says about God's mercy is that he's rich

in mercy to all who call upon him, he's rich in mercy to all who call upon him, the scripture says whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved what's that name, preacher? well, I don't know I don't know, well, I wonder if I could come and call tonight, he'd say I don't know, it doesn't say call five minutes or two seconds, it just says who first shall call, by you I'd call till old Bud Robertson said he called, and he called and he cried, and he waited on God, and he said there was one time when he decided God would never have anything to do with him, and thus came to the end of his own strength he said a miracle happened and he said God dropped a chunk of glory in my soul and it's been burning ever since you believe that? you believe that? oh, John Wesley I have his journal, brother Jiminy every preacher in this world ought to read that journal oh, John Wesley just read you a show he said I preached at St.

John's the day I'm told I'm the priest there no more the people were disturbed, the church people of that day, they went to church to take communion they didn't believe in inward experience, and old John Wesley was the preacher for many many years, and came to Georgia as a missionary, got in with some Arabians, and they kept telling that salvation was inward that it started inward and worked outward, and that salvation demanded inward holiness my brethren, I don't know John Wesley saw like some restless preachers, he didn't know everything, but he knew one thing he knew that something had to happen in here something got to happen in here my folks, something got to happen in here, got to be an operational spirit of God in here it'll make you hungry and thirst and pant after righteousness have you managed to see that?

I do, you managed to see that it showed, and he went to preach and asked, he got saved and they wouldn't let him preach, and the preachers hated him and cursed him and told all manner of lies and paid people money, you read that journal and the preachers would give people money and they'd go drag old John Wesley off his horse and beat him up and leave him for dead God worked a miracle and raised him up, and he'd get on his horse and go preach somewhere else oh my listen to me, whosoever shall call, well brother, keep on calling till God makes Jesus real to you don't let Ralph Barnett convince you, you know my Lord don't you know it my Lord said if any man thirsts, let him come unto me and drink sing in his presence until he does something for you I told people, I told a man last night he'd been making professions, and he came again last night, and he said there's no victory, there's no prayer there's no desire, don't let us talk into anything, he said watch yourself, you and me preacher I said I'd camp on God's tree I'd call on him I'd search his scripture I'd plow more broken hearts I'd afflict myself, I'd mourn I'd wait on God brother I believe that salvation is something my Lord does for you one of the marks of a false preacher is that he heals the wounds of sinners' life, oh don't be too quick my brother to dry that tear away, the tragedy of today is not people who have burdens, it's the people who don't have any, the tragedy of today is not people who don't have conflicts, brother I believe if you ever get saved the battle's gonna start, hell's gonna start popping if you ever get saved that's right brother somebody says well if you're saved you'd never have any doubt, no that's not so you never doubted your salvation I'll tell you why, you ain't got nothing to doubt there ain't no such thing as perfect doubt, perfect faith my brother there's no such thing as perfect faith you're not perfect yet and brother, faith, real faith and doubt go together but chronic doubt is a sure sign you're lost, but the devil makes his attacks and I'll never know people come to me and say brother Barney I thought I was saved but now I don't know I ain't gonna convince someone with I say if I was you I'd go along with God and I'd hang on to his coat tails till I found out, I did sure would, I did sure would oh Dr.

B.H. Cowell, the greatest priest in the world, that's this old country ever knew, said gentlemen if you've been saved one thing's dead certain the gospel came to you one time in power and God singled you out,

maybe you was in a big crowd, but you lost consciousness of everybody it was just you and God before anybody ever gets saved that sinner and almighty God get alone it may be down under a sycamore tree, it may be in a crowded auditorium but God will find you, he'll pick you out and the gospel will come not in words only, but in power and he'll make you a captive of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and I tell people, keep on coming to my Lord, maybe next time you'll touch the hymn of his goodness and blood shall go out unto you and healing waters will flow in your soul and you'll have the consciousness that you've touched God that you've touched God mercy to all who call on him thank God you know everybody's gonna get to heaven wants to go there everybody's gonna get saved that wants to be saved thank God everybody that wants to be saved, gonna be saved wicked old sinners will be saved I was holding a meeting in Detroit, Michigan one service after the benediction morning service old freckled face, red headed Mr.

Childers came up to me, worked the Chevrolet, Plantan, Detroit he said, preacher he said, if I'd come and get you tomorrow he said, I'll plan if you can, if you will he said, I'll lay off from work he said, I'll come and get you I couldn't tell you how to go he said, I'll come to 20 miles across town, get you and take you he said, there's a man over in my neighborhood that's dying of cancer of the stomach that he's drunk so much booze that it rusted out his stomach and cancer set in that he's been down in the sanatorium in the state of Georgia and the doctors told him he's gonna die pretty soon they couldn't help him and asked him if he'd like to be sent somewhere to die and he said, well I got no kinfolk except a sister in Detroit and I'd be much obliged if you'd ship me there and let her take care of me I'd like to die in my sister's home and so he'd been sent back there and this man's red-headed children had found out about him some way, and he'd been going to see him trying to witness to him and the man was awful wicked he said, he just cusses me he said, I never heard such wicked cuss words in all my life, and I've been a rough man he said, I tell you what, in fact I just sit there and cry as he cusses me he said, I can't get a word of the gospel over to him he said, when he's not full of dope he's just screaming in pain that cancer just gnawing his insides out and he said, look to me like a fella in that shape would be afraid to die and go to hell but he said, I can't get a word in egg-wise he said, preacher I got a lot of confidence in you and he said, I'll lay off tomorrow and I'll come and get you and take you over there if you go and talk to that fella before he dies he said, I don't know whether he'll do any good or not but I'd sure love for you to have a shot at him before he dies I said, you come and get me that night came a blizzard, next morning it was 11 below zero snow and ice everywhere old Childress didn't give up he chugged through the 20 miles of Detroit city traffic and the snow and the sleet and I finally got coming we got out in this car and chugged back we'd get stuck, it was awful I hadn't got the streets clean, it was just a terrible blizzard and finally we got over to where that fella was and we got out of the car and went in the house and in the porch and rang the doorbell and the sister came and admitted us and Mr.

Childress said, I brought the preacher to talk to your brother he said, I'm awful sorry Mr.

Childress said, the doctor's just left and said, my brother's in such terrible pain that he gave him a double shot of dope and said, he's sound asleep chances are he won't wake up several hours old red-headed Childress, he's a good conservative Baptist, but he slipped down on his knees and he began to pray and I'll tell you, it was a sight to listen to him pray, said Lord that man in that dime, I've driven 20 miles and back in the snow laid off from work, and this preacher's over here, and I want this preacher to get preached to this man one time before he dies, and he said Lord, please wake him up Amen, and the sister went in the room and the men she came back and said, praise the Lord he's awake, he's awake I don't know, you can go wild about that tonight, the God I worship ain't dead

folks he ain't dead I ain't got no time for these quacks these folks that claim they've got power to heal I ain't got no power, but God has God has, God has he don't heal a lot many folks but I've seen him heal some not many, not many most of the folks don't do but God ain't dead amen brother God ain't dead, and I saw him can't tell me God didn't go in there and wake that gal God's mercy we went in I was a little younger than I am now and I went at the old boy wrong, I tried to tell him about the love of God and the gospel and I got started pretty good and he come in to cuss us oh, he just cussed us off and when he kind of wound down, I did what I should have done to start with where should we start when we go to witness to men, tell them Jesus loves them? no, no, no talk about sin talk

about sin that's where it starts, that's where Jesus always starts sin what about this sin business and brother, I began to quote every scripture I could think about about sin, and I quoted all them, then I got on hell and I quoted every verse I'd ever memorized, and I just poured hell into that boy for about 20 minutes, and he'd start to cuss, and I'd talk louder, and I'd drown him out, and then I got on the judgment, I absolutely was without mercy, I went after him, and when I kind of wound down, he just sobbing like his heart was breaking, and finally he quit sobbing and said, preacher you were right, he said the reason I cussed this fella, the reason I cussed you so much is, he said it makes me feel a little better he said preacher, I'm dying he said this old cancer is eating me up,

and it's my fault and he said the doctor sent me back here to die, and he said I'll be in hell in a few days and maybe a few hours, and he said I'm scared to death and said it kind of makes me just feel a little better when I cuss somebody well I said brother, if I was in your shape, I wouldn't be cussing so much, it won't be long until you're in the hands of God, and he said well preacher, he said there's no hope for me, said a man's been as low down and as dirty and as mean as I've been and the preacher, the gospel doing, and pretty soon the spirit of God, that old devil hurt, and the gospel crying, and as he cried a little while, old red headed children I looked at him, John Brown he hadn't got over the top of the bed, just bawling like a stuck pig, and thanking God thanking God,

thanking God thanking God, and then he got up and he said preacher I told this fella that you sing sometime he said I wonder if you'd sing something for him, and I said well, I turned to the fella, he couldn't talk, said it's in a kind of a hoarse whisper, I said would you like any particular song he said preacher, said I ain't been in church in about 40 years, but said I was raised in a home where they went to church, and said my mother used to sing a song, said I've kind of forgotten some of it, but said I remember a little bit of it, it was something about Greece, it was something about Greece, and I said well I wonder if it went something like this amazing Greece how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me, I once was lost, but now I'm found was blind but now I see, said that's

it that's it, that's it that's it, and I sang through the first three verses, he held up his thing and said preacher I remember the last verse said I won't sing it with you, and an old croaking voice, we sang together when we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise, than when we first begun, that's why we left, we bundled up and got in the car, and we were chugging down the road, and that car just going that way, and I looked over an old children's eyes, filled with tears, and face bathed in tears, I said get over you fool, park, you gonna get us killed, what's the matter, he said I just thank you and praise you, he said ain't God merciful, he said I was the meanest lowest down devil that ever crawled on his belly to satisfy the

lust of the flesh, and in redeeming marvelous reign and grace, God conquered me and saved me and said now he just saved that old devil that drunk enough booze to rot out his stomach, and cursed God, and now

he's conquered me, we sat there together and we sang yes yes, we had a good time we had a good time the next day my phone rang and this sister said preacher my brother's dying, he wonders if you can make it, will you come, he won't tell you goodbye, and I got the pastor to take me through the city traffic but when we got there he'd gone to the other side, and the preacher the sister said well my brother said preacher's not going to get here, and he said tell him, tell him God has shown mercy to another sinner oh my friend judgment waits a little while mercy mercy is yours if you want

it but it's mercy for guilty sinners if you'll take your place as a guilty sinner, God will show mercy to you let it stand God God I want you and that boy, boy to come up here again will you, everybody stand I don't want your voices to go together, I want you to sing the first verse of the song he sang I want you to listen, my sinner friend, years I've spent in vanity and pride, sing a verse of it, will you?

Years I've spent in vanity and pride Caring not my Lord was truly fine Knowing not it was for me He died for me Calvary Mercy there was great and grace was free Pardon there was no reply to me sinner, do you want the mercy of God? Will you humble yourself, come down off your high horse, plead guilty and sue for mercy tonight, God will save sinners who plead guilty and plead the mercy of God Bow your heads out by the radio and cry to God, every head here under the tent, bow How many people here tonight say, preacher, I'm a guilty sinner I know I'm lost I know I'm lost I know God's not my Lord I want to see if you're honest How many here, lift your hand I'm not a Christian, I know it, way up high, way up high way up high, let me see it, way up high, don't be ashamed of it, way up high way up high God bless you all over the house Now what are you going to do about it?

Stand there and take chances on the judgment of God Or plead for mercy Whosoever shall call upon the name of Plead, whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord He's rich toward all who call Sinner, for God's sake, come tonight Humble yourself and seek him Cry out for his mercy Surrender to him as your Lord The pastors the workers, who can't trust your pastors, can't trust any But I trust them implicitly Want them to help you They'll be in the prayer room It's right here to my left I want you to walk this aisle And come and seek my Lord Tonight, cry to him Don't stand there Under his wrath Until he's cut you off While mercy is offered, man, young lady Men and women all over this tent God's helped you Just as I am Without one plea But that thy blood was shed for me Come on, come on, sinner Seek my Lord tonight Who'll be the first one to step out And say, I'm a sinner, need mercy And I'm going to seek it tonight I'm going to call on God for mercy tonight Come on, Holy Saints

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