

Two Roads Two Destinies 07 Ireland st.chapel

by Worth Ellis

The sermon explores the powerful influence of Satan in blinding and binding individuals, urging them to accept salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Duration: 42:18

Scripture: Matthew 6:33, Mark 5:25-26, Luke 13:10-17, John 19:30, Romans 10:9, 2 Corinthians 4:3-4, Ephesians 1:13-14

Topics: "Salvation Available", "Gods Sovereignty"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher begins by discussing the story of a woman with a spirit of infirmity for 18 years who was unable to lift herself up. He then emphasizes the power of the Word of God and the importance of being a child of God. The preacher also talks about the future reign of Jesus Christ and the salvation available to all who believe. He concludes by highlighting the obstacles that can prevent people from accepting the gospel, such as religious traditions and personal beliefs. Throughout the sermon, the preacher references the Gospel of Luke, chapter 13, verse 11, and uses personal anecdotes to illustrate his points.

Transcript

Two hundred miles to east of Homestead, Florida, lies a little island of Spanish Guelph, about a mile long and a half-mile wide. It's a private farm, sort of like a paradise, and a little off the coast of Florida. Frank and him, they are from, originated from Bermuda, and they are Portuguese by nationality, Christians by birth, that is the Ugar.

Frank is a good preacher, excellent preacher, far better preacher than the singer. Emily is south of Forty-Ten, filled with wild rice that just inflate down this wood. We are on the Spanish Guelph, and we want a fabulous vacation.

We're on that island with thousands of people, and I suspect that is the greatest thing I've ever seen. It's a marvelous place to go, one of the most exciting times I've ever had, the most critically refreshing experience in the island of Spanish Guelph in the Bahamas. It's a delight to have Frank, and in the will of God, our whole personal connection that we have to preach for.

Now, the Gospel of Luke, chapter 13, and verse 11. And, behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and couldn't know why it lift up herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loose from thine infirmity.

And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which ye are not to work, and then therefore come and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day. The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox, his ass, and his stall, and lead him away from worry? And what not this woman, she and the daughter of Abraham, mark these words, whom Satan hath bound, though these eighteen years be loose from this bond of distress? Second Corinthians, chapter four.

First you take Corinthians, Galatians, and Ephesians. If you've got the Galatians, you've got to back up a little. Second Corinthians, chapter four, and verse one.

Therefore, seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not. We have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor hailing the word of God their chief delict, but by manifestation of the truth, commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God, that if our gospel be veiled, it is veiled to them that are lost, and whom the God of this world hath blinded the thoughts of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on the dead. This morning, with the help of God, we shall continue our series of subjects or studies on the subject of the devil.

We started last Sunday evening, and we consider the origin of Satan. Learned from the word of God that he was created originally as an angelic being called Lucifer, who acted as a protective covenant for the presence of God. It is because he aspired to a place that God had not created him for, because of self-will and pride, he was deposed from this position.

And, although he morally fell, he has not yet been physically banished out of heaven down to earth. A little banishment of the devil out of the heavenly spheres over our heads awaits in Revelation chapter 12, when at that time the devil shall be cast down to the earth. We land on the authority of the word of God, which is our only book of reference, that the devil operates in the heavenly spheres primarily as a mortal being, and he is essentially a religious being.

He operates mainly in the sphere of religion and not in morality. You will find him in the church today far more often than you will in the brothel, the saloon, or the pool room. Now, remember that whenever Lucifer fell, he said, I will be like the most high God.

He won the position, the authority, and the power of God. He wields over this world in which we are now living today power that is absolutely astonishing. Let it be confident with human reasoning or no, the word of God teaches that the devil is the controlling power and the ruling authority of all of the kingdoms of this world.

Although he operates and exercises his power within the permissive will of God that is identified and manifested for us in the incident of Job, and Job gave Satan so much rope, and then a little more rope, but the power he wields today in the world is absolutely fantastic. Now, today as we move on in our subject on the doctrine of the devil, we're going to discover that not only does he wield unusual power in this world, but he wields unusual power over the lives of sinners. This morning, we want to talk about the work of Satan among unsaved people, his object.

In regards to your life, his design upon your life as an unconverted person. And then, tonight at 630, with the help of God in the Lord's will, we're going to speak of the work of the devil among God's people. We'll

find out tonight why there are so few people at the midweek prayer service, and why there are so few people who are really faithful to God in the truest sense of the word.

We're going to notice this morning that he exercises his power over unsaved people in a twofold way. First of all, he has the power to blind people, and secondly, he has the power to blind people. Now, we read a moment ago in Luke, chapter 13, of a woman who was a Lord healer.

It says this, that she was bowed over. She was a hunchback, walking around year after year after year, bent over and could not straighten herself up. When the Lord laid his hand upon her, and healed her, and immediately, Lotus Easton came to say she was made straight, and she glorified God.

Now, don't ever forget that any time a poor crooked sinner is saved by the grace of God and is made straight, he's going to show it. He will glorify God. No truth needs to be more emphasized today than this one.

No transformation, no regeneration. For one to render lip service to Jesus Christ, and to be an intellectual believer in an apology for Jesus, will not change your life. It only makes you a religious hypocrite.

But, to find out if you are lost and going to hell in the midst of the delay of prayer, and be convinced only according to the word of God that Jesus Christ died and opened the door and is a presence of God for you, and if on your way down this broad road that leads to death and hell, you repent, recur, turn to your own life, receive Jesus Christ, and you will be saved by the grace of God. And people today are bound by the devil. He finds sinners in so many different ways.

Generally speaking, we have brought before us here a picture of the devil and his work of finding people with the change of skins of various kinds. We won't go into detail. I'm not going in for any tirade against cigarettes or against whiskey.

Because, if I did, it wouldn't help me to quit smoking nor drinking even once. If you get saved, we are good by the grace of God. And, Lord, then, if you want to, and you want to, we'll take both of them away from you.

You see, my friends, the message of the gospel is not a negative message. God doesn't ask you to give up anything to be saved. You may be saved, received, and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.

The supernatural God's redeeming grace is a positive message that God loves you and Christ died for you. Well, I don't know what it is that's binding you this moment, but you are bound for having the opportunity that you had to become a Christian. How many times has your heart ever been stirred and you feel like this is it? I really ought to receive Jesus Christ as my Savior.

And yet, Sunday after Sunday, many of you, year after year after year, you still sit in your seat as if you're staring out of sightless eyes, and you seem to be bound by invisible chains that keep you from moving. So, the devil not only binds people to keep them from stepping into the door. Notice the door here? The only means of escape, or the only means rather of exit, I should say, from this dog world is meantime the death and destruction.

Jesus said, I am the door, by me is in and in and in. He shall be saved. Now, when Christ died upon the cross, the death of Jesus satisfied the judgment of God against us.

God brings it from the dead. The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead on a physical part is God's stamp of approval upon the sacrifice of Christ to take our sins away. All doubt has been forever removed that the death of Jesus satisfied the judgment of God against us.

All doubt has been forever removed that the death of Jesus Christ is that which paid for our sins, and not only for ours, but for all of them, for every one of them. For, I'll tell you on the authority of the Word of God, there's not a single positive statement that says this, yet I believe the Bible teaches it, that if the death of Christ had not been that which perfectly satisfied God's judgment, made it possible for God to justify the likes of you and me until we just in self, if the death of Jesus did not pay for sin, then God would have led his body to rock and Joseph's tomb. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is God's acceptance of the sacrifice of Christ to take away sin.

That's why, in the book of the Acts, you'll find that the emphasis in the gospel preached by the early apostles is placed more on the resurrection than it is on the death of Jesus Christ. It is the blood of Christ that takes our sins away. It is the resurrection of Christ that proves that the death of Jesus is that which saves us.

So, if you believe that Jesus died for you and God raised him from the dead, God will give you eternal life. Now, God does not, for one moment, place any emphasis or importance on your intellectual understanding of the truth, but your heart acceptance of it. Faith that saves never rests in the brain.

The path is through there, but it always rests within their dimension. That's what the Bible means when it says that thou shalt believe in thine heart, that God has raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart, man believes, and the righteousness is in the mouth.

Confession is made unto salvation. The difference between the heart and the mind in the word of God is not that there are two ways to believe. You can only believe that one organ in your body that's your mind.

The heart, in your language, in mine is synonymous with the affected. But, in the Bible, the word heart is used to distinguish between the outward shell of your personality and the real you. You see, you can tell me something, and what comes out of your mouth I don't know that it's what's in your heart.

How often we've learned this, very sadly, and what comes out of our mouth oftentimes reflects nothing at all of that which is really in our heart. So, it's not the heart that man believes, but it's literally within the brain that he is speaking of the real person. And, faith, primarily, is in the inward being and the object of faith is Jesus Christ, the firstborn son of God.

This is the record that God has given throughout the eternal life. This life is in his son. He that has a son has life.

He who has not the son of God has not life. Believe all the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. As many as receive him to them God gives the right to become his children, even to them that believe on his name.

This is the gospel, all right? But, when you hear it, you are bound. Now, there you sit. I don't know what's keeping you from trusting the Lord Jesus.

Now, there are so many different bonds that Satan inflames unsaved people with. We are accustomed to thinking, for example, of a baker of broken skins of life, does tremendously awful immoral deeds in acts of

our depraved flesh. But, I believe there are bonds that hold people from trusting Christ, that empower and authority over the life of an unsaved person strengthens all immorality.

I believe there are bonds that hold people in a vice-like grip that have extra-God-worth power to stole your life, to keep you from coming to Christ, and all of the immoral acts that have ever been or ever will be committed. I believe, for example, the bond of religion can keep people from being saved. The most difficult people in the world to reach the gospel of Jesus Christ are those because of strong traditional heritage, because of various kinds of religion.

And, I have met people in Protestantism, in another segment of professing Christendom, because of some particular religious background, also so entrenched in a tradition of bringing up that they are held in bondage. I had a man tell me on one occasion, after I became a Christian, I was working on a construction work that would move acres, blast beams, curtains, drawers, pipe-lining, welders. When I got saved, I was working for this fellow.

He was a foreman, and I was talking to him one day about how wonderful it was to be saved. He said, it's got to be, man. He said, anything can do, what that thing, whatever it is, son, but you must be good for everybody.

I said, praise God, it is. But, the problem is, everybody's not moving. I said, Charlie, you need to be saved.

He said, you know, I believe you're right, and I believe what you've got is right, because if it changes a man's life, it's got to be the right thing. So, he said this, and never forget it. I'd rather die and go to hell, and change my religion and break my mother's heart.

And, that's exactly what he did. He died, and he went to hell. Is that on his own confession? I wasn't judging him.

Strong religious tradition. I'll tell you, nothing gets a hold on the human heart like religion. Do you know the reason the Jewish people, in the days of the apostle, were so hard to get saved? So hard to reason? They had a God-given sacrifice, a God-given priesthood, a ritual of ceremony, and a temple, and everything that came from God.

And, let us never forget, the only God-given religion the world has ever known is Judaism. There's never been another religion given from the God of heaven except Judaism. But, what the Jewish people fail to understand is that when Jesus Christ was rejected, the Son of the Living God, and God manifested in a body of human flesh, that God cut the nation of Israel off.

The chapter of the book of Romans distinctly declares this, and set aside the nation of Israel, and then the gospel goes out to the Gentiles, and primarily to say that it is mainly the Gentiles that are being saved. Although Judas and Gentiles were on the same base, he had declared all of the kids there might have mercy on all, and now the law, the sacrifice, the ritual, and the ceremony has been forever gone away with, and explains that Jesus Christ is saved because Romans 5 and 10 declare that Christ is the end of the law, or 10 and 5, rather, declare that Christ is the end of the law for righteousness for everyone that believes it. Now, thank God, in the coming days, as Jesus comes back to this earth, and the dead in Christ rise first, and those who are living, and the life of Jesus comes upon us to be with him, the great tribulation runs its course at the end of the tribulation of seven years on this earth, the devil will be bound for a thousand years in the bottomless pit, and Jesus Christ shall sit upon the little throne of Jesus in the city of

Jerusalem, and reign for a thousand years, and at that time God will again pick up the nation of Israel, and he'll bless the earth with peace.

But, you see, my great gospel today goes out to whosoever will, but I'm trying to make this point very clear that some of the strongest chains today to keep people from being saved are religious chains of traditional heritage and culture that people just cannot seem to shake off. I think of another chain, I believe, that binds people, and it is unbelief. I believe the longer you wait to believe on Jesus Christ, the harder it will become.

There are people who, when they were first awakened and heard the story of the gospel, their hearts were sensitive and they were tender to the message. But, the more you hear it, the harder it is to believe, and I believe unbelief is like that tremendous chain that longer you put off the salvation of your soul, it forces another and a larger link. And so, perhaps you're sitting out there this morning with a chain of unbelief pleasing to death like an octopus pleasing to life out of a diver and various ships.

But, I am confident of this, that if you'll only make a move toward God, if you'll only believe that Jesus died for you and took the burden you take, that perhaps some of you might need just to get up out of your seat and say, I'm going to tear this thing in a moment to do the powers of the devil may be broken over your life, and that you'll lose Jesus Christ, the earth-sensitive priest. He can untie those chains. No one else can.

And so, we learn, first of all, that in the exercise of his authority, and remember this, the devil in the Bible is called the God of this world, the God of this age. The Lord Jesus Christ three times referred to him as the ruler or the prince of this world, and he is the one who has you under his control. Now, he has the power to bind, but secondly we read that he has the power to blind.

Notice here in 2 Corinthians 4, that's where we should be, in verse 3, I change the reading in this passage a little for this reason. It gives a better sense. It says, if our thoughts will be here, and it's really if our thoughts will be veiled, it is veiled to them that are lost.

Notice, in whom the God of this age, that's the devil, hath blinded not the mind, but the thoughts of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. Now, the word is correctly rendered, the word here, by the word veil, for this reason. There is a difference between that which is hidden and that which is veiled.

The gospel of Jesus Christ is not hidden, because to hide something you could conceal it so you can't find it, or can't seize it at all. I'll give you another situation. Suppose you know a person from time, and you're playing with them, let's say it's a lady, and then tragedy comes into her home, and maybe she loses her husband, and you attend the funeral service to show your sympathy toward this person, and you see her at the service, she has a veil over her face.

Well, underneath the veil you see a protrusion in the center of the veil that sticks a little further out than the other parts of the contours of the face, and you know that's her nose. Down here you see another, and that's her chin, and you know these are the cheekbones, a little bit of cheek there, the eyes. And now, her features are not concealed, but they are veiled, and when you veil something, you don't hide it, you distort it, you make it unrecognizable.

So, you see the devil lifts it. The devil doesn't deny the gospel of Jesus Christ, but he converts it and distorts it. He hangs a veil over the door, and he does this by putting wrong thoughts in the minds of people.

Many years ago, I was down in South Florida in the city of Darien, Georgia. I had a meeting, and I was staying in a motel. A young man who worked around the motel, I asked him one day, I said, Are you saved? He said, Yes, sir.

He said, I've been baptized. Well, now, that's what he thinks is salvation, because he had nothing else to say. I asked the person on one occasion, Are you saved? Oh, yes, sir.

I remember one time when I walked down the aisle, and I took the preacher's hand, and they signed me up, and I joined the church. Now, for some, that is salvation. To others, I talked to a lady on one occasion.

She said, Well, I'm bound to be a Christian. Well, my little baby was dying. The doctor had given him up, and I just turned into my bedroom in a desperation.

I knelt down on the side of my little baby, and I poured out my heart to God, and God said to my little baby, I'm bound to be saved. So, you see, there are all sorts of connotations placed upon salvation and upon the gospel. And, look, in order to deceive people, and deceive people from seeing the spirit-saving gospel of Jesus Christ, the devil doesn't break the door from breaking it out, but he weaves a veil of baptism and emotionalism, hand-raising, eye-walking, card-signing, assigning, hand-shaking.

Everything else in the world you can think of. And, he makes a veil and hangs it over the door, and his door is habitable the rest of the night. And, whenever I'm at times of prayer, well, listen, pay close attention, but I stand here to tell you just learn only a product of the word of God, and if you want to be a Christian, I don't care who you are, I don't care what you've done, and God doesn't either.

And, I tell you a little product of this book, if you will admit that you are lost, and you believe that Jesus died for you when you were touched by death, and Christ will take your sins away, and receive them right where you sit, you'll be saved right there. You can do it without even thinking about it. You'll be saved right now, right where you sit.

And, you say, that's impossible. You know why? Because that's the clear gospel with no veil over it. But, it's crucial.

It's too uncomplicated. So, if I give you some tremendously confused system of metaphysics, whatever that big word means, or some other kind of jungling philosophy of life, or even if I tell you to get on your heads and knees and roll peanuts on the end of Main Street, Point NW, you got to roll the peanuts on the middle of them. Or, I tell you to be saved right where you're sitting, but let God have all your sins together.

Uh-uh. No. Uh-uh.

It can't be that easy. Why? What do you mean? Because that's exactly what it is. And, that's the way you get saved, you see.

But, now look. The devil has blinded the mind. He's got little blinded thoughts of people.

And, he gives people the wrong thoughts about being saved. That ain't the way I hear it. That can't be true.

You've got to have a certain kind of feeling. Now, come on, preacher. Some of you have got to have a wonderful feeling to get saved.

What on earth are we going to do with all these people out there? Well, you listen. Let's talk like this. The essence of thy word is love.

And, it is understanding. I think the single greatest enemy to the gospel of Jesus Christ in America today is emotionalism. Hyper-emotionalism.

People who will not believe they are saved without a special kind of feeling. I remember once I was having meetings. I never tired of telling this fascinating story.

Down among the dear, lovely Indians in southeastern North Carolina, where my dear brother Venus Brooks is now in the glory, beholding the face of Jesus Christ, we used to have some of the most wonderful meetings. One seven weeks long, one six weeks long with the sinners hanging out in the middle, and so many people coming to hear the word. But, there was one lady coming, and she would slip out the door every night when I had my back turned, shaking hands with somebody.

She would slip out the door. And so, I was just, well, I'm afraid I was a little bit mean, really. I knew that she was going to sit in her husband's car.

And, not only was she sitting in the car, but she would slide all the way down in the seat down behind the back, so the bridge couldn't see up. And, not always, every night, I'd go out and knock on the window. Ah, Miss Maggie.

But, she would slide up out of the seat that hole that she was in. Well, we had a good time. But, you know, one day a lady said to me, isn't it awful about Miss Maggie? Miss Maggie was a retired senator, too.

Now, she said, you know, Miss Maggie is pitiful. I said, what's wrong with the woman? She said, it's normal to me. She said, you don't know her problem.

I said, no, what is it? She said, Miss Maggie has been going to revival meetings in Robertson County for 40 years, everywhere they have one, and every time they have a meeting, she walks down the aisle trying to get a feeling to tell us she's clean. She's been doing it for 40 years. Where did she get that? You can't find it in the Bible.

You can't even find it. It's in the Bible. Which is apparently what some people think.

Who gave this poor woman the fault? That's when you get saved, you're going to have a certain kind of healing. Who gave it to you? How do you break the power of the devil over the life of a sinner? Only the Word of God will do it. Brother Venus went away to Philadelphia to preach, and he said on a Saturday afternoon before he left, he said, I'm afraid Miss Maggie will never get saved.

And, you know, when he and Miss Lucindale go by the yard, I felt, whoa, totally moved. I said, Lord, I'm going to take her on. I went and got my new Testament.

I was flying over Miss Maggie's house, and I knew Biggie Cole was waiting on me. I knocked on the door, and there she came to the door, and stopped in the house, sat down on the couch there. And I began to talk to her.

I took my Bible out. I took my New Testament out. I opened it.

It said, John 1, 12, as many as received him through them God built a life of becoming children even in the evil of his name. She said, Mr. Worth, I believe that. I believe in Miss Maggie.

I said, why don't you get saved? She said, I would love to, but what about that feeling? I said, what feeling? She said, that feeling you got to get when you get saved. I said, well, what kind of feeling is it? She said, I don't know, but you got to have it. I said, surely.

How long have you been looking for it? She said, 40 years. That's a tough, long time to look for a feeling, don't you think? Well, bless her heart. Now, some sinners I believe you really got to get down to earth with, and it gets real personal.

And so, I just slipped over a little, and she slipped over, and I slipped over, and she slipped over, until I had to pull a total head up from the floor of the house. So, I took my New Testament out, and I stuck it under her nose, and I said, now, Mr. Mack, I want you to read that for me. I'm a friend, and I have confidence in the Word of God.

What can you expect? You think you can get away when you've been delivered from sin? That's a terrible story like that too. So, I stuck that Bible under that poor woman's nose, and I said, well, if it says, as many as receive him who then gave you the power to become the sons and children of God, I said, Mr. Mackie, what does it say? As many as receive him. you receive it, what will you be? I'll be a child of God." I said, well, whatever you do, she said, well, what about that healing? So, I stuck that Bible under her nose, and I threatened her with bobbing her.

I said, Mrs. Maggie, bless your soul, look! Don't you dare take your eyes off of that book. And I stuck it as close as I thought was going to do the job, and I made her read it over and over and over and over and over. I was distracted.

I made that poor lady read it over and over and over again, and she couldn't take her And so, pretty soon, he said, Mr. Wood, I believe that. I said, I know it, but talk me into it, don't I? Just one thing to believe that Jesus died, or in the letter, injured Captain. You can believe he died, you can go to hell if you don't talk to him.

You mean to last into the gospel and never save anybody? Don't you understand anything? You know, some of your people are doctors, saving all off the show, you've got a brilliant case, you know all about the gospel, you know all the answers, you believe every word in the Bible, but you can't for the life of you if you can't sing all the time when you really receive Jesus Christ. That's the whole problem. And so, he said, Mr. Wood, I believe that.

I said, I know you do. He said, I believe everything in the Bible. I said, I know you do.

I said, now look, let me ask you this, I said, Miss Maggie, now you don't know what a pitiful sight it is to see a poor woman, a poor woman of her seventies, who for forty years has been walking in church house, she must have worn out half a dozen carpets, and now she's got a shield. That's the way that they were playing the minds of sinners, you get it? I said, Miss Maggie, look, I said, you believe the psalmist's words, she said, look, I believe the Bible shall be for you a bone, and I said, I told you what. I said, well, look, do you believe the Bible? She said, yes.

I said, okay, if you believe the Bible, do you believe this? If you receive Jesus Christ as your Savior, right where you're sitting, do you believe He died for you, and you accept Him in your heart as your Lord and Savior? I said, do you believe that God will save you and take you to heaven where you had a piece of luck? Well, of course He would. I said, well, bless your soul, I said, now we're getting close to the end. I said, there's only one decision you've got to make.

What's that? I said, you've got to make up your mind and let's do it right now. Whether you want to die and go to hell trying to get a healing or receive Jesus Christ and go to hell to take the things you'll never have anymore. The moment I said it, she said, I'll trust Him.

And the tears streamed down her cheek. She got me on that wicked piano. Now, you talking about Franklin, you ain't heard nothing.

Well, the two of us went over there, and she played that piano, and we sang, Joy in the flowing like a river since her coming to this town. I guarantee you that duet never made Carnegie Hall, but I believe it made the hall of heaven for that joy in the presence of the angel of the one son of the risen. And that dear soul was saved sitting on a couch with her eyeballs healed on the word of God after 40 years trying to get a feeling to tell her when she was saved or not.

There's no salvation apart from the Spirit. Don't you ever forget. Now, the devil burns spit.

It's your fault. It isn't that he doesn't keep you from seeing it, but he just tortures you. He's a virtue catcher.

He gives you wrong thoughts. I remember reading a few years ago, I was in the city of Augusta. We lived there for a while, and they were having a mass.

One of the circuit golfers was there, and he was doing a little interview for the tennis section of the newspaper. And he gave this little story about how the court game goes. He said, if you want to play golf, this is where you start.

You go down to the golfing floor, a foot store, and buy you some food and a cap, and buy you a bag, and if you're drinking out, buy you a cart or a push cart, and buy everything you need, and a bowl, and your keys. And you go out, and you get on the first green there where you drive off, and he says, you get where you think you ought to be, and you kick your keys around and set your glove on, and a ball rubber. And he says, you take your golf club, and he says, you square away, and you dress the ball, and he says, you come back, and you swing it, and follow through.

And he says, when you get through, everything you've done is exactly different from what you should have done, because nobody was ever born a golfer. You have to admit it. I said, what an illustration of the absolute inability of the natural mind to understand the way of salvation, which simply means this.

Listen carefully. I don't want to be misunderstood. And I don't mind if you don't believe what I say, but heaven knows I don't want you to understand what I'm saying.

I can make you believe it, but I don't want you to be in doubt about what I'm saying. You're an unsaved man or woman, and you've figured this thing out, and you've got it all thought out about the way you get saved, and you should have any thoughts ahead at the moment. That's the reason the Bible gives it to us to show us how to be saved, because the natural mind with which you are born with is shouted by the devil, who gives you wrong thoughts, hangs a veil over the door, and if you want to know what kind of

condition you're in, poor sinner, let me tell you.

When I was a boy, many, many, many, many more years of my life were here. I ain't going to tell you how many I'm sure. We used to have parties.

Oh, you're spinning the bottle out of date now, is it? Well, anyway, but you know, we used to have a little mob, a little king kind of a game called pinning the tail on the boat. Really, put a blindfold on, you have a piece of a duck in, give you a tail to pin on it, and you'd pin the tail up, and take your blindfold off, and lo and behold, you'd pin it on his nose. Everybody knows that ain't good enough to tail those on the boat.

What's the matter? Your eyes were blind. You had a blindfold on your eyes. And every time I think of a poor, unsaved man or woman, I don't care if you're a theological text.

I don't care if you've memorized the whole Bible. If you've not been born again, you can't understand one literal passage in the whole Bible. You've got to be a Christian to understand.

That's why God gives a lesson you should take home with you. Nowhere in the Bible does God say you have to understand anything. Believe.

Uh-oh, I seem to believe something you don't understand. You don't understand electricity? You live in the dark? Good. Don't hand me that intellectual hogwash about I don't believe what I can't understand.

Why, if you didn't believe or receive everything that you understood, you wouldn't live today. Look at this man. God doesn't want you to listen.

He just wants you to believe what He says. So here you are today sitting in this meeting. You see on this phone, don't you? Who are you? And there you are wandering around in your natural darkness trying to find the door.

Your eyes are blinded by thoughts from a day or two ago. And I'll tell you, you are an absolute ill-natured any force can ever get to you. But I'll tell you what we can do.

This book here is the only light in this world. The words of this book is the only light that can penetrate the natural darkness of your mind, of your soul and spirit. If you know that you are lost, you don't have to know one word in this Bible.

Not a word. Not a verse. If you know that you're lost, and you know that you don't want to be saved, and you want to be saved today, if you will remain behind or come while we're giving a message, take the seat on the front row.

We can take the good million women here. We can take the word of God and sit down with you and take this book and show you verse by verse how you can be saved. And you believe what they show you and you will believe it.

The veil will be taken off your mind and open the door and God will show you how to be saved through His word and He will not show you any other way. And God said it. See? He said it that way.

The moment you believe that Jesus died for you and suffered for you. The Lord Jesus Christ who died upon the cross was born of good and Jesus was such a grace. Oh my soul, listen.

God loves you. God loves you. You can be saved today if you get up and bow at that door and say, Good morning, Sir Paul.

And if you keep on doing that and you die and go to hell just to not bring God because He offers to save you right now, today, I'll give you the grace to act on it because tomorrow I'll get you there. Shall we pray? Oh God, our Father, leave our hearts before Thee painfully aware of the power of the devil to take men and women to hell. We confess, O Father, we are no match for Him but the Lord Jesus is.

In Thy words, in the Holy Spirit of God, we invoke Your power in the clergy moment in which we meet that the Spirit of the Living God will lay hold upon every unsafe person in this day. Don't let them go away, Father, without being saved. Lord Jesus, Amen.

What shall we sing in the church? Number 347. Number 347. I want you to notice the words of this song.

Now, I say, I say, Be in time. Be in time. Be in time.

That's the thing. Tomorrow we'll get you. Shall we stand? Would you like to come out with singing? You'll sing with this song.

But I'll give you a warning. I fear that if you get halfway through the first verse without moving out and coming down to receive Jesus Christ, the devil will probably take you home again. Make the move, Shiva.

Turn away from the service of the Lord, and bow down at the feet of the Lord. Namaste.

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