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Present Truth Ministries
September 2017



Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Hebrews 13:8

In 2010 and 2011, on a quarterly basis, I had written a teaching letter that I had translated into Farsi and Urdu. We received many testimonies regarding these articles. Since there are questions on so many subjects and topics as well as a great desire to learn and grow, I felt the burden and the inspiration to start it up again in the spring of 2016. My purpose is to stay faithful to the teachings of Brother Branham and make them clear from the Bible. It is my calling from the Lord to do this.

The September issue will cover three important subjects:

1. The Keys To Winning In Spiritual Warfare
2. When Did the Mighty Angel Descend?
3. Who is the Servant of Matthew 24:45?

The Keys To Winning In Spiritual Warfare

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Ephesians 6:12

The first and most important point to understand is that our lives are involved in spiritual warfare whether we know it or not. Every person on this planet is experiencing demonic forces that are seeking to utilize them for a Satanic plan of defeating the plan of God. We can take this further and understand that there are two spiritual forces engaged in battle. It is angelic beings fighting against the fallen angelic beings that we call demons. The LORD of hosts is the leader of the righteous and Satan is the captain of the wicked. These two forces are engaged in a battle for world dominion, but more specifically, in a battle for supremacy over one soul at a time.

God is searching for the elect in order to save them and bring them under his dominion in order to fulfill his eternal purpose. Satan is seeking to block this purpose. He uses every means possible to do so. The very first means that the devil uses is to cause you to be unaware of him and his workers. When he does this you attribute his work to “your depressions”, “your evil thoughts”, “your _____”, fill in the blank. The fact is that we have a sinful nature and that we are sinners, even he redeemed of God have the sinful nature. But the redeemed of God are in a process of becoming more like Jesus Christ.

Next, we need to establish how demonic forces move and operate in your life. Their direct attack is via your thought life.

They seek to control the way that you think. They speak to you, and you hear it as a thought. We have to pray for discernment to understand what is a thought from God and what is a demonic thought. Demons will speak to you in a way that deals with your weaknesses. Their wisdom is that they speak things that are so close to the way that you think. They want you to forget that it is a demon speaking to you. This is so that you do not engage them in battle. They know that as soon as a Spirit-filled child of God engages them in combat, they have lost. So, they play to your way of thinking. They seek to guide you down the path towards apathy. Perhaps they know you will never walk away from God or the Bible, so they strive to bring apathy and weakness to your spiritual life. The demons will slowly cause you to doubt the Word and as you doubt you lose strength. Or perhaps slowly they build up an attitude of pride in your spiritual position causing you to be hardened against others. This, in turn, gives you a feeling of disdain which causes you to stop reaching out in love to others.

The demons do not tell you to directly neglect your spiritual duties to go to church, to pray and to feed on the Word of God. Instead they provide “harmless” ways to escape the stress and pressure of life. These “harmless” means of entertainment slowly become a stronghold that rules your life.

The demons also indirectly attack us. They do this using our brothers and sisters, our friends, Facebook, Instagram, etc. They use them to encourage us to go down a road that causes us to do what we discuss previously. Satan knows if we forget about him that he can have his way, or if he disguises himself in the form of “harmless” diversions he can trip us up. He wants to cut us off from our prayer life, feeding

on the Word, and sharing our faith. If the devil is seeking world dominion then we understand that he must stop Christians from praying, listening to the truth and then speaking the truth. If he cannot stop us from praying or reading the Word then he can cause us to listen to our fears and stop sharing the truth with others.

Facebook, Instagram, any app on our smartphone can be used by the devil to cut us off from our Christian duties. Even if we never look at an immodest woman on these apps and only “fellowship” with our brothers and sisters and share good religious and political posts we can be cut off from what God calls us to do. Yet, the devil will use these good things and his purpose is to bring us towards total rebellion against God. This starts with overuse and obsession with social media, then it turns towards looking at a few things that our flesh lusts after, after that our eyes are feasting on an immodest woman or a man that is not our own.

How do we engage in spiritual warfare?

“¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. ¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the

wicked. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;" Ephesians 6:12-18

We need to put on the armor of God. This is clearly not physical armor, but spiritual. In verse thirteen we find that we must put on the armor and withstand, or fight against the devil. Our loins are girt with truth. Truth is a weapon against the devil. When we speak the truth, believe the truth, stand upon the truth we engage in spiritual warfare. Take the example above. When the devil comes to place thoughts contrary to the Word in your mind you stand upon the truth and he will need to flee.

Righteousness is a breastplate. When the devil comes to bring contrary thoughts that lead into evil striking against you the breastplate provides protection. Righteousness acts as a breastplate. It allows you to deflect the blows of Satan. We have no righteousness of our own, but rather have had the righteousness of Jesus Christ applied to us. The breastplate acts as a defense against demonic blows. When we keep this revelation within our hearts, that Jesus Christ is my righteousness, the works of Satan become frustrated.

Then the protection for our feet is the gospel of peace. Enoch walked with God, and we must walk with God also. The Gospel of Peace protects our feet from the attacks of the devil. If the feet are injured in warfare, we cannot stand, pursue the enemy or flee from him in case of necessity. We are stuck in one spot and are easy prey for the devil. It is written, "And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the

gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"¹ Gospel brings peace between God and men, and as a result, it brings peace between men. Notice, verse 12 says, "the preparation of the gospel of peace." This speaks of always being ready to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. This readiness to preach the Gospel is a continual pursuit of and destruction of the works of the devil. A Christian who is injured in his feet sits in the church pew happily, but forgets that he has a commission from Jesus Christ to share the Gospel with everyone!

This shield of faith speaks of what historians call the sputum and it covers the entire body. It is not a small shield that is circular and covers just a few feet in diameter. Rather, it protects the entire body. Faith does exactly that, it protects and covers the entire body from the fiery darts of the wicked one. What are the fiery darts of the wicked? It could be the lead tipped arrows that were stuffed with combustible materials and shot at ships and shields in order to set them ablaze. It could also speak of poison tipped arrows that produce a fiery sensation in the bodies of those who are hit with them. The devil's fiery darts are evil thoughts which inflame the passions and excite the soul to sinful actions. They are lustful thoughts, doubtful thoughts against the truth, thoughts of dissatisfaction that cause you to move towards sinning against your spouse, your children, your boss, etc. Faith blocks these attacks by holding the words of Jesus Christ as truth above all else. Satan is working through words to deceive, will you believe him? Jesus Christ has given us his word, will you believe him?

¹ Roman 10:15

The helmet protects the head. Very often in history the soldier wore a helmet with emblems emblazoned upon them. Here is the symbol of hope and faith in salvation. It is the symbol that you will be saved in battle and come out victorious. The arrow, sword and battle axe cannot penetrate this helmet. Much like the Kevlar vest of today, a bullet may cause bruising and pain, but it will not kill you if your vest is properly worn. The blood of Jesus Christ we are protected in our minds from the attacks of the enemy. We must put this helmet on and keep it on. When the devil attacks, go back to the ground of your salvation, the cross of Jesus Christ.

The sword of the Spirit is the word of God. This is what Jesus used to battle against the devil in the wilderness. When Satan attacked with lies, Jesus responded with Bible verses. This shows the importance of memorizes and using the Bible as a means of attack against the devil. This is offensive weaponry. Use it well! If you are depressed, go to the Psalms and worship the Lord. If you are being attacked on every hand, find out how Jesus responded to attacks. The Bible is a sword that will defeat the devil every time. It must be used properly, as we know that Satan is an expert at twisting the Scriptures, we must be equally adept at using the wisdom of God in the Scriptures to fight back. Satan said, "It is written" and Jesus responded "It is also written." Never forget that.

Then in verse 18, he says, "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit." I don't believe that this verse is put in by mistake where it is. Our greatest weaponry, outside of the Bible, is prayer. When we pray the Spirit of God moves and the Angels of God, arrayed for a battle step forward and are strengthened to fight. Make prayer your weapon to fight against the devil. Do not make gossip your weapon, do not make fear

your defense. These are the weaponry the devil uses. Satan takes up the sword of gossip and the shield of fear, etc. Fight the Satanic forces with what God has given you.

When Did the Mighty Angel Descend?

This question has a very simple answer, but a somewhat complex explanation. This is where the question is coming from. In 1963 we find that the seven seals were opened. In Revelation 10 the Mighty Angel descends with an open book, the seals having just been opened, and seven thunders utter their voices. This communicates the mysteries of the open book to the seventh church age messenger, Brother William Marrion Branham. Therefore, if the seven seals were opened by Jesus Christ in 1963 and then brought down and revealed to Brother Branham it follows logically that the Mighty Angel descended in 1963.

The problem that comes in and is misunderstood is this; how can we say that the Mighty Angel descended in 1963 when the pillar of fire was with Brother Branham even in 1933 when the pillar of fire came down and spoke “*as John the Baptist was sent to forerun the first coming of Christ you are sent with a message to forerun his second.*” Even in 1958 he explains that what is taking place in his ministry is that the Son of man is being revealed from heaven.

In many instances, in the Bible, a simple confession of faith is needed. Both of these things are true. The pillar of fire and the angel of the Lord were with Brother Branham long before 1963. And there is no doubt that it was 1963 that the seals were revealed and the Mighty Angel descended then.

Brother Branham discusses the picture of the cloud and says to turn the picture to the right and see that it is our Lord up there. He has descended to the earth to reveal the seven seals. Both of them are true. It is not one idea pitted against the other. They are both truthful statements. They just need proper biblical reconciliation.

I want to reference a Scripture and offer a biblical explanation to these truths.

“⁹ And the LORD said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe thee forever. And Moses told the words of the people unto the LORD. ¹⁰ And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes, ¹¹ And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.” Exodus 19:9-11

Here we have Yahweh speaking face to face with Moses. The very same Yahweh that was leading the children of Israel by a pillar of fire and a pillar of cloud. He was standing present there and yet tells Moses to inform the people that, “Yahweh will come down in the sight of all the people.” To explain the context better, so you can see the type more clearly; God was informing Moses that he was going to reveal the Ten Commandments to him. So we see that Yahweh comes down and delivers the tables of stone to Moses in order to deliver them to the people.

This is a tremendous type; let's apply it. Brother Branham is manifesting God through signs and wonders and mighty miracles. Time goes on, and many things transpire revealing the presence of God. Then it comes to 1963, and God says to

Brother Branham, go to Arizona, and seven angels will meet you. Then this cloud appears, and we learn that it is the Lord Jesus Christ, Supreme Deity, that met the prophet of God and through the seven angels revealed the seven mysterious thunders which were not even written out specifically but are mysteries contained in the Bible that need to be revealed. The Yahweh who was present with Moses said, I will come down in a thick cloud and give you the ten commandments, and it is the same Jesus who was present with Branham that came down in a cloud with an open book to reveal the seven seals to him.

Who is the Servant of Matthew 24:45?

“Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?” Matthew 24:45

I have received the question multiple times on who the servant of Matthew 24:45 is. You might think, why is this question being asked. Well, the reason being is that various leaders after Brother Branham have raised up claiming to be someone important and they have claimed to be this wise servant. Many followers of Ewald Frank claim that he is the wise servant being spoken of. Remember, it says a faithful and wise servant. However, Ewald Frank, years ago committed adultery with his secretary, his wife divorced him and he is now married to another woman. We wish him the best and have no ill will, but this behavior cannot be referred to as faithful and wise. God is more than able to forgive every one of us. I don't speak of forgiveness in any fashion.

However, a man during the time of his ministry that commits such sins and then continues in his ministry even after being disqualified from it cannot be considered wise and faithful. We want to base our thoughts upon the Scriptures and not the interpretations of men.

The context of this verse is speaking of the time period referred to as the Days of the Son of Man in Luke 17:22-30. It is a parallel verse and discourse from Jesus Christ. The days of Noah and the coming of the Son of man are connected in these verses and in Luke 17:26. It is clearly referring to the end time period just before the rapture and the destruction of the earth by fire.

Jesus is explaining in verse 43 that if the master of the house knew the hour that the thief was coming they would be prepared for him. Jesus then says in verse 44 that they should be ready because in such an hour as they think not the Son of man comes. This is when he says, “**who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household...**” A search through the message yields no results when you look for the exact match “faith and wise servant”. Brother Branham has a sermon about Spiritual Food in Due Season. He doesn’t even read this verse in that sermon, but he uses the term “meat in due season” during it. The entire sermon is referring to the time that Elijah was fed by the ravens in a hidden place. As he starts his explanation, he refers to the prophets of old bringing their message to the people and that the Lord God would do nothing until he reveals it to his servants the prophets, referencing Amos 3:7 and then finishes by showing that today there is hidden food the world knows nothing of. He refers to the Scriptures fulfilled today.

“We notice here again, if the Word is in us and has come to us, as It did Elijah in that day, It'll do the same thing that he did, he would feed on the secret Things of God which is hid from the world. Oh! Again, it makes the Message and the messenger as one. The spiritual Food is ready, and It's in the season now. And each one of you can have this Food if you wish It, if you are willing to steal away from all of the unbelief of this hour, if you are ready to come into Christ, come into His promise.”²

Brother Branham has now gone off the scene, and the catching away has not happened yet. As we read and looked at the verses, it refers to being ready when the thief comes. It is those feeding the Bride with the hidden food. Who is the faithful and wise servant that has been made the ruler of his family (household)? It is not a one man ministry. This is a challenge to every minister of the word of God, who rules the house of God, not as lords, but as servants. Verse 46 states, “blessed is that servant whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.” It is clear this is a challenge to every minister of the Gospel to faithfully “give them meat in due season.” The food has been delivered by the prophet of Malachi 4:5-6, but there needs to be stewards that serve the family (the Bride) that food. It is not a one man ministry; it is a Bride ministry, called to be faithful to the Word.

“In every age we have exactly the same pattern. That is why the light comes through some God-given messenger in a certain area, and then from that messenger there spreads the light through the ministry of others who have been faithfully

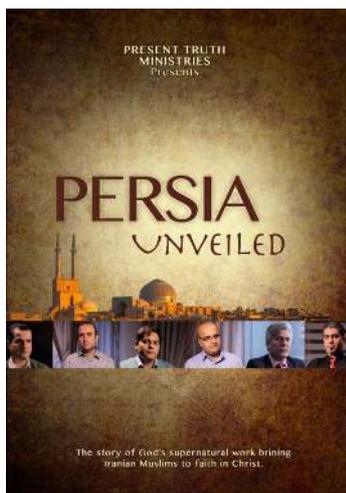
² 65-0718E - Spiritual Food In Due Season, Rev. William Marrion Branham, <http://table.branham.org>

taught. But of course all those who go out don't always learn how necessary it is to speak ONLY what the messenger has spoken. (Remember, Paul warned the people to say only what he said, I Corinthians 14:37, "If any man think himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD. What? Came the Word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?") They add here, or take away there, and soon the message is no longer pure, and the revival dies down. How careful we must be to hear ONE voice, for the Spirit has but one voice which is the voice of God. Paul warned them to say what he said, even as Peter did likewise. He warned them that EVEN HE (PAUL) could not change one word of what he had given by revelation. Oh, how important it is to hear the voice of God by way of His messengers, and then say what has been given them to say to the churches." ³

³ An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - Chapter Four - The Smyrnaean Church Age, Rev. William Marrion Branham, <http://table.branham.org>

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