



“THE EULOGY OF THE CROSS”

Acts 1:1-8

The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Do not allow the term eulogy to intimidate you, though we generally affix that term to funerals. In its root meaning, a eulogist is merely a praiser who praises, or speaks well of, or positively of; to eulogize is to leave on record a positive testimony in regards of the object in which you eulogize. I want to take a little time to talk about the goodness, and the marvelous, manifold wisdom of the cross!

I believe that the church is going through some struggles, because we have so modernized and revolutionized, our function that in some cases we have moved away from our theme or real focus. We have raised up, in the secular systems of our society, a nation or generation of young people who have no attraction, relationship, or understanding of any religiosity at all. It is dangerous because: I came up in a time, even if your parents were not Christians and didn't go to church, they still acquainted you with God at an early age, so that when peril came in your life, you still had some standard to line yourself up with! There were certain things that we did not do because we were taught the fear of the Lord!

The fear, or the respect of the Lord, is the beginning of wisdom. It is not the end, but it is the foundation that sets the precedent for the lives of people. So, the secular people of this world are suffering because they have no real foundation, no fundamental truth, no nothing to align themselves with! It is not so much that we are wrestling with drug abuse, chaos, and broken homes; those are tragedies, but if we had an anchor, the storm would not over-throw us! The real tragedy of our generation is, the storm has hit the ship, and the ship has no anchor to affix itself to in order to be able to stand!

The backlash of this has affected the church. Even in the Christian community, we have raised up a generation of believers who know nothing about real salvation. I have never in my life seen us gather so many who know so little

about this Jesus Christ we worship and praise. It is a tragedy that the gospel has become so foreign in the church that when you preach it now, they call it revelation! They used to call it, the fundamentals of the faith! Now when you start preaching about the power of the blood, blood atonement, redemption, and sanctification, the crowd walks out awestruck, calling it revelation!

It is mind-boggling that we have gotten so tied up in four steps to a blessing, five steps to a miracle, ten ways to get up on your feet, three ways to hold your house together, and two ways to live above your tragedies, that we are acquainted with every writer, principle, and book, even different languages, and in midst of our grasping theological concepts, we have moved further and further away from the common salvation! I feel like the “*contender*” in the book of Jude! We must “**...Earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered unto the saints.**” I feel like the Apostle Paul, “**I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation, to all them that believe...**” We need to go back to the gospel, back to the Good News, back to telling people that there is Good News in the midst of this bad news, and Jesus is the news!

We have been extremely criticized by the philosophers, other sectarians and theologians, for the bloodiness of our gospel, in an endeavor to make our gospel more appealing to the humanistic thinking of our society. They have intimidated us from talking about blood atonement, and all the blood of bullocks, goats, sacrifices, and the crucifixion that we have almost become ashamed. But the birthing of aids, and those who are HIV positive, the releasing of all these “900” numbers that are taking over the media, Just as soon as the powers that be got rid of the preachers that were taking widow’s money, they immediately put the witches on the air so they can take your money to the tune of five and six dollars a minute! I don’t see anyone being a watchdog over them though! It is just an effort to stop the gospel from being preached!

If whether you are a preacher or not, tonight I am licensing you to bootleg the gospel! If you never get a revival, never buy a briefcase, never own a bottle of oil, never get a nice pair of shoes or ride around in a Mercedes, or whatever your concept of a preacher is, if your pulpit becomes the corner of 1st and Main, and you have to stand there and tell men about Jesus, if you have to go in the grocery store and preach between the pickles and the mayonnaise, get in there and tell them that Jesus saves, delivers, heals, thrills, and fills with the Holy Ghost and fire!

There are spiritual forces working against us! There is a battle ground between the forces of evil, and the forces of our God that go all the way back to the book of Genesis. Satan has released a diabolical plot in the book of Genesis against humanity, or used the humanity as a pawn against God. His beef is with God, but he used man to get to God, because he will always work through what you love, to get on your nerves. He knew something about God that seemingly we have not realized. He knew that God loved us! Those are two things that I want you to get clear tonight. Number one, God loves you; and number two, God hates sin!

Satan knew that he would never be able to overthrow God power for power, or force for force, because he is not an equal opposite to God! We say things like; good and bad, light and dark, even and odd, up and down, in and out, exposing opposites, then we say, Satan and God, and that is not correct! Satan is not an equal opposite power diabolically aligned against God. He is not a fit opponent to the presence of God, he is a subservient angel that has been defrocked, fallen, and kicked out of heaven, and he belongs up under God’s feet! He knew that he was not a match in a one on one with God. His only hope was to work God’s power against itself, for even Satan understands that “.....a house divided against itself cannot stand.” And inasmuch as he understood that God loved man and hated sin, his only recourse was to take what God hated, which was sin, and affix it to what God love, which was man! This would put God in a dilemma that the Book of Genesis spends a great deal of time teaching us about the dilemma of God. It would put God in a predicament, because once sin was over here and man was over here, God’s emotions were not confused. He could love what He loved and hate what He hated, but the moment Satan took what He hated and put it in what He loved, it put God in a dilemma. Because, if God saved what He loved, (which was man), He would also save what He hated, (which was sin). If He killed what He hated, (which was sin), He would then have to destroy what He loved, (which was man). The enemy thought, “.....If I could just get Him all tied up, I would put Him in a dilemma!” I understand that we were the beneficiaries of salvation, we have become the heirs of salvation, but I want you to know that the victory of salvation was not yours, the victory was the Lords, because the battle was the Lords, and the correct understanding of what David said, when he said, “....His right hand, (talking about God), and His Holy Arm, it has not gotten us the victory, it has gotten Him the victory...!” Salvation was God’s victory over the enemy, when the enemy set him up!

He set him up in a predicament and said, "Now God, you say you love Adam, and he is your son, but, Adam has sinned, if you save him, you will save everything that you hate, and if you kill him, you will kill everything that you love!" This predicament broke up the Sabbath day rest, it stopped God from resting on the Sabbath day, and caused the voice of the Lord to walk through the cool of the garden, because God assumed the responsibility of reconciliation. He says, "Adam, you can't work or straighten this out, because Satan is trying to do something slick in the courtroom, I am going to have to come myself!" "You, Adam, just be the defendant, and I am going to be your attorney of record, and before the courtroom is over, I am going to get the charges dropped off of your life!"

And so the Bible said, "The voice of the Lord *walked* through the garden in the cool of the *evening*!" **When God starts pacing the floor, hell is in trouble!** God began to pace the floor, and He knew that He had to devise a plan that would cause Him to liberate what He loved, and still be able to bind what He hated! He had spoken, that the day that you eat of the tree, you shall surely die! If somebody didn't die in the garden, then God would be a liar! God said, "I am not a man that I should lie, or the son of man, that I should repent..." In other words, God was saying, "It is not in my ability to lie!" "There is nothing in my computer that says lie!" "I'm not programmed to lie!" "I've got to tell the truth, and I said that the day that you eat the fruit, thou shalt surely die, so, some kind of way, how can I.....?" "Oh! Adam, I love you, I formed you and fashioned you in my likeness and image, you are my first*created* son, Israel will be my first *born* son, Jesus will my only *begotten* son, but you are my first *created* son, born in the likeness and the image of God!" "You look like Me, My glory is all over you, and now you are in this mess!" "Why don't you just be still and know that I am God!"

You know, the best thing to do when all hell is breaking forth in your life? Simply be still and know that God is still God!

So the Lord says, "This one is on me!" You know the story, how He went out and found animal, slew it, and made the first fur coat, took the coats of skin, and covered the nakedness of Adam. Now look at this animal who says, "Why do I have to die?" "I have done absolutely nothing wrong to deserve this!" The Lord responds and says, "That's why you have to die, because I need your innocence!" "My son has fallen into debauchery and is in trouble, he has become wretched, and you are righteous, he has fallen, you are exalted, he is dirty, you are clean!" "I can kill you easier than I can kill him!" "I need you to die in his stead!"

And so, He took the animal and slew him in the name of Adam, so that Adam could live, in the name of the lamb! "Adam, don't worry about the fig leaves, because all of that stuff that you have sewn up trying to save yourself, is dying while you are sewing it!" "The fig leaves are just like you, separated from it's source!" "I spoke it out of the ground!" "If you would have left the fig in the ground, it would have continued to live!" "I spoke you out of Me, if you would have stayed in hooked up to Me, you wouldn't be in trouble either!" "You are in as much trouble as the fig leaf is, because both of you are separated from your source!" "Get that fig leaf out of my face!" **"...For without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin!"** "So I've got a coat for you, a bloody coat, and I'm going to bring it and cover you up, until I no longer see you!" "I will no longer see your problem, your circumstance, your situation or dilemma, all I will see is the lamb!" **"Now Adam, understand, It is no more you that liveth, but the lamb that liveth in you, and the life that you now live in the flesh, (the coat), you live by the faith of this sacrifice, who gave Himself a ransom for you!"** **"He took your death, so you could have His life!"** "He took your sin, so you could have His righteousness!" "He took your wretchedness, so you could have His purity!" "He took your diseases, so that you could have His healing!" "Whatever you need, you have got to speak it out through the sacrifice!"

That's why I like to pray in the name of Jesus, because He said, "Whatever you ask Me, in Jesus name, I'll do it for you!" "Because you were such a mess that I couldn't even look at you anymore, I wrapped you up in Him!" No wonder Paul the Apostle said, **"In Him I live, In Him I move, and in Him I have my being!"**

The reason somebody is not getting a break-through tonight, is that they are approaching God in their name! Talking about what you did, and how valuable you are, how talented and affluent you are, how if you would get your life together you would be such a benefit to the church! God doesn't want you to come in your own name, He gave up on flesh a long time ago! If you want to move God: ***Come in the name of the coat you wear! Come in the name of***

Jesus Christ! I don't have any wretchedness, I don't have anything to offer you, I don't have anything to day! The only hope I have is that I am wrapped up, tied up, tangle all up in God! **"It is in Him that I live, move, and have my being!"**

When God wrapped Adam up, Hell got nervous, because Satan thought he had God in double jeopardy. But God knew how to break away, because God kept His word by killing on the day that He said He would kill! But He also kept His son! See, what you have to understand, is when you are fighting in the spirit world, you are fighting a plot. There is a plot against man! Against you! All of these crazy, strange things that you have been going through, is not you, your mind, mood swings, or even the people that the enemy is using, there is an actual, spiritual plot to terminate and totally diabolically destroy everything that God has done in your life! I came to tell you tonight that you are on the hit list! You are on the hit list! Hired assassins have been sent out to destroy you! And while you are dealing with that, I also want you to know that you can't do anything about it! You can't fight it, defend yourself, deliver yourself, prove yourself, fix yourself, and you can't save yourself! While you are writhing around and getting nervous about that, I want to tell you that while you can't do it, I know Somebody who has the power that is necessary to bring you out!

What you must understand, that the problem was no greater than the plan. **"For where sin did abound, Grace did much more abound!"** I don't care what kind of problem you are going through right now; there is a plan for every problem in your life! You won't get it on the telephone, and you won't get it from your friends, but if you hang up the telephone, and close the blinds, turn your face to the wall, and say, "Lord, I am facing a problem, what is the plan?" Touch somebody and say, "God's got a plan!"

That's all salvation is. It's God's plan for man! It is God saying, "No weapon formed against thee shall be able to prosper..."

Let me tell you about this Book that can be so distracting. It is absolutely awesome! To the psychologist, it is loaded with psychology. To the sociologist, you can find great concepts of sociological wisdom and influence. There is science in there. To the pharmacist, there is medicine, medicinal value and worth in this Book. To the historian, it is loaded in every chapter and verse. But do not allow that to confuse you, this Book is not a history book, it is not a psychology book, not a sociology text, this book was not written to prove the authenticity of God, not for you to be able to use to date anything as to it's historicity, This Book's purpose is simply to unveil the plan for the plot! Though along the way, woven and interlaced in the concepts of the plan, you will find morsels of these things, you need to understand that the primary purpose of this Book is to show you that the fury of Hell will not be able to assail you, because God has built a plan that is so rigid, and so strong, that irregardless of your race, color, background, ethnicity, education, intellect, your circumstance or situation, we can all take the same plan and get the same results, by activating the power of God! God has come up with a plan that will speak to every generation, age, and society. He couldn't keep coming and writing a new book every time there was a problem. There had to be an ageless text-manual, that we could preach, even though we face different disorders! One generation deals with prohibition and alcohol, the next with crack cocaine, there still needs to be one answer, or one name that was exalted above every name, that you could use it at any time, or in any situation! Touch somebody and say, "It still works!"

When you begin to look in the Book, everything from the Book of Genesis forward is looking forward to the cross. It is all culminated in the cross! I don't care what you want to study, when you get through studying it, it is just a negative that brings about a picture of Jesus on the cross! Laced in the Old Testament, hidden in every shadow, is a lesson on Jesus! It is so real, that the Book of Galatians calls the Old Testament, the School-Master that teaches us Grace. It is the shadow of which Christ is the reality! When the Old Testament said "Yea" the New Testament said, "Amen." When the Old Testament said, "How?" The New Testament said, "Jesus!" Laced in the Old Testament, from the first prophesy in the Book of Genesis, where the seed of the woman would rise up and bruise the head of the seed of the serpent, on down to God walking in the garden in the cool of the evening, snatching and animal and instituting substitution, right down to the struggle in the first family to find a sacrifice that would please God. When Cain was offering up the fruit of the ground, Abel went out and said, "If blood was good enough for my daddy, it will be good enough for me!" So he killed an animal!

Now look in the Book; in between every shadow, dove, drink offering, meal offering, wave offering, every feast of weeks, and unleavened bread, you will find Jesus! In between the inner court and the outer court, and the Holy of Holy's, you will find various aspects of Jesus Christ! Do not allow the Tabernacle to intimidate you, because it is all a

picture of Immanuel, who tabernacled amongst us! The blue on the door is a picture of His grace to a dying world, purple representing His majesty, the blood for His redemption, the whole encompassing door is a testimony of Jesus who said, **"I am the door, whereby if any man shall enter in, he shall find green pastures!"** From the brazen laver to the altar, to the tables of shewbread, and the candlesticks that lit up the most holy place, to the altar of incense for the prayers of the saints, to the veil that became a type of His flesh that when opened up, we behold the wonder of the; **"...Glory of the only begotten of the father, full of grace and truth."** All you are looking at is the various aspect of Jesus. To the linen ephod, that covered the priest, whereby when the oil hit it, it slid from fiber to fiber, becoming a picture of divine connection in the body of Christ, that no man can soak up the oil, but you have got to let it slide! Touch somebody and say, "You got to let it slide!"

We have got to then understand that God is teaching us about His glory! Laced in the tapestry of the decorations of the tabernacle, there is the faint stench and odor of burning sacrifice, burning flesh! Every praiser that got close enough to behold the glory, could smell the stench of sacrifices that were burned and offered up in their behalf!

I think that one of the problems that causes us to have to hire people to come in to bring us into praise and worship, is that we got a bunch of worshipers who cannot smell the stench of the burning flesh that Christ offered up for their redemption. I believe with all my heart, that if you ever catch a whiff of the price He paid for your redemption, we won't have to get a bunch of spiritual pom-pom girls to bring us into the presence of the Lord!

Touch somebody and say, "I smell something!" You can always tell if you are sitting by someone who smells something! Somebody who is cognizant of the fact, that if it had not have been for the Lord that was on my side, I would have been swallowed up and completely destroyed! Those kind of people really know how to worship! Kicking off shoes and dancing in panty-hose and socks! They don't care what they look like and they are not showing off, because they can smell the burning flesh that brought them out of the hell-hole they were in! You can't sit there and act like it was you might or power, it was God!

Those big stones that were hewn out of the mountain, that took the terrible beating as the finger of God impressed the law into those stones, becomes a picture of the holiness of God that was impressed unto Christ, who is my Rock of Ages! From Aarons rod that budded, blossomed, and brought forth fruit, that God would bring life out of a dead stick, is a prophesy that even when they thought He was dead, and hell was having a party, that overnight, the Glory of the Lord would cause life to come out of death. The bud for the father, the flower for the son, fruit for the Holy Ghost, that when He rose from the dead, the fullness of the Godhead would dwell in Him bodily! Everywhere you look, you are Looking at Jesus!

In every priest, sacrament, every vial, in every trumpet, you are seeing Jesus! In the scapegoat, He took the sins of Israel and took them away from us! We are seeing Jesus, who loaded our past up on His back, and took our past away from us, so that we might walk in the newness of life! If we ever preach that, it will put the psychologist out of business, because why would you continue to wrestle with something that Jesus already carried away! It's gone! It's gone! You don't have to be worried, intimidated, depressed, or be upset, He carried it away! It's gone! "His name shall be called Jesus, for He shall save His people FROM their sins!" "Behold the Lamb of God, who TAKETH AWAY the sins of the world!" It's gone!

Everything culminates as we behold His glory! From Moses who called Him that prophet, to Ruth who called Him the Kinsman Redeemer, to Isaiah who saw Him as a lamb going before the shearers, to Ezekiel who saw Him as a wheel in the middle of the wheel, or Daniel who saw Him as a stone coming forth out of the mountain, each of them are seeing the various aspects of the Glory and the Power of God! It doesn't matter if you stand at the tent of Moses, or if you stand before the glorious pillars of the temple of Solomon, at every stage along the process, consistently displayed, there is a bloodline and a burning flesh. Dropped out of the window of a prostitutes house in Jericho, was a red cord, it fell from her window, went all the way from Canaan, all through the wilderness, all down into Egypt, all through destitution, and idolatry, that one red cord kept moving.

See, what you need to understand is that you and I were saved by a thread! Nothing but a thread! Nothing but the blood of Jesus brought you all along the way! That's why we don't get all puffed up and self-righteous! We know that if it wasn't for a thread, we would be pushing dope on a street corner, wouldn't know whether you had on shoes or socks, you would just be somebody's case history carried around in a portfolio, but when hell thought it had you,

Heaven dropped a thread!

We are so busy having church, we forgot about Jesus! You can do what you want to, but I'm going back to Jesus!

Isaiah 9:6?7

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 53:5

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

This thing is not about you, your problems, your ministry, your church or reputation, not about your agenda, not about your business, not about your name, it is about Jesus! Somebody say, "JESUS!"

We have raised a generation of church people who know nothing about Jesus! We know about worship, and praise, we know how to Hallal, and how to Shabach, but we don't know nothing about Jesus! No wonder in the book of Revelations He is the one who stands in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks saying, "I am in the midst of the church!" Now in the Laodicean age He says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock!" What has happened to us that He started out the centralized force of the candlesticks and ended up a guest knocking at the door of our service? Giving up on our corporate worship, He begins to ask, "If any man out of the whole church hear my voice and open up the door, I will come in to him.....I'm not worried about trying to get the whole church; I've been working on the whole church, but if I can't get the whole system and committee, I'll knock at the door for ANY man!"

Hell asked a question. Satan held a ransom! He said, "I've got humanity tied up, and you're pacifying me!" "Every year you are holding me back with the blood of bullocks and the blood of goats!" "It's pacifying the problem, but it is not settling the problem. I want your son. I want a sacrifice. I want redemption. I'm not going to release humanity without a fight!" The Lord begin to send the Prophets, none of them were able to do it! Man wrestled with his own sin and failed in the process. All of the priest came, from Aaron on down, they all came, but they were all unable to deliver because of handling their own wretchedness and corruption, he sent the kings, but each one fell into his own corruption and snare, finally in exasperation God said, "It's time!" Touch somebody and say, "It's time!" You see, the time has got to be right. You can't get anything done until it's time! There's more to it than having the plan, you've got to know when to unfold it! **"In the fullness of time, God sent forth His son, born of a virgin....,"** He said, "Heaven, hold up a minute, I'm going to pour out of myself my glory and honor!" "I want you to go down there and find me a clean vessel." He found Him a little girl named Mary, He said, "Wait a minute, before I go to Mary, I've got to pour out some stuff." "I've got to pour out my omniscience, I've got to pour out my omnipresence, I've got to become poor, I've got to humble myself, I've got to reduce myself down to my lowest common denominator." Why, God? "Because if I stepped into he womb in the fullness of my power, I would blow her up!" "I am so powerful that she would not be able to stand my glory!" "I'm going to humble myself so you can be exalted!" **"In the fullness of time....., God.....!"** "I'm going to come down so you can go up!" God did it! Not an angel! Not a thought! Not humanism or Mohammed! Not Buddha! It was God! Stepped down into the womb of a virgin, wrapped himself in flesh, came out as Immanuel!

What God did was so awesome that it even blew the angel's minds! They said, "We've been with you since eternity and we've never seen you do this before!" "We was with you before there was a where or when, or a this or that, we saw you when you separated the firmaments that were above the water, from the firmament that was below the water, we saw you when you created the lesser and the greater lights, we saw you when you spoke to the barren seas and said "bring forth," and trout and bass begin to swim, we saw you when you spoke to the winds and eagles begin to spread

their wings, we saw you be a pillar of fire by night and a cloud by day, we saw you turn yourself into a tree that when it hit the bitter waters of Marah, they turned sweet, we saw you sent all kinds of deliverance, earthquakes, we saw you move by your power, saw you work through a brazen serpent, we saw you blow your breath on the Red Sea and create a highway right in the middle of a river, we saw you roll back old chilly Jordan and bring your children across on dry ground, we saw you release your power and your glory, but we have never seen you step over in a flesh coat!" "What do we call this, that a virgin should be with child?" They didn't know what to say, so they started murmuring, what do we call this, what do we call Him: they didn't know, so they just started calling Him "that Holy thing!"

God wants to do something in you and in this place, that your friends won't know what to call it! God wants to do something in your spirit that is so awesome, that everybody is going to be talking about you but they are not going to know what to say! God wants to put something down in your belly, that the church don't have a name for! I'm tired of fitting in the clique and in the club, I want to have something in me that you ain't got a name for! Just call it "that Holy thing!" Touch somebody and say, "I got something in me!" "I can't articulate it, can't explain it, it don't fit in with anybody, unexplainable, undefinable, intangible, illogical, may even sound crazy, but there is something holy in me!" It's holy! You can't destroy it, it's holy! You came here tonight with everything else in you, but you are going to leave with something holy! You won't be able to sleep at night because some things kickin' in you! This is Holy!

The child went down to Egypt, they hid the child in Egypt, the child came up out of Egypt, the child waxed strong in the favor of God and man, and the child.....no great ministry now, because He's a child. There's no fighting in the wilderness now, because He's a child. There's no raising of Lazarus from the dead, He's still a child. No, I am not jealous because you may be further along than I am, it's just not time!

We must protect the child! Before we do the spectacular, or ask God for the impossible, our first job of ministry, is to at all costs, protect the child! Protect the small things! Protect the things in you that haven't come to fullness yet! Protect your mind when you are in a smaller state, and someone is trying to belittle you! Hide the child!

I ain't running with you anymore, because you are trying to kill the child! I'm not talking to you anymore, you are trying to kill the child! I know it don't look like much to you, but I'm going to keep him, protect him from being killed! I know it's small now, just a baby, but if I'll protect him, he'll grow! If I'll nourish what God gave me, through the early stages, in the fullness of time, what was weak, is going to be mighty!

At the age of 12 He celebrates His Bar Mitzvah, and breaks away from His mother and father! When maturity comes, we always break away from flesh! Flesh can't find us because we are in the temple! Your old problems are looking for you and when they find you, they find you in the temple! Tell somebody, "Look for me in the temple!" "Not the bar, the joint!" "The temple!" "I'm not who I used to be, don't look for me where I used to be!

"Don't look for me in the joint, I won't be there! Don't look for me in depression, I won't be there! Not in Fear! Not in worry! Not in moodiness! I used to be moody, but I'm not moody anymore! If you are looking for me, look in the temple!" "I'm not who I used to be!"

That means that the things that used to bother and get on my nerves, don't bother me or get on my nerves anymore! The things that used to make me quit, I can take a lickin' and keep on tickin'!

Mary's baby, Joseph's stepson, grew up, went to the Jordan, threw an illustrated sermon, acted out His death! The only shadow that I could find in the New Testament was when the Lamb came to the water, stepped down into the waters of Jordan, which is a type of death, because it flowed into the dead sea, and said, **"Suffer me to be baptized, that it might fulfill all righteousness!"** He said, ***"I've got to act out what I'm going to do; the death, burial, and the resurrection!"*** He was saying, that He had to get them ready. "I didn't come to just heal sick folk, or just to raise the dead, or just to preach sermons, I've got to die!" "I'll turn it all over to them!" When you get baptized, you turn your weight over to another, to the one who took you down, and have confidence that he will raise you up again!" I'm telling you, He acted out His death, burial, and resurrection! Hasn't He ever took you down, only for you to have to depend on Him to raise you up?

He foreshadowed His death, burial, and His resurrection. The godhead didn't endorse Him until He came up! To fulfill the scripture that, "The fulness of the godhead would dwell in Him bodily when He rose from the dead!" "All power (exousia), in heaven and in earth is given unto me.....go ye therefore!" "This is my beloved son in whom I

am well pleased!” Then the Holy Ghost descended upon Him like a dove.....! You know, there is an anointing that comes upon you. You don’t even know when it hits you sometimes, it just comes down and hits you! You can just be driving around singing a song and the dove just come right in with you! Have you ever had the dove to just fall on you? That’s why I don’t mind if you lock me up in a prison, and throw away the key, that dove will just fly right through the bars!

He stood in the power of His might, and after His illustrated sermon, His prophecy, His shadow of His ultimate demise, He begin to minister, understanding that there was a death warrant upon Him! Don’t start preaching if you don’t know that there is a death warrant on you! No matter who you heal, bless, feed 5000 down by the seashore, don’t expect them to stay! Don’t expect you to stay! It is a temporary circumstance! Your greater glory will never be realized, until you go to the cross! Your greatest glory will not be at the peak of your ministry or success, not when everybody says you are wonderful, not when you get the award for greatest Christian, your greatest award will come when you finally say yes to death! The death of the cross! “.....For this purpose was I born, that everything in me would be consummated in the cross! The Bible said that, **“.....He set His face to go to Jerusalem!”** ***“I am not angry anymore because you don’t like me, I’m not trying to fit in your clique anymore, I will do nothing else to get in your club, I have set my face to go to Jerusalem!”*** ***“I have an appointment with destiny!”*** ***“If any man would be my disciple, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me!”*** ***“There will be a wedge between you and sometimes the very closest people to you, because your prophesy will only be fulfilled when you find your cross!”***

He’s not using wooden crosses anymore, don’t look for it to be that! Somebody’s marriage is their cross! He’s using things you can’t get off of or out of! Your will has got to be crushed, You’re in trouble and you can’t get down! God is using that situation to kill your flesh! Somebody’s city is their cross! You can’t get anything to work in that city, and you want to get away from it, but God is nailing your pride to the cross, to that city! Your rejection is just fulfilling God’s purpose in your life!

“Foxes have holes, and the birds have their nest, but the Son of Man hath no place to lay His head!” I know we have not preached the gospel to this generation, because there are always preachers running around trying to be accepted and included, and if we would have preached the gospel, they would come in knowing that you must be a misfit! Until you have no place to lay your head, until you have a cross, until you expect to be rejected, you have no ministry!

(Tell about the graphic details of the cross!) Almost where you needed to be, and He almost fainted, then He came to the cross. They stretched His right hand toward everlasting, and His left hand toward everlasting, **“.....From everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God!”** Two feet were gathered together and nailed by one nail, and it reminds me of the Jew and the Gentile coming together, up under one gospel! He hung his head, stripped of His clothing, His only covering was the blood that flowed! The only covering that God has ever ordained for the body of Christ, was the blood of Christ! He was stretched naked and vulnerable before the world, trembling, bones out of joint, it was so awesome that the sun said, “I can’t take it,” and refused to shine! It was so awesome that the ground got nervous and begin to tremble! It was so awesome that even the centurion fell on his knees and said, “Surely this man is the Son of God!” The veil in the temple was rent, not from the bottom to the top, where they could say a man did it, but from the top to the bottom, where only God could do it! He tore down the wall of partition forever, but even while He was dying, He was preaching!

If you ever want to hear some preaching, just listen to the words from the mouth of a dying disciple! You can’t preach right just reading books and taking notes, your best message comes while you are dying!

The dying Doctor preached life from the cross! He hung on the cross and preached justification, and said, **“Father forgive them, for they know not what they do!”** From His dying perch on the window of eternity, He preached His mighty gospel and His redemption and power, and begin to minister adoption when He said, **“Woman, behold thy son, Son behold thy mother!”** He stood on the brink of eternity and preached the fundamentals of our faith, while He was bleeding to death, and if you think that God called you to preach and you are just going to give it a half baked effort, you are crazy! You have to preach from a cross! You have to give your courage away until others are encouraged! You then go home discouraged and say, “Lord, give me what I gave to them!” “Strengthen me, so I can

strengthen somebody else!” “Help me, so I can keep on helping others!”

And so He died on the cross, and every time I read it, I tremble because I know, the Roman soldier didn't kill Him, neither did the Jews when they stood up and preferred Barrabbas, but my wretchedness crucified my Saviour! The things that I wrestle and struggle with, crucified the Lord! He died like a lamb in the forest, so I could live like a son in the kingdom! He died in by behalf, because God caught me guilty in the woods, sewing fig leaves together and making excuses! All of my life I have heard songs, preaching and teachings about the cross and I have trembled and trembled!

I realize that He died and went into a grave, and they thought He was gone! Three days of uncertainty! The third morning He arose, He got up with all power in His hands! I knew they had prepared Him for burial. They had wrapped Him and put Him away. The women had fixed Him with one inch strips of linen, wrapped Him like Lazarus, and laid Him in the tomb! I wasn't shocked because He woke up, because Lazarus had woke up, the dead damsel had woke up, I had seen people all through the Bible waking up from the dead: but there were some differences because everyone else that woke up from the dead, died again, but,....**He ever liveth, and maketh intercession for us!**"

There are just a few questions that I want to discuss with you and then I will get out of the way!

He got up, wrapped up in a mummies outfit, covered with aloes, frankincense and myrrh. He was packed in a cast, a cast that Lazarus had been. When Lazarus woke up, the cast was so rigid, he couldn't even walk out, he had to come out leaping! Even though Lazarus woke up, somebody had to loose him! My question is, "**Who loosed Jesus!**" He woke up and had nobody to loose Him. If you are going to preach this gospel, you are going to learn how to loose yourself! You have got to learn how to untie yourself! You have got to learn how to encourage yourself in the Lord!

Touch somebody and say, "I had to loose myself!" "I was waiting on you to come around and loose me, but you didn't come!" "I learned how to loose myself!" "I got tired of waiting on the intercessor's to intercede, I just loosed myself!"

He loosed Himself! He raised Himself up on His death-perch, on the bed of His consummation of the marriage of the church! He rose up with an angel on this side and an angel on that side and acted out the Mercy Seat, and there He sat on His perch, the Eternal Lamb that was forever slain for the sins of the world! He loosed Himself, stood naked in a grave yard! What I like about it is that He was so cool, calm and collected when He got up, He took enough time to calmly fold up His death napkin and set it on the side! You know when God brings you out, He can bring you out so good, that you haven't got to race out, come out scared, or nervous! You just need to "chill out!" When God brings you out, He will do it so good that you will be able to put things in order!

There He was having nothing to wear, the Elohim in Christ, spoke Him and outfit into existence, and stepped out of the tomb looking so new that even Mary did not know who He was! "Who are you stranger?" "MARY!" "RABBONI!" "I may not recognize you in your new clothes, but I know your voice!

You know what is wrong with the church? We are so tied up with looking for God to look like He used to look, that when He comes in another form, we don't know who He is! I'm telling you, when you get to the point that you recognize His voice, I don't care where the voice comes from, you will receive it!

He rose up, not just a good man! Tell that to the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Muslims! He rose up, not the good man, but the God-man! He rose up God enough to walk through a door without touching a doorknob, yet man enough to eat fish when He got on the inside! This is the gospel!

What really gets to me is that He showed Himself alive after his passion, by many infallible proofs! One writer said, "If they would have wrote down everything that Jesus did, all the books in the world could not contain the different ways that He could show you that He is God!" If we started telling everything that He did in us, to prove that He was God, it would blow people's minds, because the best part of your testimony, you haven't told anybody! Oh Yeah! You tell them that cute, little watered down, censored, church version, but I am talking about your real testimony! The things that God did in your life, that when you get ready to tell them, you say, "Wait a minute!" "I can't tell you all He did, but I'm glad He did!" Why don't you give God some praise in this place tonight! Why don't you give God the praise for the things that you just can't tell anybody about!

"This is my story, this is my song,...." The stuff you and I haven't told anybody about! The real story behind mine

and your praise! You see me shouting but you don't know what I'm shouting about! You see me dancing, but you don't know what I'm dancing about! Nobody knows but me and the Lord! Nobody knows but you and the Lord! The untold story!

I am almost finished. Do you know what blew my mind the most? After forty days of showing Himself alive, proving Himself over and over again, He stops just before He steps out on a cloud, and takes a limo back Home, the Bible says one word that makes me think everything that I thought about the cross was not enough. Jesus, standing on this side of the cross, looks back at it, and when He looks back at the cross, He eulogizes the whole issue in one statement in one phrase: they said, **".....after His passion!"** I thought to myself, how could you look at all of that pain, bleeding, dying, suffering, and treachery, and use the word "passion" to describe it? Suddenly I am confused, and I say, "God, what does this mean?" The word used there, "Passion" is everywhere else used, meaning, grief or pain. At first you would think that God mistranslated, then God lets you know, that passion is painful, and that it hurts to care. ***Suddenly I realize that what I saw as pain and agony, He saw as passion, because he was giving His body to His Bride! He called it passion because He was able to endure the pain, "..... for the joy that was set before Him!"*** The pain would have talked Him into coming down, but when He looked beyond the present pain and saw the future passion, He said, "I can take the pain, **".....these sufferings which are but for a moment, they are going to work for me a far more exceeding weight in glory!"** He looked past present pain and saw me and you, and He called it, ***"Passion!"***

Let me say one thing to you that will change your life. The reason God's people do not overcome their pain, is because they don't have enough passion for what I have called them to do! If you ever want it bad enough, it won't matter what anybody says, does, thinks or feels, how much it hurts, or how much you have to encourage yourself, if you ever see something in the spirit that you want bad enough, that you will say, "Lord, if it takes all of this, to get that, I'll take it, because I understand that when this is over I am going to get a glory that I have never had before!"

There's one thing I want you to know! There is something down the road for you! On the other side of pain, your trauma, problem, stress, and your test, there is a glory that will blow your mind! I feel that the Lord wants me to ask you a question, "How bad do you want it?" If you don't want it bad enough to go through what you got to go through to get it, then don't keep praying for it and bringing it up, until you can go to a cross and say, "If it takes this, to get that, then I'll do it!"

Or problem is, we think we can buy anointing with our tithes and offerings, like you by grocery's in the grocery store! I want you to understand one thing tonight: It costs something to be anointed! In your own personalized brand of hell, you will pay the price to lay hands on the sick, and raise the dead, and minister, and be successful! There are going to be many people who are going to be jealous of you, and they are going to hate you and say, "You think you are so much and all that!" They don't know that all the while you were preaching, you were dying!

I am offering water, as one dying man to dying men! Now, How bad do you want it?