

Word Which Is Able to Save

#0312

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—January 20, 1978

I'm so glad to have the privilege of speaking here tonight because I know you all want to be here especially. Everybody would have a good excuse tonight for not being here, isn't that correct, with weather like we're having. But as has been mentioned, we've all come for a blessing. And it is written:

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" Matthew 5:6.

And when God fills us, friends, that's something, isn't it?

I've been thinking about what it's going to mean in a little while from now as we're scattered out, under the combined necessity of sharing the Loud Cry message and fleeing persecution. I say under the double impact of what's ahead, we're going to be scattered. I've been thinking about what it's going to be, friends, when each one of us must stand the test all alone, all alone.

Not long ago, a dear friend of mine was telling me about the sorrow he experienced as a pastor, in being with a church for a while and lifting the standards, seeing people get help, and then moving on to another assignment and finding somebody else comes along with lowered standards and so many just drift back. Did you ever see it happen? Well, it's happening all the time all around. I long for every one of you to be so built upon the true foundation that wherever you are under what influence you find yourself, you are as firm as the Rock on which you are built.

Jesus said:

"And upon this Rock..." Matthew 16:18.

Speaking of Himself.

"...I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" Matthew 16:18.

God's purpose is that His church shall be just as immovable as He is. And concerning the remnant, it is written:

"Here is the patience of the saints..." Revelation 14:12.

Quote the rest with me:

"...here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" Revelation 14:12.

The faith of Jesus, they have the same faith He has. They believe what He believes, and they live His life. Oh friends, I want every one of you to have that experience. And you *can* have it.

Now, this evening we're going to go to the book of James, the 1st chapter, and beginning with the 16th verse. What are those first three words?

"Do not err..." James 1:16.

What does that mean? Don't make a mistake. Don't be mislead. Don't fool yourself. Don't let anybody else fool you.

"Do not err, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of His own will begat He us with the Word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures" James 1:16–18.

We were begotten with what? With His Word, with His Word. If a man begets a child, we call that man a father, don't we? God is our Father, and He's begotten us as His children through His wonderful grace. And this purpose is accomplished, James says, through what? Through His Word. Isn't that what it says? That's right.

I'm anxious that you shall fix your eyes on what the book says. Get the Word in your mind. What the preacher says is important only as it echoes the Word.

"Man's words, if of any value, echo the words of God"
Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 423.

And so, this is why I'm so glad when you bring your Bibles and turn and see what the Bible says.

So, we're begotten through what? The Word. Do you want the life of God in *your* life? Do you want the faith of Jesus in *your* mind and heart? Then, receive the Word, for it is through the Word that this is accomplished.

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness..."
James 1:19–21.

Now, will you read with me the next two lines please:

"...and receive with meekness the engrafted Word, which is able to save your souls" James 1:21.

Receive what? The Word. Receive the Word, and that Word is able to do something. What is it? Able to save your souls. I wonder, is it, friends? Do you think it can save a man from drink? Can it save a man from tobacco? Can it save a man from an evil temper? Can it save a man from doubt and discouragement, lust, impurity, in act or thought? Can it save a man from vain ambition, pride? Is there any sin that a man cannot be saved from through this Word? No.

The psalmist says:

“Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee” Psalm 119:11.

I’ve been meditating on this expression of the apostle’s, “Receive this Word, which is able to save your souls” (James 1:21).

“Well,” somebody says, “I thought it was Jesus that saves us.”

Indeed it is. And He is the Word, isn’t He, the living Word. But it is not that Jesus is over here, and the Word is over there. Oh, no. We receive Jesus through the Word. When we receive His Word we receive Him. And that’s what the apostle is telling us here. If we receive with meekness, that is, with humility, this Word, it’s able to do what? Save your soul. Oh, I thank God for this promise. What do you say?

“...Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls” James 1:21.

Now in this, we note a clear distinction, a tremendous difference between the word of man and the Word of God. Men may give us information, but the information they give us is only *that*. They may give us instruction, but the instruction they give us is only *that*. But the information that Jesus gives us and the instruction that Jesus gives us, those words, that Word, received into our hearts furnishes the power to *do* what it’s talking about.

Now, Christ healed the sick in order that men might understand how this operates. Let’s turn over to the book of Matthew the ninth chapter 2nd verse. Here they brought to Jesus a man sick of the palsy. He was paralyzed. There he was lying on the bed. And Jesus said to this man who was sick of the palsy, seeing his faith and the faith of the people that brought him, He said:

“Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee”
Matthew 9:2.

And some of the scribes and Pharisees that were around there looking for trouble, they found it fast when they heard Jesus say *that*. “Why,” they said in their hearts, “this Man’s blaspheming. The very idea. He’s claiming to forgive sins” [a paraphrase of Matthew 9:3–5].

And Jesus could read their minds. He knew their thoughts. And He said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? Which do you think is easier, to tell this man

that his sins are forgiven or to tell him he's healed and to rise up and walk?" [a paraphrase of Matthew 9:4–5].

"Now," He says, "in order that you may know that I have the power to do the thing you *can't* see, I'm going to let you see what you *can* see. I'm going to let you see this man be healed and get up and walk" [a paraphrase of Matthew 9:6].

And so, He turned to the sick man and said:

"Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house..."
Matthew 9:6.

What happened in the next verse?

"And he arose, and departed to his house. But when the multitude saw it, they marveled..." Matthew 9:7–8.

I'd think they would, wouldn't you? Here's a man that hadn't been able to walk at all, and instantly he rises and walks. Where did he get the power to do that? From the Word of Christ. The same Word that spoke forgiveness for his sins spoke healing to his wasted muscles.

And so, it is written in the 107th Psalm the 20th verse:

"He sent His Word and healed them..." Psalm 107:20.

The healing is in the Word just as the forgiveness is in the Word. You see, we're dealing with creative power, brethren and sisters, wonderful, creative power.

"By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. For He spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast" Psalm 33:6, 9.

God can't lie because whenever He says a thing, it's so. If it wasn't so before He said it, it's so as *soon* as He says it. God's saying it is so, makes it so. And anything that is true, it's true because God said it, not the other way around. God doesn't speak the truth by looking around and finding out what is true and deciding He will say that. No. Whatever God says, that *is* the truth. Isn't that wonderful, friends? So, in the Word itself is the power to make so that which it says. The Word of God. No man can talk like that.

Now, back to this man who was sick of the palsy there. There he is, his muscles wasted, his nerves not functioning and causing his muscles to walk. And Jesus says:

"But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith He to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house"
Matthew 9:6.

And he did! Oh, I repeat, what a wonderful power in that wonderful Word. And so, James says, "Receive that Word into your mind and heart, and it's able to save your souls" [a paraphrase of James 1:21]. What do you say, friends?

Now, let's watch something very interesting over here in Hebrews the fourth chapter, verse two, speaking of Israel:

"For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the Word preached did not profit them..."
Hebrews 4:2.

Let's stop there a minute. You mean it's possible for the Word to be preached and nobody gets any help from it? Something wrong with the Word, isn't there? Nothing wrong with the Word at all. Paul goes ahead and explains what the problem was. No problem with the Word.

"...but the Word preached did not profit them..."
Hebrews 4:3.

Why?

"...not being..." Hebrews 4:3.

What?

"...mixed with faith in them that heard it" Hebrews 4:3.

So, while the Word is able to save your souls, it must be mixed with what? Faith. When you receive it, you must receive it with faith and the faith must be mixed with the Word. That's the thing.

How many of you men here have ever mixed concrete or mortar? Yes. Well you know, there are certain ingredients there, but you've got to do what? Either in the machine or by hand, you've got to what? Mix, mix. And you can put the ingredients there and let them sit there all night and all day and all the next night, and you still don't have any mortar or concrete ready to work with, right? It's got to be what? Mixed.

You ladies in cooking have many recipes that call for what? Mixing. And today we have all these gadgets, blenders and mixers. What's the purpose of it? Well, there are some recipes that call for a mixing. And you know how far you'd get if you'd put so much flour in a pan and so much water and just put some yeast over here on one side of it and not mix the flour and the water and the yeast. If you'd just let it sit there, it'd be a long time before it would be ready to put in the oven, wouldn't it? Yes. You all know that all those ingredients have to be what? Mixed.

And my dear friend, if the Word of God has seemed to fail on some point in your life, don't blame the Word. Israel failed. The Gospel was preached to them, but

the Word preached did not profit them because why? It wasn't mixed with what? Faith. It wasn't mixed with faith.

Why, do you know friends, a little flour and a little water and a little yeast put together in the right proportions and *mixed* will accomplish a lot more than tons of it just set side by side, and you just look at it for days or weeks. Mixing is vital.

How do we mix faith with the Word? We mix faith with the Word by reading it with a willing heart. And when we read it say, "Lord, I believe." That's what faith says. Faith says, "I believe." But now, it does more than say, "I believe."

Let's go over to James again, just a few pages over to your right. Let's see what the apostle's talking about. James 1, we read the 21st verse; now we're ready for the 22nd with it.

"Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness..." James 1:21.

What was it we read?

"...the engrafted Word, which is able to save your souls"
James 1:21.

And what's the next word? "*But*." Oh. There's a "But" there, is there? It's able to save your souls, *But*. Don't be afraid of that "but." It's very important.

"But be ye..." James 1:22.

What?

"...doers of..." James 1:22.

What?

"...of the Word..." James 1:22.

The Word that's able to save your souls. You are to be what?

"...*doers* of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" James 1:22.

And what does he say happens to people that just listen to the Word and don't do it? What happens to them? They deceive their own souls.

And let me tell you, friends, they have a lot of help today. Even preachers, I'm sorry to say, are helping people to be deceived on this point, giving them the idea that if they just listen and assent to it that that'll take care of the matter.

I read a statement in *Desire of Ages* I want to share with you. It's on page 309:

“The greatest deception of the human mind in Christ’s day was that a mere assent to the truth constitutes righteousness” *Desire of Ages*, page 309.

“...a mere assent to the truth constitutes righteousness” *Ibid.*

Then, down the page it adds:

“The same danger still exists” *Ibid.*

I would say it does. The idea that you can read something in the Bible, or hear the preacher preach it, and if you nod your head this way and agree to it that that constitutes righteousness.

Somebody says, “Isn’t that righteousness by faith?”

No, that’s righteousness by presumption, my friends, not righteousness by faith. And that’s deceiving your own souls. That’s what we’re reading here in James.

“...Receive with meekness the engrafted Word, which is able to save your souls. *But* be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves” James 1:21–22.

Then, he goes ahead and gives an illustration about the man looking in a mirror and going away and not *doing* anything about what he sees. And so, the mere hearing of sermons, the mere reading of the Bible, the mere receiving the Word through the ear is not sufficient. The Word must be received not only in the mind but in the heart. It must be accepted not only with the intelligence but with the will, the decision.

Now, back to our man there in Capernaum. Jesus says to him:

“...Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house”
Matthew 9:6.

Suppose the man had said, “Well, Jesus, I believe You have the power. I believe You have the power.” And that’s all he’d done, just said, “I believe, I believe, I believe.”

What would have happened? Nothing would have happened, my friends. His faith had to reach the point where belief would be translated into what? Action. Do you see? This is vital. And that’s what James is telling us. The Word is able to save your souls.

“...*But* be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only...”
James 1:22.

Did the paralyzed man, did he hear the Word of Christ? Did that Word have creative power in it? But friends, if the man had not *acted* on it, that creative Word

would have failed. The man would have failed to get any good out of it, wouldn't he? Oh, do you see that delicate point, that delicate balance? The human will must not only say, "I believe," but it must say, "I believe enough to *act* on it. I believe that Word, and therefore I'll do what it says, even though it seems impossible." *This* is righteousness by faith, faith that is so good it works.

Now, James has some more to tell us about faith and the Word. Let's go over here to James the 2nd chapter verses 17–18:

"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is..." James 2:17.

What?

"...dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works"
James 2:17–18.

How did the apostle expect to manifest his faith? By works. Now, it is possible, dear friends (we must never forget this!), it's possible to go through some outward human works without true faith. That's not righteousness by faith. It's neither righteousness nor faith, neither one. That's what's called legalism, trying to be saved by our works apart from Jesus. But that isn't what we're studying. We're studying the power of the Word which is able to do what? Save your souls. The Word will do what? Save your souls.

But in order to do it, it must be what? Mixed with what? Faith. And faith is not only believing what Jesus says but believing it enough to what? To act upon it and respond to it. The power is in the Word. It isn't in the man. That man, that paralyzed man, unless Jesus had worked the mighty miracle, his will, his decision to walk wouldn't have meant a thing, would it? Not a bit. But when did Jesus work the miracle? He worked it when the man believed in the Word of Christ.

There's a miracle that God longs to work in every heart that needs that help from Jesus tonight. The power to break from sin, the power to overcome temptation, the power to rise above some habit, some indulgence, some discouragement, some worry, some fear, some problem, the power to do it, my brother, my sister, is in the Word of Jesus Christ.

"All His biddings are enablings" *Christ Object Lessons*, page 333.

"All His biddings are enablings" *Ibid.*

But remember:

"...Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" James 1:22.

Now, let's turn over a page to Peter, see what Peter has to say about it, 1 Peter the 1st chapter and the 23rd verse. You remember, James told us that we were begotten through what? Through the Word. Here Peter says in the 23rd verse:

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by..." 1 Peter 1:23.

What?

"...by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever"
1 Peter 1:23.

So whether we use that figure of speech "begotten" or the figure of speech "being born," the Word is the agency through which God generates in our lives the very life of Himself. It is through the Word that we receive that power, "begotten" or "born" through the power of Jesus. Operating through what? Through the Word. Do you want more of that power in your life? Then, more of the Word.

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass..." 1 Peter 1:23–24.

Do you ever find it that way? Do you ever find other people weak, not permanent, nothing to count on? Do you ever find it in your own heart and life? Oh, yes. Peter, the very man that wrote this, he certainly found it so, didn't he? Oh, he had promised to be faithful and true to Jesus to the end. And when he was tempted, down he went, down he went. But thank God, the Word of Jesus received into his heart brought repentance and stability. And Peter became a solid pillar in the church. So, he's writing from experience as well as by inspiration.

"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away" 1 Peter 1:24.

Twenty-fifth verse, read together:

"But the Word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the Word which by the gospel is preached unto you" 1 Peter 1:25.

This is the good news, this Word that endures. Not like the grass fading. Not like the flower wilting, losing its beauty. This is the Word that endures forever

Now, changing his figure, notice what he says, reading right on. The second chapter:

"Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire..." 1 Peter 2:1–2.

What?

“...the sincere milk of the Word...” 1 Peter 2:2.

Here is the Word again. Peter is talking about the Word. James is taking about the Word. Why? Because that's where the power is. And here, he compares it to what? Milk. And he compares new converts to newborn babes. He said we were born again of the Word. And now we're to “desire the sincere milk of the Word that we may” what? Grow thereby. Note then, the same agency through which Christ *begins* the work in our lives, that same agency is the channel He uses to keep adding *to* our lives.

Oh friends, as a mother nourishes that child before it's born from her own body, and then after the child is born continues to nurse it from her breast, imparting to that little one her own life, so Christ longs to impart His life to us through this Word, my friends. Isn't it a shame that there are so many things today to divert and distract the mind so that so little time is spent by the people of this generation in searching the Word, searching the Word.

There are literally millions of people here in America that are spiritually illiterate, spiritually illiterate. They took a poll not long ago and they found that there was a great percentage of the population that couldn't name properly any number of the Ten Commandments. They're not acquainted with them, and so with other things in the Bible.

Ah brothers and sisters, dear friends, if we want the life of God, we must receive it through what? Through His Word. So, let's read it, commit it to memory and receive it by faith. And that means to reach the point where we do what? Act upon it, act upon it. Thank God for faith. Thank God for the Bible.

And I want to tell you something, friends. No matter how little faith you have, if you'll start using what you *do* have, reading the Word, and telling the Lord you believe it and act on it, it'll grow, it'll grow. Just like a baby feeding on the mother's milk, it grows. And so, you and I can grow as we feed on the Word, as we feed on the Word.

Now, I want to have a little testimony meeting tonight. Any of you folks that have already spoken this month, you listen tonight and let the people speak that haven't spoken this month so far. Come up and bear your witness, and tonight our witness is going to be especially in appreciation of Christ, the living Word, as He speaks to us through this written Word.

If you have some word of appreciation, some thanksgiving of what Christ through His Word has meant to you if you're thankful that the Savior who died for you lives for you and speaks to you through this Word, come up and bear your witness just now.

[Woman from congregation] I'm thankful for the joy that the Lord gives when we step out and follow exactly what He says in His Word. There is a satisfaction and a peace that comes that can't be met in any other way.

[Elder Frazee] That's right.

[Woman from congregation] I want to praise the Lord today for the Word that He's given to us, to the light that He's given to us that shines in a dark place. Many times my heart has been so dark and empty, and yet I can go to the Word of God, and there I can find, every time I can find words of peace, not words of strife, but words of peace and comfort to me, and I just want to praise the Lord.

[Elder Frazee] Thank the Lord.

[Woman from congregation] I've tasted that the Lord truly is gracious, and I thank Him that as I partake of the milk and desire the milk that He will supply the growth.

[Elder Frazee] That's it. The vitamins and minerals are all in there, and the amino acids, too.

[Woman from congregation] I want to add my thanks to my Savior, and my praise. If He didn't comfort through this, if it wasn't for this, I would still be demon-possessed, and I wouldn't be here, and I love Him with all my heart.

[Elder Frazee] God bless you. Thank God for the freedom through the Word.

[Man from congregation] I read that the Bible is on tape now and the whole Bible, you can sit down and listen to it. And what it says on there is 90 hours to listen to the whole Bible through. And I started thinking, "My, 90 hours, is that all?" Fifteen minutes a day, you could read the whole Bible in a year, and if you read it an hour a day you could read it through three times in a year, four times actually.

And I really was ashamed when I heard it. I'd never thought of it that way before. And so, I started reading in three or four different places and find it for me best that way, but I've just been coming on to so many wonderful things about the story of Ebenezer where Samuel prayed to the Lord for deliverance from the Philistines, and it says:

“...the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them...”
1 Samuel 7:10.

Nothing that Israel did. It's just the Lord thundered on them. And all through the Psalms I've been praying for words to speak to patients, and it's right there in the Word.

[Elder Frazee] Thank the Lord.

[Same man continuing] I just hadn't found what to say in due season, and it's right there, just waiting to say. So, I want to give my testimony that the Word is powerfull, and it's where I want to invest the time that I have.

[Elder Frazee] Thank the Lord.

“He sent His Word, and healed them...” Psalm 107:20.

Don't forget that, Psalm 107:20.

All right, Larry.

[Brother Larry] I'm thankful tonight for the Word of God, and for the privilege it offers us of having some absolutes in this world. So many people are wondering about different things, just like the Greeks were back there when Paul talked to them, and they're wondering if anything's absolute. And I'm thankful I can turn to the Bible and know that some things are for sure, some things are settled, and I can join in on that side.

And I'm thankful also for the promises in there of God guiding us, and of being our friend, because There are a lot of everyday problems you come to, you can't turn to a certain book in the Bible and tell you what to do at that moment. And the Lord wants to make His presence known to us and have it be a real experience day by day. And I've been praying that I could understand more of that.

And recently, I just had the privilege of getting a ride partway to my destination with a friend of mine, and when I was confused about what step to take next (because it wasn't preplanned), I just decided to stop at an exit at the freeway and get out there and then make arrangements so I wouldn't detain my friends.

And when I got out, of course, they insisted that I should continue on or they would wait for me until I made arrangements, so I called the bus station in town, the town of Atlanta, Georgia, which is, of course, a big city, and asked to where the bus station was and things.

And the lady says, “Well, where are you at now?”

And I told her the two freeway intersections that I was at.

And she says, “Well, you're just right at our only branch bus station.”

And I thought, “Wow,” you know. And so, I went and asked the guy at the gas station. I was one exit away from this bus station. So, I got on the freeway and went back to this one bus station, and I told them to go ahead, and I'd just wait for the bus to come.

And they said, “Oh, no, we're going to wait until the bus is here.”

And I thought, “Oh, no.” So I was detaining them from that.

And so, I went and asked the man when the bus would get here, and he said, “Oh, it should be here in two or three minutes.”

And so, the Lord, He wants to take care of every part of our life, and He starts out by giving us some absolute truths, and it doesn't end there. He wants to be my personal friend. And I know so many times I hold Him up from that, and I want to turn more of my daily and momentary decisions over to Him so that I can see them work out the way that I would want them to work out.

[Elder Frazee] Larry, does it always work that way or are there some times when you have delays?

[Brother Larry] That's a good point. You know, it's a blessing that it doesn't always work so that it fits perfectly into my schedule, but it always works perfectly for Him.

[Elder Frazee] How do you know that?

[Brother Larry] Well, I know it because of the absolutes.

[Elder Frazee] That's right. You know it by the Word.

[Brother Larry] Right, by the Word.

[Elder Frazee] That's right.

[Brother Larry] I had another experience that was similar in a different way just this last week. I fixed a truck for a friend, and I was going to finish it Tuesday, and I was going to finish it Wednesday, and I was going to finish it Thursday, but everything was going wrong. And so I was, you know, I was thinking everything was going wrong. But I kept remembering how the Lord took care of every situation up to that point.

And so, Friday morning I got the truck done and was planning on leaving, and so I had to pour the water and the oil back in. And so, I poured the oil in, and it began running out on the ground. Then, I poured the water in, and I hadn't done a thing to anything with the water system on the car, but when I poured the water in it started running out the radiator squirting on me.

And of course, after finishing the job for three days, I was ready to throw wrenches and do everything else. And just at that time these people came and asked me to have worship that night.

And I thought, "Oh, I could never have worship. I just have totally the wrong attitude."

And it took the rest of the morning and into the afternoon to get the job done, but it was finally finished.

And that night, the Lord really poured out His Spirit at our worship, and I had a real special burden for these children that were at this place. And I just prayed that somehow I could speak to them because sometimes you think children are just watching all around and everything and not really listening.

And one of the children, who was like a leader in leading other children into rebelling and fighting and everything—at the end of our worship, we had a special call for the children, and this 10 or 11-year-old boy after about three minutes just got up crying and crying, and the Lord broke his heart and broke my heart, and all the other children got up. And I knew then why the oil leaked and why the water was running all over me.

But I'm still thankful that the Lord knows best, and I want to submit to Him.

[Elder Frazee] Thank you, brother, thank you.

All right, Peter. We've been reading from your ancient namesake.

[Brother Peter] Yes, we have. I'm very thankful for the message tonight. I know it pertains to me very much so.

[Elder Frazee] Thank the Lord.

[Brother Peter] So many times I heard the Word and did not act, but I pray that I would have the strength and power to indeed act when the Word is spoken.

Something about the mixing of ingredients which is very interesting, and that is if the ingredients are brought close together and if they're meant to be mixed and if they're not mixed, very quickly they decay, and they have to be destroyed. And I pray that none of us here should be in that position.

[Elder Frazee] Right. Thank you, Peter.

[Man from congregation] I've been receiving a real special insight as I'm reading the Bible, starting to read the Bible through this year, starting right at the beginning at Genesis. And I was trying to see as I read what is the main theme. And to me, it seems like the theme is that these men, these patriarchs, these men of God of a past generation, all knew God.

[Elder Frazee] That's it.

[Same man continuing] They knew Him personally, and He guided their lives. And that really meant something to me because I was looking for God's guidance and am looking for God's guidance, and I want to be His friend, so I can hear His voice, and He'll lead me even into lands that I know not, like He did for Abraham.

[Elder Frazee] Thank the Lord, brother.

[Man from congregation] Psalm 33:6, 9:

“By the Word of the LORD were the heavens made...”
Psalm 33:6.

“For He spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast” Psalm 33:9.

I’m so thankful for God’s creative and re-creative power that is in His Word.

“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust” 2 Peter 1:4.

[Elder Frazee] Thank you.

[Woman from congregation] First of all, I’d like to say what a blessing it’s been for me lately to sing scripture as I go about my work or when different temptations come. And as this tune is combined with the Word it seems to bring it alive a lot more. I’m thankful for a lot of the new scripture songs I’ve been able to learn recently through a gift of Sister Borton. I’m also thankful this evening for a promise in Jeremiah 33 verse 3:

“Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not” Jeremiah 33:3.

I’m thankful that God loved us enough that He was willing to put His divine words in human language that we could study them, and I long to not only read the Word but be willing to act on it.

[Elder Frazee] That’s it.

[Woman from congregation] I’m so thankful for the promise:

“...they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength...” Isaiah 40:31.

And I’ve been experiencing that in a real way. In the last several weeks, I’ve had several disappointments, and the Lord has just given me real courage each time, you know, to bear them. And I’ve really been enjoying working at the hospital lately because I prayed—one day I prayed that the Lord would help me to be a witness for Him. And I was able to make a real good contact with one of the patients, and now I want to go visit her. And the Lord has just given me so many opportunities to be a witness for Him, and I’m really thankful that He’s leading in my life.

[Elder Frazee] And He’s thankful, too.

[Man from congregation] I really love this book that we have.

[Elder Frazee] Thank God.

[Same man continuing] And I really love my Savior. And this book tells me a lot about my Savior, and I like to dig in this book for hidden treasures. And I came

across a hidden treasure that I'd like to share with you about our Savior. We don't usually think of Jesus as leaping, at least I don't, but I'd like to read you this treasure that was unhidden to me from Song of Solomon chapter 2 verse 8:

"The voice of my beloved! behold, he cometh leaping upon
the mountains, skipping upon the hills" Song of Solomon 2:8.

That tells me a lot about my Savior, and I praise Him for this treasure, and I praise Him for this book.

[Elder Frazee] God bless you.

There are angels hovering round,
There are angels hovering round,
There are angels, angels hovering round.

They will carry tidings home,
They will carry tidings home,
They will carry, carry tidings home.

To the New Jerusalem,
To the New Jerusalem,
To the New, the New Jerusalem.
"There Are Angels Hovering Round," Author Unknown.

Aren't you glad we can keep the angels busy?

All right.

[Woman from congregation] I'm so thankful for the Word, the way it shows—how it reveals my character, and how I can come up on the points that I need to, and it's been helping me to be submissive to the Word.

[Elder Frazee] Thank God.

[Same woman continuing] And I'm so thankful, and I know that I have a little bit and a lot more to come up, but through the grace of Christ, He'll help me.

[Elder Frazee] Of course, He will.

All right, my brother.

[Man from congregation] I'd like to share a few things. The first time I can remember that I read the Gospels and the power of the Word that was in the Gospels, that Word just leaped right out at me.

[Elder Frazee] Good.

[Same man continuing] And it took ahold of me, and as I was going through each Gospel and I got down to the point where Christ was being crucified where He

was before Pilate, and it was just like I was right there. I mean the pages, it's almost like they were glowing. I could see Pilate going back and forth and I could see Christ there, and it was almost like a movie in my mind.

[Elder Frazee] Better than that.

[Same man continuing] Better, you're right. But there was such power, there was such power. And that Word just leaped out at me, and it convicted me, and it encouraged me, and it thrilled me. And it's just what the Bible says, the Word is quick, and it's living, and I'm thankful for the Word, that it's alive and it's still alive, just as alive now as it was when I first read it, when it was first written, and I'm just thankful for God's Word.

[Elder Frazee] Amen.

[Woman congregation] I'm especially lucky because—not lucky, blessed. I need to change my vocabulary.

[Elder Frazee] That's coming.

[Same woman continuing] The first time I ever experienced the power of the Word was when I was dying once, and I was going into shock, and I had reached the point where I didn't care if I lived or died. It didn't really make much difference. But then, after that stage, I became frightened. I didn't really feel prepared for death.

And I asked someone there (you know, I was just on the verge of losing consciousness), to please get a Bible. And I'd never read the Bible much before. I mean, I'd heard it quoted and everything, but I'd never personally searched it. And they read to me from Psalms. And as they read to me, this hope just filled my soul, and the life just flowed back into my body. It was just an amazing experience.

[Elder Frazee] Thank God.

[Same woman continuing] And I'm so grateful for the power of love.

[Elder Frazee] Amen.

[Man from congregation] I'm thankful for Christ and His Words that give so many of you folks the thankfulness in your hearts because that helps raise me and raise my thoughts towards God and others.

And I was just thinking that I hope that we can encourage each other with our words to give our friends an atmosphere to grow in. We can't grow for them. Christ can't grow us, but He can and we can give the atmosphere and the fertile soil to help one another to accomplish what we have to accomplish.

[Elder Frazee] Thank you, my brother.

All right. When Brother Wilson has given his witness, we'll close the testimony session.

[Brother Wilson] Well, I'm just so thankful to God that He convicted me on the Bible, and it gives me such peace of mind and heart. There's no other book that I've ever read that gives me peace in my soul as when I read the Bible and knowing that Jesus is up there in the Most Holy Place judging now so that this world can come to an end and all can go home.

[Elder Frazee] Thank you, brother. Now, turn to number 567 [Old Adventist Hymnal (1941)]

“Come, every soul by sin oppressed,
There's mercy with the Lord,
And He will surely give you rest,
By trusting in His Word.”

Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal (1986), #279, first stanza.

Is that what it says? Let's sing it. And while we're singing, dear ones, there's somebody here tonight that needs help. Maybe you've never given yourself to Jesus. Do it tonight. Maybe you did once and lost out. Come back tonight. Maybe you've been walking with the Lord, but there's some great burden on your heart, some temptation you're fighting, some struggle you're having, a longing desire perhaps in your soul for peace or for victory.

Whatever the burden, if there's somebody here with a burden tonight, come up, kneel down here, pray for yourself, let us pray for and with you, and let Jesus pray at the mercy seat in your behalf.

“Come, every soul by sin oppressed,
There's mercy with the Lord,
And He will surely give you rest,
By trusting in His Word.

Only trust Him, only trust Him,
Only trust Him now;
He will save you, He will save you,
He will save you now.

For Jesus shed His precious blood
Rich blessings to bestow;
Plunge now into the crimson flood
That washes white as snow.

Only trust Him, only trust Him,
Only trust Him now;
He will save you, He will save you,
He will save you now.

Yes, Jesus is the Truth, the Way,
That leads you into rest;
Believe in Him without delay,

And you are fully blessed.

Only trust Him, only trust Him,
Only trust Him now;
He will save you, He will save you,
He will save you now.”

Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal (1986), #279, stanzas 1–3.

Will the congregation kneel with us as we pray?

Our precious Lord, here we are at Thy feet. We thank Thee that we’ve come to accept that wonderful invitation. We’re trusting Thy Word, Lord. Thou has said:

“...him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out”
John 6:37.

That is, there is no possibility of Thy casting me out. And so, in the arms of faith and love, we bring to Thee each one of these dear ones that’s seeking Thee. Oh, Lord, hear the desire of every heart. Those that need tonight to make the full decision to follow Jesus, help them right now. Help them to say with all their hearts, “Lord, I accept your Word. I act upon it. I *will* give myself to Jesus and I *will* do it now.”

And I know that the precious blood of Jesus will cover the past and give us power for the future. And then Lord, whatever the other burdens are, the burdens of worry, fear, temptation, uncertainty, the need of guidance, the need of healing of body or mind or soul, we bring all these needs to Thee tonight. Thou hast a big heart. Thou hast infinite power. And we’ve read here tonight:

“He sent His Word, and healed them...” Psalm 107:20.

Oh, send forth Thy light tonight. Fill this chapel with Thy presence. Fill every heart. Make us know that God, the living God, has heard our prayers not because of anything good in us but because of the merits of Jesus. We thank Thee that He died for us, that He lives for us, that He’s pleading for us there at the mercy seat tonight.

And so, in His dear name, we commit this congregation to Thee. Take us to our homes safely over the dangerous roads tonight, and give us a wonderful Sabbath blessing. And may we share with others the good news that this Word is able to save their souls through faith in the blessed Christ. We thank Thee in His name, amen.

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