

# Real New Earth

#0404

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—June 2, 1972

What do you think, folks? Do you think it's real? Or is that just some imaginary thing?

Well, I'm very sure that it's just as real as anything in this chapel tonight, friends. And I'll tell you one of the reasons that convinces me most. It's this last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation.

You know, this book of Revelation properly forms the final volume of the 66 volumes that make up this great library we call the Bible. Men have called this the Revelation of Saint John, the divine, but the book itself gives its title in the first verse:

"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John: Who bare record of the Word of God..."  
Revelation 1:1–2.

John was the penman. John was the secretary. The angel Gabriel was the messenger, but the source was God and His Son Jesus Christ in heaven. And this book was given to us to reveal Jesus in a special way, for this is what the world needs, isn't it, friend? Jesus.

But in what way is Jesus revealed here? Well, perhaps as no other book in all the Bible does, this book of Revelation takes in the whole sweep of human history. In fact, it gives us a flashlight picture of something that began in heaven before this world was made, the great controversy between Christ and Satan. That's in the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

And then, it goes on beyond all the history that we know and takes us on into the future, and reveals how things are going to wind up in this world, as it is today. And this book, as no other book in the Bible does, opens up in a glorious revelation the final destiny of this planet.

Let's look at it this way for a minute. You remember that in the first two chapters of the Bible, Genesis 1 and Genesis 2, we have the inspired account of the beginning of this world. We read there that:

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth"  
Genesis 1:1.

We read the account of how He spoke, and there was light. He spoke and there was air, water, land, trees, flowers, fruits, sun, moon, stars, fish, birds, animals, man. And then, the seventh day, God rested.

We read of how God established a beautiful garden home called Eden and how He placed our first parents there. And that whole picture in Genesis 1 and Genesis 2 is a beautiful picture of a beautiful experience, everything lovely and peaceful.

But in the third chapter, the serpent enters. And he gets the ear of our first parents. He persuades them to transgress God's law. And trouble begins at once and has been here ever since.

This book, the Bible, is the only book that explains all that: how the world started, how trouble started in sin. Now, in between those first three chapters of the Bible and the last three chapters of the Bible lies the record of the great controversy for 6,000 years. But now, when we come to the last three chapters of the Bible, the last three chapters of the book of Revelation, we find that as the serpent came in in the third chapter from the beginning, he goes out in the third chapter from the last.

We see an angel come down from heaven with the key of the bottomless pit, Revelation 20 verse 1. Second verse, he lays hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and binds him, shuts him up for a thousand years.

Then, at the end of the thousand years, the seventh verse, he's loosed from his prison. The nations are deceived by him and gathered to fight against God. And then comes the final judgment pictured in verses 11, 12 and 13. Sin and sinners are destroyed, and there's no more curse.

And then, in the last two chapters of the Bible, Revelation 21 and 22, with the serpent gone, with sin destroyed, Eden once more blooms on earth. That tree of life that once our first parents ate of freely is again here on this planet. That river of water of life which flowed from the center of the Garden of Eden and went out to water the earth in all parts, once again we see that crystal stream flowing.

And friends, where is it now? Where is it now? Oh, it's in heaven. It's in heaven.

Do you remember that Jesus, when He left this world, said to His disciples:

"In my Father's house are many mansions... I go to..."  
John 14:2.

What?

"...to prepare a place for you..." John 14:2.

Is He doing it? Oh, yes. And now, look in Revelation the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter verses 1-2, and see what God inspired His prophet John to write:

“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband” Revelation 21:1–2.

“Prepared,” did you notice that? Who prepares it? Jesus prepares it. He said He would. He said:

“...I go to prepare a place for you” John 14:2.

Here is this prepared place, prepared in heaven for us. And John in holy vision, looking forward to the time when the Devil and sin have been destroyed, sees heaven open and sees that glorious jasper city coming down to this world. What for? Well, let’s see in the third verse:

“And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God” Revelation 21:3.

God wants to live with man, my friends. God wants to live with man. Now really, if you didn’t understand God, you would wonder why on earth God would want to come here. This would be about the last place you’d imagine God wanting to come, provided you didn’t understand it.

But the Bible says:

“...God is love” 1 John 4:8.

And God’s love goes out *most* to those who need Him most, and that’s you and me. There is no place in all the universe that has needed God like this planet.

This is what Jesus was thinking of when He told the story of the lost sheep. The shepherd had a hundred sheep. One went astray. He left the ninety and nine and came after the one that was lost [a paraphrase of Luke 15:4–7]. Do you remember? Oh, my friends, I thank God that Jesus saw something down here that needed Him, and love led Him to Calvary. Aren’t you glad?

My point is that’s why He wants to live here with us—He’s invested so much in us. He has invested so much in the people on this planet that He wants to give them this special evidence of His love and tender regard—that He wants to live with us.

And so, He says, “I’m preparing the glorious city in heaven. And at the right time, I’m going to come. I’m going to bring this glorious city.” John says he saw it coming down from God out of heaven. Friends, I believe he saw it. What do you say? And I believe God’s going to keep His word. I believe He’s going to come, and there’s a home in that city for me. That’s what the folks were singing about.

That isn't just some mystical thing somewhere. No, it's a real city. You can read about the dimensions of it here, the specifications of it. It's all here in Revelation 21–22. It's just as real as the White House in Washington, or the United Nations, and a lot more wonderful, friends. And praise the Lord, there's a place there for you, a place there for you. There's a place there for me. Wouldn't it be a shame to miss it, friend? Wouldn't it? Oh my, how cheap people are selling out, how cheap people are selling out.

Well, now notice, some things that aren't going to be there:

“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death...” Revelation 21:4.

No cemeteries there, folks.

“...neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain...” Revelation 21:4.

Won't that be nice, doctor? Nobody in pain again; never hear a moan or a groan.

“...for the former things are passed away” Revelation 21:4.

I say, “Let them pass.”

What do you say?

“And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful” Revelation 21:5.

Do you believe them, friends? Is there a place there for you? Oh yes, it's there for you.

Now, let's look at the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter:

“And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb” Revelation 22:1.

You mean God's throne is going to be in this city? Yes. That's right. The throne of God is going to be there. Oh friends, notice in the third verse:

“And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him: And they shall see His face...” Revelation 22:3–4.

Do you mean God is going to bring His throne, the throne of the universe, down here to this planet and set up His headquarters here? That's what He says. What for? Well, He wants to give us, as I said, special evidence of His love. He

wants you and me to be close to Him. You see, we're the ones that were lost and are found.

Do you remember that other story Jesus told about the prodigal son? The father had two boys. One stayed at home and behaved himself. The other squandered the father's money in a far country, and finally, half-starved and weak, he dragged himself home to ask for a job as a hired hand. But what did the father say? [a paraphrase of Luke 15:11–24].

"Oh," he said, "let's have a feast. My son is home. He's been found. He was lost. He was dead. He's alive again" [a paraphrase of Luke 15:24].

And they had a great feast of rejoicing. Some people couldn't understand why he was so happy. Well, it's simple. He loved his boy. That's all. That explains it. And that's how much God loves you and me, my friend. And so, you see, God is going to have a great feast when this world is ransomed and restored to its place in the family of God.

And so, in the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter verse 6 beginning, He says:

"And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunders, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb..." Revelation 19:6–9.

Have you been invited? RSVP. Have you received your invitation? Have you given your answer? Are you going to be there? Are you going to accept the reservation that's been made for you? Is it that real? Is it that certain? Nothing in this world can be more certain.

I told you a little while ago about something that I hoped would happen next Friday night. I'm pretty sure it's going to happen. But I can't be absolutely certain. And even if I thought I was certain about what's going to happen Friday night, I couldn't be a hundred percent sure, could I? No, no. Lots of things can happen.

But oh, this, I am absolutely 100-percent certain about. I *know* this is so. Why? The Bible says so. And why do I know it if the Bible says so? Because, my friends, the One who wrote this Book has proved that He is speaking by doing in this Book what no human being can do. He has again and again through the pages of this Book accurately foretold the future, particularly in the great prophecies of Daniel and this book of Revelation.

He has described the rise and fall of empires. He has written history in advance more accurately than historians can write it *after* it has happened. Those

prophecies have been fulfilled now for over 2,500 years so that history is really the unrolled scroll of prophecy.

And my friends, when I read and study this Book, and I see that we're dealing not just with some fancies of some mystic, we are dealing with the plain predictions of the God of heaven and that they've come true over and over again for over two millennia, then I know that the One who has done that all these ages can do it once again and tell us what will be tomorrow. And friend, the news is good. Today may be a sorry day. Tomorrow is bright.

God is coming. Jesus is going to set up His everlasting kingdom in this world, and sin and sinners will no more distract and divert and destroy. No, no. The original plan that God had in the creation of this world is going to be carried out. This planet will be the home of nations of holy, happy, healthy people that rejoice in life and never know pain, or sickness, or war, or strife, or crime, or any other trouble.

"Ah," somebody says, "that's too good to be true."

I say it's too good not to be true, friends. What do you say?

Listen, the God that makes these beautiful flowers, the God that fills the night sky with those twinkling stars, the God that has this love for the beautiful and that almighty power, would He be content to leave this world forever as it is today? Wouldn't you be sad to think that your children, your grandchildren, your great-grandchildren, and so on for thousands of years must continue as life has been going on? Wouldn't you be sorry about that? Oh, I'm glad that there's something better ahead, friends.

You say, "Well then, why doesn't it come this minute?"

Well, God has to prepare us for the place, as well as prepare the place for us. Wouldn't it be a shame to get us ready for the place, and then we wouldn't fit? Wouldn't that be too bad? Or do we need any preparation? What does it mean to be prepared?

Well, let's take a look right here on the last page of this last book of the Bible, Revelation 22:14. Will you read it with me?

"Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" Revelation 22:14.

You know that word "blessed" is also translated as "happy." It means all that we mean by happy, plus. It's everything wonderful.

"Blessed..." Revelation 22:14.

Happy.

"...are they that..." Revelation 22:14.

What?

“...do His commandments...” Revelation 22:14.

And they’ll have right to what?

“...the tree of life, and...” Revelation 22:14.

Do what?

“...enter in through the gates into the city” Revelation 22:14.

There’ll be at home there, and they’ll have a right there. They keep the commandments of God.

Well friends, do you think it would be a good thing to learn what those commandments are? Ah, but do you know, there’s a problem. When I find out what those commandments are, I find out that my natural disposition doesn’t always agree with them. Oh, when I study those Ten Commandments, I find that to my *mind* up here, they make sense.

Look at the last six:

“Honour thy father and mother...” Exodus 20:12.

Does that make sense? Yes.

“Thou shalt not kill” Exodus 20:13.

Does that make sense?

“Thou shalt not commit adultery” Exodus 20:14.

Does that make sense? And so on, not steal, not lie, not covet. All of them, they make sense, friends. To put it this way, would you like to live in a world where everybody honored his parents, and nobody killed or committed adultery or stole or lied or coveted? Would you like to live in a world like that? Or would you rather live in a world where people were murdering and stealing and all the rest?

Well friends, if anybody’s looking for that kind of a world, he won’t have to move very far, will he? It’s all around us, isn’t it? That’s the trouble with this world today. People are breaking the commandments of God.

But the first four are just as important as the last six. In fact, they’re fundamental to the last six. The last six tell us about our duty to fellow men. The first four tell us about our duty to God.

“Thou shalt have no other gods before Me” Exodus 20:3.

Tell me, friends, doesn't it make sense that the One that had the power and the love and the wisdom to make the whole universe and make us is the only One worthy of our worship? Doesn't that make sense? And if that's so, doesn't the Second Commandment make sense when God tells us not to form some ugly, crude imitation of what people think He is and fall down and worship that? Some piece of gold, or silver, or wood, or stone. Doesn't it make sense not to kneel down and worship something that people can make with their hands? Doesn't that make sense? Sure.

And the Third Commandment:

"Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain..." Exodus 20:7.

Oh, that holy name. Friends, isn't it foolish as well as wicked for men to curse and swear and take God's name in vain? Isn't it?

And then, that Fourth Commandment, if God is really the Creator and if He made the whole world in six days, like the Bible says He did, and He rested the seventh day so that we might always keep it in mind, and He's asked us to keep it for our good as well as His glory, doesn't it make sense to do what he's asked us to do? Doesn't it? And to do it the way He did it?

Why friends, do you know that around this world, the fact that there is a week of seven days being followed in every continent is proof of what the Bible says, that God made the world in six days and rested the seventh. Is there any other explanation for it? None whatsoever. All the other measurements of time have an astronomical basis. They have a basis in the physical universe.

The world turns on its axis once every 24 hours, and so we have the day. The moon travels around the earth in approximately a month, so we have the months. In fact, the word "month" is from the word that we get "moon" from. The Indians called it so many moons, so many moons, you see. The year, where do we get that? Well, that's the journey of the earth around the sun in 365 days approximately.

All right. Then, we have the day, the month, the year. Those are the three great measurements of time based upon the physical universe. But where in the world did the week come from? It has absolutely no basis in the physical universe. How is it here? It is here, my friends, because the Lord in six days made heaven and earth and rested the seventh day, and gave that seventh day to man to keep. That makes sense. That makes sense. All right.

Then, we have these Ten Commandments. Listen, would you like to live in a world where everybody kept the Ten Commandments? Where everybody loved God and obeyed Him. No images around. No cursing or swearing. Everybody united in worshipping God on the Sabbath. Every home united in honor to father and mother. No murder, adultery, theft, lying, or coveting. Friends, wouldn't that be a happy world? You see, you wouldn't need any policemen. No crime. You wouldn't need



any hospitals. No sickness. You wouldn't need any cemeteries. No death. What a world!

Can it be? Yes, it can be. And as I said, all God is waiting for is to get the people ready for the place He is getting ready for them. This is what the Gospel is all about. This is what the plan of salvation is for. The plan of salvation is not some arrangement to fix our traffic tickets with the judge so that we can go ahead and break the law and go free. Not a bit of it, friend.

For it is written:

“...Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” John 1:29.

The man who heard John the Baptist say that echoes it in his epistle. John the apostle, writing in 1 John the third chapter verses four and five says:

“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. And ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins...” 1 John 1:4–5.

Let's let Him take it away. What do you say, friend? This is why Jesus came and lived among men, to show us how to live. He said:

“...I have kept my Father's commandments...” John 15:10.

This is why He died, that He might pay the debt for our transgressions. This is why He rose again, that He might go back to heaven and minister for us in the sanctuary. This is why He's preparing a place for us, that we may share with Him a life in harmony with that holy law.

“Blessed...” Revelation 22:14.

Oh yes, thrice blessed.

“...are they that do His commandments” Revelation 22:14.

But listen. You and I can't do them without Jesus. Look at this same book of Revelation, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter and the 12<sup>th</sup> verse, and it tells us exactly how it's done.

“Here...” Revelation 14:12.

Right here in this world, right here and now.

“Here is the patience of the saints...” Revelation 14:12.

That's God's people, God's children.

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus”  
Revelation 14:12.

The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus are united. You and I can never keep God’s commandments without the faith of Jesus. If we have the faith of Jesus, we’ll keep the commandments of God. It’s that simple, friend.

And oh, I’m so thankful for the promise of Jesus, “I’ll put my law in your hearts. I’ll give you a love for this law. And then, you’ll be safe all through the universe. You’ll be safe in that city that I’m preparing for you.”

Where’s Paul and Louise? Wouldn’t you folks sing that song again for me? I think we’ll enjoy it even more after taking a look at this city. What do you say? Would any of you like to hear the song again?

Now, listen while they’re coming up, I want you to think of two things. I want you to think of how anxious Jesus is for you to be in that city. But oh, I want you to think of something else. Don’t you want to take somebody with you? How many would you like to take? Just as many as you can. Are you with me?

Listen, the good news is this. Christ is in the business of using you for a recruiting agent, but you’ll need to join the army you’re trying to get men and women to enlist in.

You didn’t know I was going to ask you to sing again. I didn’t know either, but I just want to hear it right now.

[“When I Enter That Beautiful City,” Author Unknown.]

Thank you, and thank the Lord. What a wonderful home, friends. I’m glad it’s so certain. How many of us would like to send Jesus the word that we’re with Him to get things finished up as soon as possible? May I see your hands? Would you like to send Him that word? The Lord grant it for everyone, for everyone.

Well, dear ones, there’s a song I love to sing, and you who know me know that I love to sing this song often. And I wonder if we couldn’t sing it again tonight, 276 [old Church Hymnal (1945).

“My Jesus, I Love Thee, I know Thou art mine;  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.”  
*Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal* (1985), #321, first stanza (partial).

And isn’t sin folly, my friends? Isn’t it not only wicked, isn’t it just plain foolish? Every sin may be dressed up, painted up, veneered, tinsel, glittered, glamour, but:

“...Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death” James 1:15.

But thank God, His love, there's nothing artificial about it, nothing make-believe, nothing put on. The deeper we go into it, the more real we find it.

"My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign."  
*Ibid.*

Now, as we sing this song if there's somebody here tonight that has never given your life fully to Jesus and you'd like to tonight, come up. I want to take your hand. I want to pray with and for you. If there's somebody that has once known the Lord, but something has come between you and the Master, wouldn't you like to come tonight and give up that thing. You don't have to tell me what it is. Tell Jesus. Leave this chapel tonight knowing that you and the Master are hand in hand, heart to heart. Wouldn't you like to do that?

There may be somebody else here tonight that is facing a decision like this. You're facing a decision to make a change in your life that you believe God wants you to make, some change that may bring your life more in harmony with His will, some change perhaps in your life, your work. You may hear the call to soul-winning service. And you may know that that means a real change.

Whatever it is that the Holy Spirit speaks to your heart tonight if there is a decision to make a change in your life that Christ is calling you to make, come give me your hand. Tell Jesus about it, and we'll close this service with a prayer that seals the dedication.

"My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;  
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou,  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me,  
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;  
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee 'til death,  
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;  
And say with the death dew lies cold on my brow,  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,  
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now."  
*Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal* (1985), #321.

We're going to have a little after meeting with these who have come up, and if any of you would like to share in the blessing of this after meeting, you're welcome. Just come right up to the front as soon as we've had the benediction. And as the

audience quickly and quietly pass out, you can decide whether you'd like to tarry, if you wish.

And now, our heavenly Father, we thank Thee with all our hearts for the revelation of Jesus Christ, this wonderful book in a wonderful book, this wonderful revelation in a glorious unveiling of Thy plan, Thy character, Thyself, Thy great love.

Tonight, we join in thanking Thee for the certainty of the hope set before us. We thank Thee we know Thou art preparing a place for us. And we thank Thee that Thou didst give Thy son Jesus to die for us upon the cross that our sins might be washed away in His precious blood and our lives brought into harmony with Him. Accept the surrender of our lives tonight, cleanse and save us and prepare us for Thy soon coming.

Dismiss this congregation with Thy blessing and tarry with us in this after meeting for Jesus' sake, amen.

God bless you and good night.

[After meeting with Brother Finley followed.]

[Brother Finley] As we've responded tonight, we've made a decision that there is an area in our lives in which a change needs to be made. It's a wonderful thing to see how the Lord leads individual lives. The Christian life is a life that is progressive, where God constantly reveals light and truth to us. And as that light and truth is revealed, we open our hearts and respond simply to that light and truth.

I'd like to share with you a text or two on this. Proverbs the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter the 18<sup>th</sup> verse, this text tells us about the Christian pathway, and it tells us how God leads specific lives. Just think of it practically this evening. God has a particular plan for your life. But notice how that plan is unfolded, notice how that plan is manifest:

"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" Proverbs 4:18.

The path of the just is as a shining light. Now, what's another word for "just"? Righteous. The path of the righteous person, the path of the person who's led by God, is as a what?

"...Shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" Proverbs 4:18.

In other words, the path that God leads the righteous person on is just like the sunrise that comes up in the morning. Now, if any of you were up at five o'clock in the morning this morning, was it very light out? It was pretty dark, wasn't it? But what about seven o'clock in the morning? Was it a little lighter? Yes. What about nine o'clock? Was it a little lighter then? Eleven o'clock a little lighter. And then, twelve o'clock the perfect day.

You see, and this is exactly the way God leads the individual Christian. In our early experiences with Jesus, He gives us enough light not to blind our eyes, enough light to enable us to see but not enough to blind us.

Suppose you'd wake up from a deep sleep, looking in the face of the sun. Have you ever been in a building that has been dimly lighted and then left that building into the bright sunlight? What's been your experience?

This last weekend when we were in the Collegedale gymnasium, it was a bright sunny day, and the gymnasium was a dimly-lighted gymnasium. And we came out of the gymnasium, and maybe some of you had the experience that we had, why, the light just almost blinded me. Well, we came from the darkness immediately into the light.

So, how does Jesus lead us? As we are led along the Christian pathway, He unfolds more light. And as He unfolds that light and we walk in the light, He continues to manifest more light.

Now, let me provide for you the biblical key to having continual light, John 12 verse 35. And this bears particularly on the decision that you've made tonight. This text will be a wonderful help to you. The Christian life is as a pathway, and as we walk along the pathway, Jesus reveals light to us. And our path becomes lighter and lighter.

Now, notice John 12 verse 35:

"Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth" John 12:35.

Jesus says, "A little while the light's with you. Walk while you have the light."

Now, tonight, a number of you have made decisions for changes in your lives; you've made decisions to follow Jesus in a more definite way and to follow the light that He's shown you. And what Jesus wants you to do now is exactly what this text says:

"...Walk while ye have the light..." John 12:35.

Tonight, as Elder Frazee was speaking, there were certain things that were made clear to your mind, certain things that were crystallized in your mind. In your past experience, the Holy Spirit has been impressing you about certain things. Now, Jesus says:

"...Walk while ye have the light..." John 12:35.

In other words, do the thing that the Holy Spirit has placed within your heart to do. Follow the revelation of God's will as it has been outlined.

Now, the thing that the Devil wants us to do is this. Make a decision like was made tonight. Recognize light and recognize truth, and then go home and begin thinking, "Well, you know, I'm not sure if I'm ready to make that move yet. Maybe I should hesitate. Maybe I should wait."

What did Jesus say?

"...Walk while ye have the light, lest..." John 12:35.

What?

"...darkness come upon you..." John 12:35.

It's the Devil's greatest deception to get a person to make a decision to desire a change in their lives and then to begin thinking, "Well now, maybe I shouldn't make that change. Maybe I should wait."

"...Walk while ye have the light..." John 12:35.

Then what?

"...lest darkness come upon you..." John 12:35.

The way to have continually *more* light and the way to continually have the light of truth is to follow the truth we know. If we do that which is plain, that which is unclear will be made plain.

Now notice, Jesus doesn't say, "Walk on in darkness." Jesus says, "Walk on in the light."

Do the thing that is clear, the thing that you know you should do, the thing that God has revealed in His Word and through His Holy Spirit has impressed your mind that you should do. Do *that* thing, the thing that's clear. Right now, don't worry about the thing that's dark and you don't understand.

Let me give you an illustration of this. Suppose someone here tonight had been using tobacco, and the Holy Spirit forcefully impressed on their mind through a revelation of the Word of God that utilizing that tobacco was wrong.

But suppose that person went home and began thinking, "Well now, I don't understand about clean meats and unclean meats. So, I don't think I should give up tobacco."

No.

"...Walk while ye have the light..." John 12:35.

Make the decision you know. If it's a clear decision on tobacco, then what do we do? *That* clear decision we make. And then, seek God through a study of His word and through prayer for the decisions that are unclear.

Suppose, for example, that I've been beginning every day without having morning worship. And I've noticed that my days go intense. I've noticed that I've had some frustrating experiences.

And the Holy Spirit has impressed on my mind, "You cannot go through the day without an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. It's impossible for you to live of yourself."

But suppose I go home and begin thinking, "Well now, look, I'm not clear on how many meals a day I should eat."

Does that have a relationship to the light that God has revealed to me on worship? No. In other words, because we're not clear on certain things does not mean that we should hesitate on the thing that what? We *are* clear on.

And so tonight, our decision is what? To walk in the light, to follow the light that God has given, the thing that He's impressed upon your mind.

Let me make a simple suggestion to you. When you go home tonight, kneel by your bedside and say, "Lord, you've made something clear to me tonight, and I choose to walk in it. You've made something abundantly clear, and Lord, I want to walk in what you made clear."

Now, I wonder if there's somebody here that has had something made clear to them tonight, and you'd like to confess before God and before brothers and sisters here that you have had something made clear. You might not want to mention it, and it's not necessary. But you know, Jesus says that:

"...With the mouth confession is made unto salvation"  
Romans 10:10.

And if you'd just like to stand and say, "Tonight something's been made clear, and I choose by the grace of God to walk in that which is made clear," it'll make the Father in heaven happy, and it will help seal your decision.

Is there someone like that here tonight?

[Testimony meeting]

[Comments made by Brother Finley during testimony meeting.]

Is there's someone else that's been impressed, and they want to tell the Lord that they want to follow in His footsteps, to walk in the light that's been clear? It's a wonderful thing, isn't it? To follow that revelation that God has given us and to walk in the clear light.

...Let's kneel and close our meeting in prayer tonight.

Father in heaven, we're so thankful that the path of the just is as a shining light, that in each of our lives, You're continually revealing more light. We're so thankful that light is shining from your Word. Many of us tonight have made decisions that there need to be changes in our lives. We thank Thee for revealing truth to us, and we choose tonight to walk in the light that's clear. We choose, Father, to follow the revelation that You've given to us. We choose by the grace of God and the power of Jesus to walk in the light, in Jesus' name, amen.

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