

# Following the Lamb

#0672

Study by W. D. Frazee—March 27, 1964

[Singing, “Why Should He Love Me So?”]

Revelation, you know, is the climax of the Bible. And the heart of the book of Revelation is chapter 14. You have it there in the Kings James Version. I’m going to read it from Philips translation this evening.

“Then I looked again and before my eyes the Lamb was standing on Mount Sion, and with Him there were a hundred and forty-four thousand who had His name and His Father’s name written upon their foreheads. Then I heard a sound coming from heaven like the roar of a great waterfall, and the heavy rolling of thunder; yet the sound which I heard was also like the music of harpists sweeping their strings. And now they are singing a new song of praise before the throne and before the four living creatures, and the elders. No one could learn that song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been redeemed from the earth. These are the men who have never defiled themselves with women, for they are celibate. These are the men who follow the Lamb wherever He may go. These men have been redeemed from among mankind as first fruits to God and to the Lamb. They have never been guilty of any falsehood. They are beyond reproach” Revelation 14:1–5  
(*Phillips Translation*).

For 120 years now, this remnant people have looked forward to gathering the sealing and the redemption of the 144,000. I know that there are some things that are not fully understood about the 144,000. But as I studied with you several weeks ago, it is our privilege to steer by the stars we know. And while there are many things about the 144,000 that we don’t know, it is the things we do know about them that cheers my soul, friend. There are some things we know, thank God.

The 144,000 are gathered in this last generation. They are a special group with a special experience, and they sing this special song that we’ve read about. I say for 120 years now the remnant people of God have been thinking upon this wonderful subject because it concerns us. You and I are candidates for this group.

In that first vision which was given the Lord’s messenger in Portland, Maine, in December of 1844, this group was brought to view traveling on that narrow pathway cast high above the world. They were seen with the light of the midnight cry shining behind them giving light all the way to the pearly gates. Jesus, their leader,

was just ahead all the way from 1844 until we reach home. You remember in that first vision, as it's given in *Early Writings*, page 14, that in the experience brought to view in the prophet's vision, there came a time when the voice of God sounded in the midst of the angry time of trouble, and that voice spoke the day and hour of Jesus' coming. The Holy Spirit was poured out. The saints were glorified. Then comes this expression as it's put in the original printing of it:

“By this time the hundred forty and four thousand were all sealed and perfectly united. On their foreheads was written God, New Jerusalem, and a glorious Star containing Jesus' new name” *A Word to the Little Flock*, page 14.

You note that expression “in their foreheads was Jesus new name.” Now in your King James Version, it says they have the Father's name. Phillips and the Revised Standard and the New English translations all say Jesus' name and the name of the Father. Well, of course, dear friends, the name stands for nature, and the Father and the Son have the same nature, so there is no problem there. But I just like that little wording of a wonderful thought that we are to have Jesus' name, His nature, there in our foreheads. I want a part in it, don't you?

And when you note that expression that I read here, “By this time”—the time of the sounding of the voice of God down through Orion that closes Jacobs's trouble. “By this time,” the 144,000 were all sealed and perfectly united. Little did the one who saw that vision and penned these words sense what a lapse of time there would be from the time of the vision until the sealing of the 144,000 should be completed. Ah, my friends, what a long weary way it has been, and the work is not finished yet, is it? But thank God, it is going to be terminated.

“For He will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth” Romans 9:28.

But now let us look back there in the Bible, in Revelation 14, and I want you to notice some things. First, the vision of triumph. If you recall the setting here, the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> chapters of Revelation are full of the struggles of the great controversy between the dragon, the beast and his helper, the two-horned beast turning into the false prophet on the one hand—that triumvirate of evil. I say between the dragon beast and false prophet on the one hand, the lamb, the woman, and her children on the other hand.

After these struggles, these awful battles, these terrible conflicts brought to view in Revelation 12 & 13, what a joy it must have been for John to look away from all that and look up, up to Mount Zion. And there on Mount Zion, he sees those who have lately been engaged in a death struggle with the beast and his image, and now he sees them triumphant there on Mount Zion with the Lamb. I like that, don't you?

“and with him...” Revelation 14:1.

With the Lamb.

“an hundred forty and four thousand” Revelation 14:1.

Friends, the Lamb is going to win. The Lamb is going to win in this battle. Don't forget He is going to win. The dragon, the beast, the false prophet, and all the kings of this earth, and all the people of this world combined, every devil in hell enlisted, every wicked man joining them to wipe out the saints of God, but they will not triumph. The hour they fix for the assassination, the liquidation, of God's people will be the hour of their own doom. And down through Orion sounds that mighty voice. Jesus comes to deliver His people, they are translated with the resurrected saints, and they ascend to the Sea of Glass, and now on Mount Zion, the prophet sees and hears them.

Notice how the prophet describes the song as it comes cascading across the ages and falls upon his ears. Ah, he says, “It sounds like a great waterfall. It sounds like rolling thunder. And yet it sounds like the music of ten thousand harps all being played together in the most perfect harmony.” And what is it? What is that sound that is compared to many water, great thunder and harps? Oh, it is the choir of this special group of the redeemed singing the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb. The name of the song you will find in Revelation 15:2–3. But here, we are noting here how it sounds. What a sound it will be, friends.

Will you be in that choir? Ah, you can be. You are called to that wonderful privilege. And we are exhorted to strive with all our might to be among the 144,000. Let's do it, friends. What do you say?

They are the redeemed from among men down here in this closing hour. They have the seal of God when everybody else takes the Mark of the Beast. They have God's nature when everyone else develops that beastly nature, that animal nature.

Well, as I say, I want to study some things about them tonight. They have Jesus' name and the Father's name written in their foreheads. The name, as we've seen, represents the nature of God. Perhaps we ought to prove that from the Scripture, there might be somebody here who is not acquainted with the Bible proof of that. So we will go over here to the book of Exodus, and we will notice what the Scripture says here as God reveals Himself to Moses:

“And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD...”  
Exodus 34:5.

What did He proclaim?

“...the name of the LORD.” Exodus 34:5.

“And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty” Exodus 34:5–7.

That was the name of the Lord, His character, His nature.

But now, it is all summed up in that name that is given our Savior in this book of Revelation. Twenty-eight times Jesus is called the Lamb. In this great book, which closes the sacred canon, the Revelation of Jesus Christ, He set forth as the Lamb. That is to indicate His nature, friends. He's the Lamb. He's *the* Lamb. When John saw Him at Jordan, he repeatedly stretched forth his hand and said, "Behold the Lamb of God."

Now, our text says that the 144,000 are with Him, and they have what written in their foreheads? His name and it is expressly said that He is the Lamb. Will they be lambs too? I want you to think about that. Imagine a hundred forty-four thousand lambs.

In Luke 10:3, you will read Christ's assignment for His disciples.

"...behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves"  
Luke 10:3.

I've been meditating on that, friends. And it almost makes me wonder if there isn't some mistake somewhere. The idea of the dear Lord giving me the assignment as a lamb is hard for me to imagine. I can think of several other characters He might have asked me to double for, but a lamb.

"...behold, I send you forth as lambs..." Luke 10:3.

How could He pick me for that assignment? I am sure there is only one way I can ever fill it. That is to have a change of nature. And I believe His promise:

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you" Ezekiel 36:26.

And when I think of those bloodthirsty ones who are even now being marshaled by the prince of demons to slay the people of God, I know that, but for God's grace, my nature would lead me to be among them. It is only a miracle of God that can take a poor, wicked, cruel, hateful and hating human heart like mine and change it and make me a lamb. But oh, I am so thankful that He has promised to write that name, that nature in my forehead.

Now you notice He says:

"...behold, I send you forth as lambs..." Luke 10:3.

Where?

"among wolves" Luke 10:3.

The wolves are all around us, friends. You ever have some wolves around you, brother? Yes. The wolves are all around us. And right there is where we need to get the picture "lambs among wolves." Some people think if they could only get

into a heavenly environment and never have anybody talk cross to them, then they could be nice. But our text is very clear.

“...behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves”  
Luke 10:3.

Now there are a few things about lambs and wolves I’d like to have you think of for a little. First of all, does a lamb sound like a wolf?

[Audience] No.

[Elder Frazee] Could you tell the difference? If you heard some creature sounding out on the hills or in the valley, would it confuse you? Would you say, “I wonder what that is, is that a lamb or is that a wolf?”

Some years ago, I picked up a little poem in a child’s reader. I liked it so much I copied it out. It is supposed to be a little child talking to a little lamb.

Little Lamb who made thee  
Dost thou know who made thee  
Gave thee life and bid thee feed.  
By the stream and o’er the mead;  
Gave thee clothing of delight,  
Softest clothing wooly bright;  
Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice!  
Little Lamb who made thee  
Dost thou know who made thee

Little Lamb I’ll tell thee,  
Little Lamb I’ll tell thee!  
He is called by thy name,  
For he calls himself a Lamb:  
He is meek and he is mild,  
He became a little child:  
I a child and thou a lamb,  
We are called by His name.  
Little Lamb God bless thee.  
Little Lamb God bless thee.  
~By William Blake

You know I’ve always liked that little line:

Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice!

You know, I just love to hear little lambs bleating over the hillsides and in the meadows. Don’t you? And, friends, I never, never got one of them in my mind mixed up with a wolf. Never did.

Now, dear ones, how is it in your home? Are the voices the voices of lambs or wolves? How is it around the breakfast table? How are those sounds? How is it in the kitchen, in the bedroom, in the yard? Are you a lamb, or do you ever sound like a wolf? Is that a good question? Yes. Notice how it is put in *Desire of Ages*. Jesus told His disciples this when He sent them out to give His word. And He knew He was sending them out, and they would meet opposition and cruel treatment. But He said, "Remember, when you get among wolves, you are not to act like or talk like wolves or sound like wolves. You are not to fight. The tone of your voice is not to be like the wolves at all."

I send you forth as, what? Lambs, among wolves.

"Those who are brought in controversy with the enemies of truth have to meet, not only men, but Satan and his agents. Let them remember the Saviour's words, 'Behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves.' Luke 10:3. Let them rest in the love of God, and the spirit will be calm, even under personal abuse. The Lord will clothe them with a divine panoply. His Holy Spirit will influence the mind and heart, so that their voices shall not catch the notes of the baying of the wolves" *The Desire of Ages*, page 353.

God help us, friends. Oh, I want every bit of that wolf taken out of my voice and out of my heart. What do you say, friends?

[Audience] Amen.

[Elder Frazee] You know, I think if we get rid of this wolf disposition, we won't have a tendency to carve up the people of God at our dinner tables. Did you ever hear the preacher or the school teacher or the colporteur carved up at dinner time? It has happened, friends. There wasn't much left when dinner was over. Read what we have been told about that, friends. If parents understood this, they would never, and I mean never, have any words of criticism concerning the servants of God in the home. They wouldn't do that.

Remember that preacher you are dissecting, the school teacher you are pulling apart, the Sabbath School teacher you are criticizing, may be the one that in secret prayer you are hoping that God will use to answer your longings for your children. But brother, sister, when you have carved them up a few times, don't think that your prayers are going to be answered. Don't think it at all. You have effectually closed the door against the answer to your own prayer.

"I send you forth as..."

What?

"lambs among wolves" Luke 10:3.

Do you know what wolves do? They hunt in packs. And if they can get enough meat to eat, they will gather quite a group to feed on it. But if you were a lamb and happened to be around a group like that, would you join in feeding on the carcasses of some of your friends? Would you, if you were a lamb? Why no.

Now I want to tell you something, friends. If you are really a child of God and you chance to be in some dining room or some kitchen or pallor, or anywhere else, and you begin to hear a group of people begin to dissect character and to criticize and find fault, it will not appeal to you. You will feel either like rebuking it in a Christian spirit or else get out of there as fast as you can. And listen, if that kind of gossip, and criticism, and fault finding appeals to you, no greater evidence could you ask that you are not a lamb. And I don't care what office you hold in the church or how sanctimonious you are when you engage in the criticism. Not a bit of it, friends. Lambs do not do that. And don't think you are serving the cause of God by that sort of criticism and fault-finding.

What does Jesus tell you to do when you see something wrong in your brother? Call the wolves? No. What does it say?

[Audience] Go to your brother.

Go to him, what for? To bite him? No. Why, to plead with him and try to help him.

If you go there like a lamb, you may help him. If you go there like a wolf, and if there is any wolf in him, you may have a fight. If there is no wolf in him, he may be afraid of you.

Oh, friends, I wish we could learn Heaven's sweet and simple way of dealing with human problems. We don't need a lot of committees and a lot of scientific research, and a lot of experts coming in to analyze the problems. We just need to do what Jesus says, my friends. I'm talking straight from my heart. And as I said a while ago, If this was the last time I was to stand before you (and I never know when it is, nobody ever knows that) this is what I'd like to say. I'd say to you, friends, we are on the threshold of a glorious opportunity to get ready for the latter rain, the loud cry, the finishing of the work, the sealing of the hundred forty-four thousand, translation day, and the triumph upon Mount Zion with the Lamb.

Will you, oh will you, for Jesus' sake, cease every bit of criticism and fault-finding concerning the people of God high or low? Will you stop every bit of criticism concerning ministers, teachers, Sabbath School officers, or anyone else that God is using in His work? Will you stop it? And will you, if you have some way to help them, will you go to them personally? And if they won't hear you, what does Jesus say in Matthew 18? Take one or two more. Plead with them. You are not going there as a police officer to serve a warrant on them. You're going there as a shepherd to try to help a sheep that may have missed the way. You are dealing with lambs, not wolves. You are not a dog catcher. You're a shepherd seeking to help sheep. It makes a world of difference in one's attitude, doesn't it, friends? A world of difference.

Oh, let us learn the Master's way of doing the Master's work. What do you say, friends?

“..and with him an hundred forty and four thousand,  
having his Father's name written in their foreheads”  
Revelation 14:1.

Well, now there is something else I would like to notice about these lambs. Can you tell a lamb from a wolf by his coat? Can you? Suppose you look out in a field and see some animals. And somebody says, “I wonder what those are?”

And somebody says, “Why I don't know whether they are wolves or lambs.”

Well, if you get close, could you tell? Yes. Even if the lamb didn't happen to bleat, that particular minute. As you look at it, you why you'd say, “Yes, that looks like a lamb looks, I can tell by its coat. Or if you look at the wolf, he has his coat. But someone is remembering the text that says:

“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are...” Matthew 7:15.

They are what?

“...ravening wolves” Matthew 7:15.

Yes, one does have to be careful of that. There are wolves that cover up with sheep's clothing. Then you can sometimes tell by the voice. It is pretty hard for a wolf to sound like a lamb for very long. But the thing that I am concerned about right now, friends, is not the wolves in sheep's clothing. It is the sheep in wolf's clothing. Wouldn't it be a strange thing for a lamb to want to look like a wolf? You go out and pay money at some beauty shop to make them look like a wolf. Can you imagine a thing of that kind, friend? Or maybe pay some friend to do it instead of going to the city. All for the purpose of looking like a wolf. Yes.

Tell me, friends, are there styles of dress that belong to the wolf family in the world? Are there styles of dress that belong to the sheep family? Well, if there are not, tell me what does 1 Timothy 2:9 and 10 mean? And what's Peter talking about in 1 Peter the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter?

“In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becomes women professing godliness) with good works” 1 Timothy 2:9–10.

“Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel” 1 Peter 3:3.



Why does God picture His church in Revelation as clothed, and why does He picture the harlot as arrayed in purple and scarlet and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls? If it doesn't make any difference, how people dress. If that has nothing to do with religion (on one's Christian experience) then why does the Bible from Genesis to Revelation deal with the dress question? Why does it set forth certain ways of dressing as belonging to the harlot individual and the harlot church? And why does it set forth certain things in dress as belonging to the modest apparel of the bride of Christ? Tell me, friends, how would you fix up the bride of Christ for her wedding? Would you tell her that she had to get her hair set after the latest fashion, or her Bridegroom would be ashamed of her? Would you tell her that she had to wear the prevailing styles in footwear or she wouldn't be prepared to trip to the sound of the wedding march in the New Jerusalem?

No, I tell you, friends, there are styles that belong to the wolf from head to foot, and there are styles that belong to the lamb from head to foot. And if those who wish to be lambs will get on their knees and talk to the Lamb of God, He will help them find out what is lamb clothing and what is wolf clothing so we can choose the one and avoid the other.

And if this were the last time I were to speak to you, my dear brothers and sisters, I would tell you from a bleeding heart that my soul has again and again been made to sorrow as I have seen some poor little lamb after someone had got hold of them and fixed them up and fixed up they were. And God knows, friends, angels weep and Jesus weeps. Oh, I pray that if we are going to be lambs, we will look like lambs and not be mistaken for a wolf. It ought to be possible when every child of God goes down the street, friends, for it to be easy to tell the difference between the lamb and the wolf.

Well, now I would like to ask you about the things that the lamb eats and the things that the wolf eats? Or is there any difference? If the animals were to be brought home and you were to provide the meal. And you weren't sure if they were lambs or wolves. Would you want to know before you ordered the food? It would be a good thing, wouldn't it? Let me tell you, friends, if you laid in a supply of food for lambs and wolves came, I'm afraid they would look at it and say, "I don't see a thing to eat around here." On the other hand, if you fixed up for the wolves the lambs would more or less go hungry, wouldn't they? Yes.

Now, you can apply that very literally, friends, because the Bible, just as it deals with the dress question (from Genesis to Revelation), it deals with the diet question. It starts out in Eden and gives the Eden program in Genesis 1:29. Adam and Eve were given a menu of food that went with Eden. There was no bloodthirsty work done there. And when you get back to the Garden of Eden and the tree of life blooms on earth again, you will see Adam and Eve and their children there who have learned God's way of life, thank God

"they shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain"  
Isaiah 66:25.

Daniel recognized this principle. You remember when he was there in old Babylon on the Euphrates. They brought him into the king's dining table. Now, if

he had been a wolf, even if he had some sheep's clothing, you know what he would have said, "Oh, boy, look what we are going to get for supper tonight. The kind has invited us in, and just look at it there, my, my, my." And how the wolf nature would have looked forward to leaping at that table, you understand.

But Daniel and his three friends were what? They were lambs. So they looked over the table, and they said there isn't anything here for us. They quietly but kindly said to the steward, "Could you give us pulse to eat?" You know what pulse is, don't you? Vegetable food and water to drink. They didn't want the king's wine with its intoxication. They didn't want all that highly seasoned and bloody unclean foods. They didn't want that. They were lambs, and they wanted lambs food. And they got it. A lamb wants lamb's food, and eating the lamb's food helps him to retain his lamb nature.

Now, someone who doesn't understand is about to say, "Well, Brother Frazee, do you think that people can eat their way into Heaven?"

No, but you can eat your way out of Heaven. Never forget that. Never forget that. Merely eating lamb food won't make you a lamb, but I can tell you this, eating wolf food won't help you be a lamb or keep you a lamb.

But I would like to get beyond the stomach, friends. I would like to have us think of the food for the mind and the soul. That name of the Lamb is written where? In the forehead. And every time you see something and every time you hear something, an impression is made on the brain. Do you know how many hours every day on the average that people of the United States are spending on the television? Now somebody is spending more than that. Cause you're not spending much time there, are you? Somebody is getting more than their share, aren't they?

What's it doing for them, friends? Is it helping them get ready for Heaven? I am not trying to blame anybody, friends. I just feel sorry for people, especially people who talk about going to Heaven and then do everything that keeps them from getting there.

My heart was cheered a few weeks ago when I heard one of the greatest evangelists among us, a man whose TV telecasts are heard and seen all over the nation, say that he had sold his TV. I think that if anyone would have an excuse for having one, He would. He might have had an excuse for having one, but he had a reason for not having one, friends. He wanted his children saved in the kingdom of God. If you want your children to be lambs, friends, don't expect to accomplish it by feeding them wolf food. Most of what is coming over the radio and the TV and the newspapers and the popular magazines, and through a lot of other channels, is wolf food, my friends. If it were not, it wouldn't pay. Because nearly all the population wants wolf food. If we look at what they look at, we will develop that nature. So for this reason, God has called us away and apart.

Oh, I want to be a lamb. Don't you? And Oh, I want every one of God's children to fully develop that lamb nature. We need all the help we can get.

Do you remember how it is put in 2 Corinthians 3:18? As we behold, what happens?

“[we] are changed into the same image from glory to glory,  
even as by the Spirit of the Lord” 2 Corinthians 3:18.

If we feast on the the Word of God, the Bible, the wonderful messages of the Spirit of Prophecy, the open book of nature, the sweet truths of Heaven’s last message. Friends, won’t that lamb food help to make a lamb nature? Won’t it? Which do you want to be, a lamb or a wolf? Angels can tell every time you go to the table, whether it is the table that feeds your stomach or the table that feeds your mind, friends. The angels can tell very quickly which one it is that you want to be, a lamb or a wolf.

Well, now there is another expression in our text that I want to notice. It has blessed my soul very much recently as I was meditating on it. It’s that 4<sup>th</sup> verse:

“...they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth...”  
Revelation 14:4.

I like the ways It’s put in several of the other translations, just about the same, just a little more modern down-to-earth wording of it.

“They follow the Lamb wherever He goes” Revelation 14:4  
(*Berean Study Bible*).

Will you say that with me?

“They follow the Lamb wherever He goes” Revelation 14:4  
(*Berean Study Bible*).

All together again:

“They follow the Lamb wherever He goes” Revelation 14:4  
(*Berean Study Bible*).

Now, if we are going to follow the Lamb, dear friends, where do you think we had better begin? We had better begin where He began. Not up in Heaven, because we are not up there. He came down and took our nature. He was born as a little babe in Bethlehem. That is the place for us to begin to behold that mystery of God and man united. He took our nature and overcame so we, by taking His nature, might overcome. So let’s come to Bethlehem, and let’s begin where He begins and follow Him through. What do you say?

What did we quote here a few minutes ago?

“They follow the Lamb wherever He goes” Revelation 14:4  
(*Berean Study Bible*).

Oh, in eternity, we will follow Him from world to world and star to star. We will visit Arcturus, and Orion, and all those millions upon millions of universes, on and on. But here in this world, we follow Him as He lives the earth life for and with us.

By the way, friends, can we really go to Bethlehem, or would that be a little bit too poor for us? Could you take a stable? Or would you say, "As soon you get things in a little better shape, let me know, and I'll come and join you"? Has it ever been said or thought? I want to tell you something, friends, the poor shepherds came to prove that God could reach even the poor. And the rich and wise men came from the East to show that even the wealthy and educated have no excuse for missing this glorious opportunity. They all came and knelt at the manger. Didn't they?

Would you have? Oh, think about it. That's worth pondering over an hour. Because I am afraid that today there are some that don't know where to begin where Jesus began. They assume that anything that God has anything to do with is up to date in this jet age modern, efficient as the world counts efficiency, and if not wealthy, at least not poor. All of which would lead people to bypass Bethlehem, for there was no airport there. Think about it, friends. Can you and I begin where Jesus began?

They follow the Lamb wherever He goes" Revelation 14:4  
(*Berean Study Bible*).

But if it is difficult to come to Bethlehem, it is difficult to stay at Nazareth. Jesus stayed there until he was how old? Thirty years old. It must have been boring, wasn't it, for a bright young man like Him. Or was it? Ah my, friends, if you and I are lambs, we can follow the Lamb. But if we are wolves, we will be restless, and we will want to be out, out with the other wolves, baying and baying.

These:

"follow the Lamb wherever He goes" Revelation 14:4  
(*Berean Study Bible*).

Yes, and that will mean to stay with Him at Nazareth.

I have been thinking about what it would mean to follow Him at Nazareth literally. To just go around with Him there at Nazareth. You can read about it in *The Desire of Ages* in the chapter "As a Child" and "Days of Conflict." Read the story of Jesus as a child and as a young man till He was 30 years of age. If you were following Him, there are five places you would have followed Him. For every week, He made the rounds of those five places. But as I go over them, remember He did all this, but that was all He did. That is why He could do it all because that's all He did, just these five things. And if there are some of these that you can't get in, see how many other things you are getting in that He never tried to get in.

The first place we see Him is in the home and bearing the burdens of the home. You can picture Him as He helps bring in the wood, brings in the water, helps

with the dishes, and helps with household chores. He is an obedient child, a loving burden bearer. And if we follow Him, we will be with Him in that daily household toil.

And please, oh, you dear social workers, that have all the latest polish on how to deal with human problems, please there was nobody that came around and found out that Jesus was liable to become maladjusted because He has so many chores to do. And so it was arranged that other people should take those over so He wouldn't get bored and burdened. No, nothing like that happened.

Jesus was cheerful, loving and obedient as a burden bearer. He learned obedience in the home. He was a lamb. If you and I will follow the Lamb, and ask Him, He will make us lambs as we associate with Him.

Alright, elsewhere will we go if we follow Him? Well, we will go to the shop. He went to the carpenter shop, there were other shops. A shop is a place where work is done, my friends. And there we will follow Jesus to shop. We will see Him use the plane and the hammer and the saw. And please again, I say friends, it wasn't just some industrial education in which people sat around tables and talked about work and did a few little laboratory experiments. No. It was hard work. And it was far more than some little lab period in a college course. It was hard work, making a living and helping to make the family live. He put in quite a number of hours every day. And He sang as He labored.

And if somebody came around and engaged Him in conversation and said, "Young man, you will never get anywhere here. You need to get out of this dump and go someplace and get an education where you will amount to something." If someone ever said that to Him, He didn't allow it to ferment in His soul and make alcohol and carbon dioxide. No, no. He went right ahead with His mission. He was fulfilling His commission. He was the Lamb of God sent into the world to fill a servant's place and do a servant's job. God was living on earth the life of Heaven. Isn't it wonderful, friends?

"follow the Lamb wherever He goes" Revelation 14:4  
(*Berean Study Bible*).

Well, there is another place we will follow Him. We will follow Him to church. You'll find that in Luke 4:16:

"And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up:  
and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the  
sabbath day, and stood up for to read" Luke 4:16.

If we are following Jesus, we'll follow *with* Him to church on the Sabbath day and join in worship and devotion and witnessing. That is following the Lamb wherever He goes.

Then, friends, we will follow Him out in the neighborhood. Read those beautiful pictures there in *Desire of Ages* of Christ visiting the poor. And oh, friends, don't misunderstand me when I tell you that He didn't telephone the newspaper to

send a reporter down to take His picture as He gave His lunch to some hungry person. Did He? No. I said, please don't misunderstand me. I could spend an hour telling you what I don't mean, but I could spend two hours telling you what I do mean, friends. God keep us from becoming so publicity conscious that we lose sight of the heavenly audience that is watching us and of the human soul who needs help.

Jesus, it says, "would quietly place His own meal in" the hands of those who were hungrier than He was. Read about His simple medical ministry. He never worked a miracle through those 30 years, but He lived a life of Heaven on earth.

Now friends, there is just one more place that He went and just one more place if we had been following Him that we would have gone. That's to the secret place of communion with God. From time to time, He slipped away. Not neglecting His duties either in the shop or in the home. But whenever it was His privilege, He slipped away to the valley or the mountainside, in the trees to the forest, by the lake, and there with the scroll of Scripture or listening to the songs of the birds, He communed with His Father. And this was the secret of all the rest. This is where He got the power, day by day, to live that sweet life in the home, in the shop, in the church and in the neighborhood. And it's because so many who will wish to be lambs are missing that, that they fail to talk like lambs in the home, and to live like lambs in the shop, and to look like lambs on the street, and to serve like lambs in the community. The secret is in that secret place of prayer with nature and with God.

I repeat, friends, this is all He did. These are all the places He went. You want to include the visits to the Temple along with the visits to the Synagogue. This is all He did. You know anything else, tell me about it. But remember, because this was all He did, He did all of this. He encompassed it. He didn't try to run anything else into the program. And if we are ever to be ready to follow Him in glory, we shall learn to follow Him making the rounds at Nazareth—in the home, the shop, the church, the neighborhood, and the secret place of prayer and communion with God through nature and through the Scriptures.

But now, see the climax of it all. When the time comes, in the providence of God, that that beautiful character has been developed, and when God's clock strikes the hour, Jesus lays down that hammer and saw, quietly He goes down to Jordan and is baptized by John. He receives that wonderful outpouring of the Holy Spirit without measure. He enters upon His ministry, my friends, there. And in a few short years, Heaven is revealed to men in the most glorious succession of miracles that this world has ever seen.

Will that ever be repeated? Oh, yes, friends. The lambs who learn the lessons of Bethlehem and Nazareth will also know the miracles of Capernaum and Judea and Galilee. Oh, friends, won't it be wonderful when the loud cry breaks and the power of God are poured upon His people without measure as it was upon Jesus? When the sick are healed. When thousands upon thousands are converted. When miracles are wrought, and Heaven is revealed on earth in this glorious latter rain. Ah, as was the ministry of Jesus with mighty power, so will be the mighty power of those who here on earth are following the Lamb.

But I repeat, we'll need to begin where He began. We need not think we can bypass the Nazareth years and Nazareth experience and that when the trumpet blows, we can rush into the loud cry and start working miracles. No, friends, we will need the time with the Lamb at Nazareth first.

But, ah, what will be the climax? As in the life and work of Jesus, that beautiful ministry, that unselfish labor could not be tolerated very long by a selfish and wicked people, even though they professed religion, so here today, the world and the church are going to unite in an unholy alliance to crush out the lives of those who live the Lamb life here on the earth. And as Jesus met His Gethsemane, the remnant must meet their Gethsemane. As the mob came for Him, they will come for you and me. And as some closest to Him joined in betraying and denying Him, so our greatest trial will be when brethren who have been closest to us abandon us in the crisis hour. As Jesus met the torture and the humiliation of the judgment hall and the barracks room, the dungeon, so the people of today will be called upon to meet every indignity, abuse and persecution. And as He was led out to Calvary and hung up between the heavens and the earth to die, so the remnant will be put under the death decree. This time they won't die.

But I want to tell you something, friends, they'll meet the test as if they had met martyrdom. But ah, following all that humiliation and torture, there came the glorious vindication of the resurrection and the ascension, so the remnant people of God today in the hour of crisis will be rescued by the Son of God as He comes with His mighty angels through the sky. And like Him, they shall ascend, welcomed by the angel band. And there on Mount Zion, the Lamb and His lambs shall join in that song that fills the universe that thrills the universe through eternal ages.

May we bow our heads? Dear Father, we thank Thee that Thou art changing wolves into lambs, sinners into saints, those who love this world into those who love Jesus. God forbid that we should seek to fool ourselves or others or Thee with any half-hearted or counterfeit or compromising experience.

[Recording ended in progress.]

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