

# Flee the Cities

#0719

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—August 30, 1965

[Singing of “We Shall Shine As the Stars”].

A few weeks ago, I presented to you some very recent developments, both overseas and here in this country, bearing upon the approaching crisis. This evening, I wish to present some other things that bear on the same message but that are from quite a different angle.

I brought with me tonight the last three issues of *Newsweek* magazine. You know what it is. I call your attention to something very interesting.

This first one, the headline article is “Crime in the Streets,” “Crime in the Streets.” And there’s the picture of the policeman rounding up criminals.

The lead article says that J. Edgar Hoover, the head of the FBI, his report says that every category of crime is on the increase. Since 1958 serious crime has spiraled upward at a rate five times that of the population. The cost to the nation is tens of billions annually, murder, robbery, and many other crimes rising all the time.

Well, that was *Newsweek* of August 16.

August 23, the picture of the lead article is “The Water Crisis.” New York City and all the region round about is in a great water crisis. You’ve heard about it. The chief engineer of New York City, Kenneth Clark, predicted last week that the city’s huge upstate system of reservoirs would be dry by next February. They’re down to 43 percent of capacity.

It isn’t just New York City, but an area roundabout there of 20 million people is in danger from lack of water. It’s the greatest concentration of population anywhere in the country. And yet, right by and through New York City flows the great Hudson River. But the headline on that calls it an open-running sewer. It’s so polluted with industrial waste, human waste, city waste that the people, although they know their reservoirs up in the hills, are dwindling, they look at that, and they realize it’s impossible to get water from that, an open running sewer.

And then, this week’s *Newsweek*, the issue of August 30, the headline here is “Los Angeles, the Riots.” You all know about that. I’m not going to take time on that. A 50-square-mile piece of the City of Angels, after four nights of apocalyptic fury, turned into a nightmare. Whole blocks are lying in rubble and ashes, 36 dead, 900 injured, \$200 million in property damage, the riots in Los Angeles.

Going back to last month, *U.S. News & World Report* of July 5, "Death is in the air in New York City." I just referred to the water situation, but this is talking about the air in New York City.

New Yorkers have been given this grim warning— the air they breathe may be killing them. Two reports released on the same day cited air pollution as a factor in the rising death rate from lung cancer and respiratory diseases. Each month an average of 60 tons of dust falls on each square mile of the city. Crops are being damaged on Staten Island. Trees and shrubs along crowded parkways are being killed. Even a layman can draw one basic conclusion, "The air we breathe is killing us."

In fact, by testing air right there along the city streets in New York City, they reached this conclusion that there is an intake of benzopyrene. This is a cancer-producing hydrocarbon that smokers get when they smoke cigarettes. But everybody that's on the streets in New York City gets as much of that as smoking two packs of cigarettes a day.

Then, from the same issue, this is July 5, *U. S. News & World Report*. This is about noise.

More than three American men out of five have lost some hearing. They will never get it back, and they are likely to lose more and more. This is the conclusion of Dr. Glorig, director of the Hearing and Speech Center of the American Medical Association. The reason, according to Dr. Glorig, "The increasing noise of modern life, particularly in cities."

His conclusion: "It's a noisy world and getting noisier."

From the same date, July 5, 1965, the *Newsweek* has a similar report on New York City, and the name of the article is "Sewer in the Sky." That's the air over New York City.

The new issue of *Reader's Digest* just out, September, one of the leading articles is, "With Every Breath You Take." It's an investigation of the air pollution situation in the great cities of our country.

Air pollution is rapidly growing worse in some 7,000 communities, according to the public health service. In more than 300 cities where 43 million people now live, the air pollution is (as it is termed) major.

It speaks especially of the great area from Portland, Maine, to Richmond, Virginia, which is now really one great city, one great metropolitan area, from Portland, Maine, clear down to Richmond, Virginia. It contains 38 million people and presents one of the world's greatest single air pollution problems. This area is so thickly overcast with pollutants that frequently no portion of its 645-mile length can be navigated visually from the air.

Just think of it. When an airplane gets up above that, many times for 650 miles there, the airplane can't see the cities below. They're all covered with this smoke and dust, the smog.

And what disturbs health authorities most is not that pilots cannot see through the soup but that people are breathing it. Thus, this simple fact emerges. Unless we start keeping poisons out of the air, more and more people will be killed each year simply because they breathe.

You know, dear friends, as I have been looking at some of these reports lately, again and again, my mind is turned to Jeremiah 9:21:

“For death is come up into our windows, and is entered into our palaces, to cut off the children from without, and the young men from the streets” Jeremiah 9:21.

Ah, my dear friends, all of this, the riots and the crime, the pollution of the air and the water, it's all getting worse and will get worse and worse in Los Angeles, in Portland, in Seattle, in Chicago, in New York City, in every city of this world. It's all a fulfillment of that part of the second angel's message which we repeat from time to time from Revelation 14:8:

“...Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city...”  
Revelation 14:8.

The cities are fallen. They have fallen, they are falling, and they will fall, my friends.

Now, turn please to Revelation 18 verses 1–4. Oh, I'm glad, friends, that God doesn't leave us merely with a prediction of the troubles of this old world. He tells us what to do.

The first three verses describe, as the second angel does, the terrible condition of Babylon. And then, in the fourth verse, Jesus speaks:

“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying...”  
Revelation 18:4.

What?

“...Come out...” Revelation 18:4.

“...Come out...” Revelation 18:4.

“...Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues”  
Revelation 18:4.

The *Revised Standard Version* says:

“...Lest you share in her plagues” Revelation 18:4  
(*Revised Standard Version*).

If we choose to remain in these cities, dear friends, we must share in their destruction. We must share in their disasters.

Now, this is all very practical, my friends. And while it's true that God is going to take His people away from this planet because the whole world will soon be unfit for life, it's also true that while we are on this planet, God has a plan for those that will listen to escape much of the trouble and many of the disasters.

And if we will listen, my dear friend, that's the point, if we will listen and understand God's plan, oh what a blessing we can have. And I want that blessing, don't you? Do you want it for your loved ones? Ah, yes.

I suppose there's hardly a one here tonight, but what you can think of somebody that's tied up in one of these big cities.

Anybody here have a loved one in Chicago? Yes. Anybody here have a loved one in New York City? Yes. Anybody here have a loved one in Los Angeles? Oh, yes. Anybody here have a loved one in some other great city? May I see your hand? Oh, yes, scores of hands.

I've thought of dear Abraham and Sarah out there under the oaks at Mamre. And what do we see Abraham doing as the angel messengers are on their way to Sodom to warn of the doom of that city? What do we see Abraham doing? Interceding, interceding. And the prayers of Abraham got Lot out.

Ah, dear ones, God give us the spirit of prayer for the loved ones who are trapped in these cities. What do you say?

“...Babylon... is fallen, that great city...” Revelation 14:8.

“...Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers  
of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues”  
Revelation 18:4.

Tell me, friends, what would you do if you had a million dollars? Would you head for the bright places, the bright lights of the big cities, and spend a few thousand, or a few tens of thousands? Would you?

Well, I'll tell you the truth, one of the great reasons that God doesn't let very many of us have very much money is that the bright lights might attract us, just like they do these moths. And it's in mercy that God lets us be poor, most of us.

But Abraham was rich, and he stayed in the country. Lot was rich and he went to Sodom. But he went out of there with nothing but the clothes on his back, friends. And believe me, the refugees are going to be streaming out of these cities in a short while. And oh, there'll be thousands, and tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands that'll have nothing more than Lot had.

In fact, friends, some of them are not going to be able to get out. I read it here in *Selected Messages*, Book 2, 142:

“Erelong there will be such strife and confusion in the cities, that those who wish to leave them will not be able”  
*Selected Messages*, Book 2, page 142.

Shall I read that again?

“Erelong there will be such strife and confusion in the cities, that those who wish to leave them will not be able”  
*Ibid.*

It may be that there’ll be a jeep with soldiers on the highway that we’d like to use to get out.

They’ll say, “There’s a curfew on. Nobody’s allowed to move.”

“...Strife and confusion...” *Ibid.*

“...Strife and confusion...” *Ibid.*

The next sentence says:

“We must be preparing for these issues” *Ibid.*

And this was given three years before I was born, friends. I wonder if the Lord has given us enough time to prepare. Plenty of time; the question is, “What are we doing with the time?”

I want to read a few more of these warnings. Here is this wonderful book *Ministry of Healing*, just come out with a new cover this year arranged a little differently, *Life At Its Best*. I hope we’re using these with friends and neighbors far and near. Isn’t this wonderful, friends? Whether you get it in the edition called *Ministry of Healing*, or this one called *Life At Its Best*.”

But on page 363, I read:

“The world over, cities are becoming hotbeds of vice...  
The tide of corruption and crime is continually swelling”  
*Ministry of Healing*, page 363.

Remember what I read just a few minutes ago from J. Edgar Hoover? Crime is increasing five times faster than the population.

“The tide of corruption and crime is continually swelling... Life in the cities is false and artificial...  
Serious troubles are before us, and for many families

removal from the cities will become a necessity” *Ibid.*, pages 363–364.

And then, the Lord’s messenger speaks of some of the dangers to health:

“The physical surroundings in the cities are often a peril to health. The constant liability to contact with disease, the prevalence of foul air...” *Ibid.*, page 365.

We read about it here, didn’t we—”Sewer in the Sky.”

“...impure water...” *Ibid.*

We read about that.

“...impure food, the crowded, dark, unhealthful dwellings, are some of the many evils to be met. It was not God’s purpose that people should be crowded into cities...” *Ibid.*

Who invented that idea? Yes, it was Satan all right. Who did he use? Cain. Who was Cain? The first murderer. Isn’t that interesting, friends? The first murderer was the first city-builder in this world.

And then, when the results of that finally mounted to the point where God had to sweep away the antediluvian world with that awful flood, who was it that started it all over again after the flood? Nimrod. He lifted his hand against heaven—the first great despot.

And what was the name of that tower that he built? Babel, Babel. And what’s another word for that? Babylon, or confusion.

Way back there, God called Abraham out of that rich valley with its mighty cities and brought him out there as a pilgrim and a stranger in the land of Canaan, now in the vale at Shechem, now under the oaks at Mamre, now at Beersheba, here and there with his flocks and herds.

Ah, my friend, all through the ages, God has been trying to defeat Satan’s purpose. Satan has been trying to defeat God’s purpose. And you see, it’s all very practical. It relates to where we live and how we live, what we live for.

May I read a few more statements here? Here is from the book the *Adventist Home*. There’s a wonderful chapter here on, “The Family and the City.” It begins on 135.

Page 139, I read:

“Let it be your study to select and make your homes as far from Sodom and Gomorrah as you can” *Adventist Home*, page 139.

What do you say about that? What *do* you say? That's good.

"Let it be your study to select and make your homes as far from Sodom and Gomorrah as you can" *Ibid.*

Now, I want to ask you something. If we're trying to keep ourselves and our children out of the cities, what do you think about keeping the cities out of us? Wouldn't it be too bad, friends, to get out of some smog-covered city like Los Angeles or New York, and then have a pipeline where you could pipe in the air into your living room? And people just sit there and breathe that smog.

You know what I'm thinking about, don't you? Is there an atmosphere far more dangerous than what we breathe in through the nostrils? Is there an atmosphere we take in through the eyes and the ears that penetrates the mind and affects what we think, how we think, our ideals, or lack of them? Is there, friends? Oh, yes. By beholding we become what? Changed [a paraphrase of 2 Corinthians 3:18].

And Jesus tells us in Luke 21 that in this last generation, just before He comes:

"Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for..."  
Luke 21:26.

What?

"...for *looking*..." Luke 21:26.

"...for looking after those things which are coming on the earth..." Luke 21:26.

There never was a time when so many could see so much of trouble, as at the present hour. And so, these very scenes of violence are being brought to the attention of millions of people. And it's not enough for the ordinary audience, whether in a theatre or in the home, to view the realities of crime and violence, but those things must be brought through fiction until today the average teenager of 16 has already witnessed 20,000 homicides.

Back in the days before the flood, one of the reasons given for that awful judgment was:

"The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was..." Genesis 6:11.

What?

"...filled with violence" Genesis 6:11.

“...filled with violence” Genesis 6:11.

Oh, friends, it’s crowding in upon us, crime in the streets. And the cities are the great cesspools of crime. But what will it avail us to breathe mountain air in our lungs if we get cesspool atmosphere through the eyes and the ears? What will it avail us if we remove ourselves and our families from the streets of the city only to have its crime, its vice piled in upon us three times a day and more, through the radio or the TV. God help us, my friends.

May I read this again?

“Let it be your study to select and make your homes as far from Sodom and Gomorrah as you can” *Adventist Home*, page 139.

I ask again, what do you say? The Lord grant it.

“...Make your homes in the quiet retirement of the country, even if you can never become wealthy by so doing. Locate where there is the best influence...Fail not to keep your children within your own premises” *Ibid.*

There’s a warning, friend.

“Fail not to keep your children within your own premises” *Ibid.*

The children of Lot got to playing with the young people of that city and you know what happened. All but two were burned up with Sodom, and the other two might better have been. What they learned in the streets wasn’t good.

It’s the same thing that people are learning in the streets today, my friends. Immorality of every kind, open, blatant, bold. God help us to get back to Mamre under the oaks with Abraham. What do you say?

“Take your families away from the cities is my message... Gather your children into your own houses; gather them away from those who are disregarding the commandments of God, who are teaching and practicing evil. Get out of the large cities as fast as possible” *Ibid.*

Now, I want to come back here to Book 2 of *Selected Messages*. I read from page 142 a few moments ago.

“...Erelong there will be such strife and confusion in the cities, that those who wish to leave them will not be able. We must be preparing for these issues” *Selected Messages book 2*, page 142.



Now, I want to give over in the same book, page 356:

“He [God] wants us to live where we can have elbow room. His people are not to crowd into the cities. He wants them to take their families out of the cities, that they may better prepare for eternal life... These cities are filled with wickedness of every kind—with strikes and murders and suicides” *Selected Messages*, Book 2, page 142.

Listen to what I’m going to read now in this paragraph, and think of these riots that have just been taking place where this statement is literally fulfilled.

“Satan is in them, controlling men in their work of destruction. Under his influence they kill for the sake of killing, and this they will do more and more... If we place ourselves under objectionable influences, can we expect God to work a miracle to undo the results of our wrong course?—No, indeed. Get out of the cities as soon as possible, and purchase a little piece of land, where you can have a garden, where your children can watch the flowers growing, and learn from them lessons of simplicity and purity” *Ibid*.

You know, people think it’s wonderful to get a movie film where they can see flowers grow. Well, bless your hearts, friends, you don’t have to have a movie film to see flowers grow. You get out in the country, and here they are growing all around us. And they have fragrance, as well as sight. They’re three-dimensional.

And I want to tell you something, friends. If all you and I get out of what I’ve studied with you tonight is to think about how we can save ourselves and our families, we’ve missed a lot of the point. We’ve missed a lot of it.

What did Enoch do? He lived in the hills, but he went where? To the cities. What for? To give the message and to get people, just as a fireman goes into a burning building, and there in the smoke, he gets hold of a man that’s overcome with smoke and does what? Sits down and has a nice chat with him and enjoys the evening playing cards? Is that what he does? What does he do? He pulls him out. That’s what he’s in there for. That’s his business. He’s a fireman.

You and I belong to the rescue squad. Is that right? But oh, friends, don’t forget my text over there in Revelation 18:4 tonight. The message we’re to give in these cities is what?

“...Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues”  
Revelation 18:4.

Oh, let us study how to get in there and get people out, get in there, and get people out. And when I say “there,” what do I mean? Every place where people are under the influence of the enemy, far and near, every place where people are being hypnotized through watching the Devil’s pictures and listening to the Devil’s words, every place where their health, physical, mental and spiritual is being undermined by the habits of this generation, every place where people need God, Jesus is sending you and me to say what? “Come, come.”

“...Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers  
of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues”  
Revelation 18:4.

And isn’t it wonderful like Enoch to have someplace to bring them? Oh, yes. And that’s what every Christian home is meant to be in these days, a city of refuge, a place of retirement where people can be brought, just as a fireman pulls a dying man, sometimes they have to be given artificial respiration in order to be brought back to life. Oh, friends, God help us to be lifesavers. What do you say?

Now, what was the first word of that message in Revelation 18:4? What? No, the first word of the message, what was it? “Come,” that’s right. “Come, come.”

Now, with that I want to put Matthew 11:28. Jesus speaking to those multitudes that thronged him, said what? “Come.” Come where?

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you...” Matthew 11:28.

What?

“...rest” Matthew 11:28.

“I’ll give you rest. I’ll give you peace. Quiet instead of the noise that’s making people deaf, rest instead of noise and excitement, peace instead of strife, security instead of crime and violence, the river of the water of life instead of the open sewers.”

“Come unto me...and I will ...” Matthew 11:28.

Do what?

“...will give you rest” Matthew 11:28.

Have you come? Has He given you rest? Have you found the quest of your soul? Have you found a way of life that satisfies? Ah, if you have, friends, tell others how they can find it, too.

Shall we bow our heads?

Dear Father, as the troubles of this poor old planet are increasing, may our understanding of Thy beautiful plan of true security increase. We've heard Thy sweet invitation saying:

"Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and  
shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for  
a little moment, until the indignation be overpast"  
Isaiah 26:20.

Teach us how to enter into the true shelters, and teach us how to draw as many as possible with us. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

What would you like to say tonight, to the glory of His name?

[Testimony meeting followed.]

[Following are comments made by Elder Frazee during testimony meeting.]

Can we have a way of life entirely different from what the world is living today, that fully satisfies and meets every need? Tell me, friend, are we living in the time when everybody eventually is going to go either all out this way or all-out that way? That's it. Things are ripening up for heaven and for hell, for life and for death.

Oh, I'm so anxious that every one of us enter in fully into God's beautiful way of life—that we have *done* with Babylon; that we have *done* with city influences. And that we rejoice in the fullness of life, in contact with nature, with God's Word, in the joys of soul-winning, in Christian methods of recreation, in family life where there's time to seek God in prayer and the study of God's Word.

These are the joys of heaven that we can have here on earth as a foretaste. Is that right, friends? But we can't have both, friends. We can't have both. Whichever one we enter into will crowd out the other, as sure as can be. Isn't that right?

Did you ever see a field that was so covered with a wonderful crop that there wasn't any place for the weeds? I saw one just the other day—beautiful, friends. Did you ever see a field that was so covered with weeds you could hardly find what the crop was? Ah, yes. And that's the time we're living in. Either we're going to have a good crop with no room for weeds, or else we're going to have weeds just right up six feet high and covering everything.

Six twenty-four [old *Church Hymnal* (1941)]:

"Throw out the life line across the dark wave,  
There is a brother whom someone should save;  
Somebody's brother! Oh, who then will dare  
To throw out the life line, his peril to share?"

[Refrain] Throw out the life line! Throw out the life line!  
Someone is drifting away!

Throw out the life line! Throw out the life line!  
Someone is sinking today.”

Throw out the life line with hand quick and strong;  
Why do you tarry, why linger so long?  
See! He is sinking; oh, hasten today—  
And out with the lifeboat! away, then, away!  
[Refrain].”

*Church Hymnal (1941), #624, first and second stanzas.*

Let me ask you a question, friends. Is there a lifeboat? Here’s a man that’s just held down by the tobacco habit. He reads all this about the smoke in these cities, and then he keeps adding to it with his cigarettes. He’d like to quit, but he can’t. Have we a lifeboat?

Can we get right there to him and tell him, “Give me your hand and by God’s grace, we’ll pull you out.”

Can we, friends? Is it true? Is God doing it for people? Hundreds, thousands every year, thank God, are getting into the lifeboat and pulling out. Oh, that God may help us to get as many as possible. What do you say?

Is it true of everything else that’s holding them, friends? Oh, yes, whatever it is. Whether it’s these labor unions, or economic pressure, or liquor, or these poisonous drugs, this drug addiction, or whether it’s the sights and sounds of the cities, all these so-called pleasures and merriment, whatever it is that’s holding people and dragging them down, thank God, we’ve got a lifeboat. And we can get to them and help them to know that they can be redeemed, that they can be saved, that their life can be changed.

Oh, God help us to be so certain of it, friends, that we’ve found the way of safety and success, that as we witness to them, there’ll be no note of uncertainty in our voices. What do you say?

What does that third stanza say?

“Throw out the life line to danger-fraught men.”

Now, listen, before we sing this, I want to ask you something. Is there somebody here tonight that, as you’ve come face to face with these terrible conditions in the world today, your mind is impressed that God wants you to make a decision?

Now, some of you have already made decisions that have settled this whole thing. You’ve settled not only to be true to God, but you’ve settled that your whole life shall be devoted to just one thing, that’s being on the rescue squad, as John said a moment ago.

I wonder if there’s somebody here, friends that needs to make a decision. Either you need to make a decision to give your life fully to Jesus, or perhaps you

need to make a decision to get into the one thing that's going to survive the wreck of a world, and that's soul-winning.

You feel that you've been dallying around the edges. You feel that you need to make a decision to put your life, soul and body into one thing, and that is trying to win souls and get them ready for heaven.

Anybody like that here tonight that wants to raise your hand and say, "Yes, God's calling to me to make a decision"?

Oh, I thank the Lord for every one of these hands, friends. Glad to see these boys and girls and these young people.

Dear boys and girls, this is the one thing to live for. Did you know this is why you were born now, instead of a thousand years ago? God has you marked for the rescue squad right now. That's right. This is the one thing to live for.

And in your education, not merely in Sabbath school, but day school day by day, make up your mind that you're going to learn the things that'll make you a good rescue worker; that will help you to help souls physically and spiritually.

All right. Let's sing that third stanza:

"Throw out the life line to danger-fraught men,  
Sinking in anguish where you've never been;  
Winds of temptation and billows of woe  
Will soon hurl them out where the dark waters flow.  
[Refrain]."  
*Ibid.*, third stanza.

Now, look at that last stanza:

"Soon will the season of rescue be o'er."

I'll tell you, friends, if Jesus didn't come pretty soon, the things that are taking place in this world would sink this planet. Everything that's happening, the air pollution, the water pollution, the increase of crime and vice, all these other problems would send this planet to destruction. Soon there would be no life on this planet, as far as human beings are concerned.

But Jesus is going to come before that time. He's going to:

"...destroy them which destroy the earth" Revelation 11:18.

So, He's coming very soon.

"Soon will the season of rescue be o'er."

You see, dear friends, whatever we do must be done quickly. You see that, don't you?

You young people, you haven't time to spend your life making a lot of money, and then the rest of your life living for God. If you ever do this rescue work, you're going to do it while you're young. I can tell you that. And I'm so glad we can do it while we're young.

The youngest person here that understands what I'm saying, we need you. And the oldest one here, we need you. And if any of you are afflicted and burdened down with the habits of sin, let me tell you, friends, we need you. We'll help *you* get rescued, and then we'll need you to help us rescue others.

"Soon will the season of rescue be o'er."

While the lifeboat's running, let's pull in as many as we can. What do you say? All right.

"Soon will the season of rescue be o'er,  
Soon will they drift to eternity's shore;  
Haste, then, my brother, no time for delay,  
But throw out the life line and save them today.

[Refrain]."

*Ibid.*, fourth stanza.

[Elder Tindall] Now, we that are here, we Adventists (and I believe most of us are Adventists), we know these things are coming. We can see it, and we know that the time is short. And God wants us to get out of the cities and get into the country.

But friends, you know the thing I'm thinking about is this. You can get out of the city, you can get right out here to Wildwood, but there's something else that's needed. And do you know what that is? It's to have the deep moving of the Spirit of God upon your heart.

Now listen, you can't have that unless you make a complete surrender of everything you know that is wrong. You can't have it. And what's the use of getting out of the city? We don't want to simply get out of the city and bring the city here. We want to get into the kingdom, don't we?

Well, the thing that concerns my heart is this. I see a lot of you here have a stern message like this, wonderful. But my friends, what we need is to be converted.

"...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" John 3:3.

Now, is that right? Well, how are you going to get that? What have you got to do? Can you change your heart? You can't do it.

Now, look here, you can come to this altar here tonight, and you can bow down, and you can even shed tears. But if you don't make a complete surrender of *all* your habits and practices that are not in harmony with God, it'll not do you any good.

Now, I've been sitting there thinking, and let me tell you that in the near future, it's going to get worse and worse. And oh, the people, what an awful condition that we're facing, and we know it. But friends, we want to get in the kingdom, don't we? Yes. You want to *get* there.

Oh, my brother, my sister, if I know anything about it, you can't do it, you can't change your heart, nor give to God its affections. You can't do that. You've got to be converted. You've got to have a change of heart.

Now, how can we rescue these dear souls? How can it be done, dear friend? I tell you I've been a long time in this business, and I've learned that people will be frightened, they'll move, they'll get out of the city and everything of that kind, but they hold something in their hearts that shuts out Jesus. [Inaudible]

Now, my counsel is this, and I advise you, make sure of your own condition and standing. Make sure; make sure about it, friends. It won't do you any good. Don't bring the world out here. Don't bring the world into your home. Don't put the world on. You can't, you can't do that. You've got to make a complete surrender. You've got to give up everything and be converted.

Now, I'll tell you, friends, I've helped many a soul to Christ. And I want to tell you just a little experience. Here was a man, but that man used tobacco. And it was the thing that stood between him and a complete surrender.

Well, I got him on his knees, and he prayed. And he prayed for me, he prayed for the church, he prayed for the brothers and sisters.

And I said, "Brother." I interrupted his prayer. "Brother," I said, "pray about yourself. Pray about yourself. Pray about that tobacco."

Well listen, friend, I want to show you what happened. Well, you know what he did?

He said, "I know it's wrong, Lord. I know it's wrong, and I know I can't be into the kingdom of God that way. Lord, help me."

I said, "Brother, listen." I said, "Tell Jesus that you'll give it up, trusting in Him. That you'll give it up; God help you, you'll give it up."

Do you know that man wrestled there for quite a little bit over the question? And I had to spend some time and urging to get him to come to the absolute decision that he'd *do* it. And listen to what happened, and this illustrates my point.

And dear friends, when that man came to the point that he said, "I will, God helping me," oh, the Spirit came upon him, and he broke down and wept like a child. It was all over, all over. I had my arm around him. Oh, how wonderful, how wonderful it was.

Listen, dear ones, you cannot go to Heaven and take the world along with you. You've got to give up. You've got to surrender. You've got to be converted.

Now, if I know anything about the Gospel, that's what it means. Don't think, and these dear young people, don't think—and what are they thinking about anyway? What are a lot of these young people thinking about? I tell you, friends, you've got to get victory in your *heart*.

Now, we're living in a terrible day, an evil time. But oh friends, your own heart is evil and wicked, desperately wicked. We need to have a miracle, a change of heart. Don't you want that? How many want that, friend? Well, that's what it's going to take. And you cannot do it yourself. But if you hold onto one thing, I don't care what it is, it won't make any difference whether you see a reason for it or not.

Let me give you an illustration of that. Peter said to Jesus:

“...Thou shalt never wash my feet...” John 13:8.

What did Jesus say?

“...If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me” John 13:8.

Question, did Peter mean all right? He couldn't bear to see his Lord wash his feet. Isn't that right? He couldn't bear to see his Lord, the Lord, wash his feet. He meant all right. He didn't see the reason for the requirement.

But listen, friend, it makes no difference what the Lord asks you to do, whether you see a reason for it or not, He *asks* you, and that's enough reason. Don't forget that.

And say, “Lord, take my heart. I'm willing.”

Do we have some people here that you really desire to make *that* kind of a surrender? And you haven't made it. You're holding onto something. You're holding onto dress. You're holding onto something in the diet. You're holding onto some thoughts that aren't right.

Are you willing to make a complete surrender and say, “God, help me; I *will*,” and the Spirit of God just comes to you. He'll come upon your heart.

Do you want that? Well, can we sing, then, another stanza?

[Break in audio.]

[Elder Tindall] ...that have come up here tonight and make a complete surrender, now and forever. And we pray for them that they will understand that it's got to be a deeper surrender, not momentary but a genuine surrender, not just once, but it must be a life surrender.



Now, dear Lord, there may be others here that have not the experience that they need. Oh, I pray tonight, I pray that Thou wilt convict them and give them no peace until they surrender.

We pray that Thou wilt give us the Holy Spirit here. We thank Thee for these wonderful meetings... We thank Thee for the manifestation of the Spirit of God so often manifest here. And oh, we thank Thee that we have the privilege of being out here.

And now, dear God, we pray Thou wilt accept our thanks and prayers and for Thy dear Spirit, which has been present, and dismiss us but not from Thy presence.

We ask it in Jesus' name, amen.

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