57-0303A - Why Is It That So Many Christians Find It So Hard To Live The Christian Life?

Let us remain standing just a moment till we meet God in prayer. Shall we bow our heads. Our gracious heavenly Father, we thank Thee today from the depths of our hearts for the privilege that we have of calling Thee our Father. We read in the Bible where the Spirit would cry, “Abba, Father, My God, My God.” And we’re so happy today that we have been included in this great number of the redeemed. And we are here this afternoon for no other purpose but to worship Thee, to read Thy Word, and to find out how we could be better servants of Yours, and to live a closer Christian walk for You, and with You. And we pray that You will meet with us around the Word and will give to us that deep desire that we so want in our hearts. And we’ll praise Thee for we ask it in the Name of Thy Son, the Lord Jesus. Amen. Be seated.

2 I’m so happy to be here this afternoon in the service of the Lord. And I trust that our little gathering together will be to His praise. And now, many of the brethren, the brethren that’s with me, was assembled out in the other places, today where they were having worship. And the place where I was at this morning, we had a wonderful time, over to the Assemblies of God church. And so we had a wonderful service, and I know you did also. And we’re thankful that you’re out this afternoon, and we feel that somehow we just can’t get enough of God. And there’s something about the Gospel, and the Word of God, that we just simply can’t seem to get enough of It. I believe you could…You might eat too much sometimes, and you might drink enough good cold water to make you sick, but I don’t believe that a man could ever pray too much, or get too much of the love of God in his heart. That’s just one thing that just doesn’t seem to ever get enough, fill up. And I’m taught that when we eat…If we are used to eating small portions, our stomach shrinks to that portion. And if we eat much, our stomach stretches to that. And I think we need some spiritual stretching, and get much of the Word. Can’t be satisfied with just reading a little verse once in a while, or something of that manner, but stretching our spiritual gastronomics…

3 If I’m not mistaken, isn’t this Brother and Sister Peterson setting right here from Minneapolis? I believe I seen Captain Stadsklev here, your son-in-law, last night, a chaplain in the—in the Army. I don’t see him today. Yes, here he is over here. Well, you’re going to be here through the meeting, I suppose. And I hope to get to see you before coming out. I want to go to the post with you, if the Lord willing, while I’m in California. Well, we’re going to read just a first part of one verse and part of another verse out of the 36th chapter of Ezekiel. And that is the 26th, and the—I mean the 36th and the 37th verse, the 26th and 27th verse. A new heart also will I put within you, and a new spirit will I put within you:… Then the 27th verse. And I will put my spirit within you,… Now, as we have before us this text, we trust that God will give us a context from this. And we are trusting solemnly in the Holy Spirit to bring out the context of this text. In the Bible there are many great gifts. And God sets those gifts into the Church in order for the perfecting of the Church. And now, I wish to take my subject this afternoon on this, and to you who are writing it down and so forth, and for the tape, “Why Is It That So Many Christians Find It So Hard to Live the Christian Life?”

4 I think that would be, seemingly to me, a very vital subject this afternoon. Why is it that some seems to be on the housetop all the time, and others seems to have their ups-and-downs all the time, and others seems to be practically in the valley all the time? Getting the letters and the reports from the meetings, sometimes leads me to prayer to find what would the Lord have me to speak to the Church. For in the letters and sometimes it’s nighttime when the anointing of the discernment is on, you seemingly you could find that confusion. And them spirits that seems to be some of them rejoicing, and some sad, and some disappointed, and sometimes the Holy Spirit brings us to such subjects as we have this afternoon.

55-0608 - Abraham

Thank you, brother. Good evening, friends, very happy to be here tonight. I was just presented with some kind of a present. I believe it’s a talking machine. Well, I’ll—I’ll use it a little later on. Can you hear me up on the platform all right, up and around the balcony? Okay? No, I guess, maybe, I’ll have to get this thing around me. Thank you, brother. Now, is that better? Can you hear up there now, around this side? All right. That’s fine. All right, sir. So we’ll set this one back.

61-0416 - Abraham And His Seed After Him

To the Almighty God, be thanks and praise for evermore. To this fine group of ministers that has worked in this campaign, I want to express my thanks to them for one of the finest bunch of men that I ever worked with in my life. For the nice little organist here, and the pianist, to all you dear people, the ushers, one hundred percent from the finest people, to this school for letting us have the place for the worship, and to all that has been done, I just don’t know how to express myself in gratitude for this meeting. I’m praying that the results from this will never die, but will live on and on. 2 I am sorry I didn’t have more time to meet with these men and be at their churches, and so forth. They were just quoting to me, a few moments ago, of young people coming to Christ this morning, the power of God in their meetings. I trust that’ll never die but will continue on forever until Jesus comes. 3 Many of you fine friends that I have met since I’ve been here, your memories will linger on in my heart: cooperation. Hard, bitter preaching sometime I have to do. I’m not a…I don’t claim to be a, what we call, a preacher; I am…You know that already; but I—I claim that just knowing the Lord as my Saviour, so enthused with trying to—to do that which He has ordained to be done; and through this He has given me the opportunity, by a gift, to express to the people, that, where I won’t have the education to do it, maybe the works will express that I—I am His servant, and—and you are my brother and sister, and that will do the vindication of it. And maybe that’ll let you know that I love you, God loves you; and together we hope to spend a endless Eternity together in a Land beyond the river, somewhere on. 4 Next week, next Sunday, beginning a week from this Sunday, as I made the little rude expression, I’m going to begin in your suburbs now, next week from this coming Sunday. That’s Chicago (See?) up here, suburbans of this city. And so we…I don’t know just where it’s at; is—is Mister…I can never call that Italian name, Bottazzi…What? Bottazzi. Has he announced where those services will be held in Chicago? It’s already been announced from the platform. I don’t even know myself where they’re at. And so we’ll find it some way; I get there and call Brother Carlson, somebody, and find out where I’m supposed to be. And so we are expecting great things in Chicago next week. We would be happy for you to be our—be our guest there in Chicago, and, or any other meeting that we could ever be at. 5 Now, one time, I have said the nights would never get too dark, or the rain would never fall too hard, but what I would come to you, to help you, to anything that I could pertaining to the Kingdom of God, or any other thing that I could help you. If I had a little money, and if I…and if you needed it, it’d be yours. That’s right, I’d do that. Anyone who knows my life and my family, it was the same way. My poor old father has gone on today; he didn’t live the right life on earth. He had one bad habit: drinking. But if he met a man on the street, a perfect stranger, and the man was hungry and he had one biscuit, he’d break it in two with him. We believe in helping those who are needy; in helping. 6 I wish I could say I’d come to you any time. I would like to say that, but I can’t; there’s too many. Just this little meeting here, which is just a little small group of people, now think the world over: millions. See, I couldn’t justly say that. But I’ll do this, friend. I’ll do everything I can. If you—if you want me to pray over a handkerchief like this here, send it to you; if you don’t need it now and you want it anyhow, you send, get it. There’s no charges on nothing. 7 We don’t charge for anything. There’s no charges for services, even to our books. Them’s not my books. They belong to different people that wrote those books. I buy them at forty percent less. I give my book agents and them the say-so at the door: if a man, woman, boy, or girl comes in, wants one of them books, and haven’t got the money to pay for it, give it to him anyhow. And we always lose on the books. There’s no way of making, even, ends break. And the picture of the Angel of the Lord: that doesn’t belong to me, that belongs to the Douglas Studios, and it’s copyrighted and could not be reproduced, ’cause you’d be breaking the rights to the copyright.