

At Thy Word



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Para 10-37*

Now, in the 5th chapter of Saint Luke I read these words.

And it came to pass, as the people pressed upon him to hear the Word of God...(I like that)...., he stood by the lake of Gennesaret,

And saw two ships standing by the lake: the fishermen were

gone out of them, and were washing their nets.

And he entered into one, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, taught the people out of the ship.

Now when he left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep and let down for the—let down the net for the draught,

Simon answering said unto him, Master, we've toiled all night, and taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I'll let down the net.

And when he had this done, he inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their nets break.

Then beckoned they unto their partners, which were with them in the ship, and they should come and help them. And when they came, and filled both ships, so that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw...he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.

For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of fishes which they had taken:

And so was also James, and John, the son of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.

And when he had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed Him.

11 Now, we just bow our heads a moment for a word of prayer. Our heavenly Father, beginning of a new week, new things ahead...One week's in history, many signs, wonders that Thou did do for us. We're grateful. Pray, Father, now, that You'll help us through this coming week. And may it even be much and many times

greater, for the glory of God only.
Grant it, Father.

May many sick be healed,
backsliders reclaimed, sinners
born into the Kingdom of God.
May there come an old fashion
revival throughout the country
here Lord, that'll just cause
thousands of souls to come, the
needy coming to Christ for their
soul's salvation, the healing of
their sick bodies. For we ask it in
the Name of Thy beloved Child,
Jesus Christ. Amen.

Now, if I'd want to take what I'd call a text, for a few moments, would be: "At Thy Word." I like to read the Word. It's an inspiration. The Bible said, "Faith cometh by hearing, hearing of the Word of God." That's true. When we hear the Word of God, then faith brings forth.

12 I'd like to look at this tonight as seeing taking it—maybe a Monday. Monday when everybody had heard a great sermon on Sunday, maybe, and

preaching, and He'd went along, and He didn't have no lotted places, but He was meeting down by the seashore. Usually He had to stay away from the rich and people who had many things of the world, so He got down amongst the fishermens, the peasants, the low type of people that was considered low type; the people who had not much of this world's goods, but was rich in faith. I'd rather be like that.

So there's where he found Him, where people believed Him. And there's where you'll find Him tonight. That's where people believe Him. That's where He will be. He's always where He's—and you are too, usually, where you're welcome.

Now, then we think of Him as He was gathered down there; I can see Him coming along with some men following Him. And He stopped at the side of the—the shore. I got a picture right where

He—He's preached this sermon, way it is in modern days. There's still little harbor ships there, where they pull the boats in. And I hope to hold a healing service there in the next few weeks, the Lord willing.

13 Now, He was—He begin to talk, and I can see the women from up along the hillside, and the men out in the field with their ox plowing, so forth. They heard that that famous Preacher that had just come into light of the

world, was down there at the sea preaching. I can see them leaving their wash and go, and stopping the ox and tying them up, going down to hear the Word of God. Oh, I'd sure like to heard Him preach, wouldn't you? Anything I like is to hear good preaching, hear a man preaching. I believe, though, of all the preaching I ever heard in my life, I'd just live to heard Him when He stood there and said, "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and heavy laden, I will give you

rest.” Wouldn’t you love to have heard that? I guess we’ll never hear that. But here’s one thing we’ll hear if we’re faithful: “Enter into the joys of the Lord, thou blessed, that was been prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” You’ve been faithful over a few things, God will make us ruler over many.

14 What a wonderful time to think that night, when all the battle’s are over and we’re setting around that great

wedding supper, won't it be wonderful? I will look across the table and happen to see setting across there, Brother Willets. Looking at the different ones here...?...“Well, they was at the Connersville meeting.” You know, I—I kindly believe that we just have to cry just a little bit, don't you think so? When I reach across the table and see it, all down through there, the old battle-scarred veterans, bowed across the table, holding one another's hands, weeping for joy.

Won't that be wonderful? And I can hear announcement of silver, a blast of trumpets, and out comes the King in His beauty, His majestic robes around Him. Walk down along the table, will take His own hands and wipe the tears out of our eyes and say, "Don't cry now, it's all over." Amen. That's the day that I'm living for. That's why I press and beg and plead for lost souls and do all that I know to get them to the Lord Jesus. Then I want to

set down at His feet and hear Him like these people did.

He begin to preach. And the people begin to believe and multitudes begin to come down across the hills. This new Fellow that was performing miracles, doing signs and wonders, Who seem to know things before they taken place...What a phenomenon, and all of them come down to hear Him, begin to press towards Him, get close to Him.

15 Now, let's change the camera just a moment in our mind. Look setting up there on a stump, or an old chunk along the side of the seashore; I see Peter setting up there, and James, John, the sons of Zebedee, setting up there, had fished all night long, discouraged. Any of you fishermen know what it is to fish all night and don't catch nothing. That's really discouraging.

So they'd washed out their nets and hanged them up to dry, and there they was, setting on a stump. And some of them said, "Well, here comes that guy, that preacher; let's see what He's going to say."

I can see the old apostle get the chunk and set down. After while he begin to listen, said, "There's something a little different about that fellow." Moves his chunk just a little bit closer. After while he's standing

right up against Him. There's something about Him that drew men to Him. He's still got the same power. "If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me."

16 No matter how simple the Gospel is, if Christ is in it, it'll draw people. He's the greatest magnet, as we talked of this afternoon, the world has ever known: "Draw all men unto Me."

Then when the crowds got great, I see Him look around—I believe He knew that ship was

there. So He stepped into the boat; He said, “Peter, thrust out just a little bit; I want to preach awhile.” And while He’s stood there and begin to preach to the people, well, then after He got through, He’d borrowed Simon’s boat, and He never borrows nothing less He pays for it. And He said, “Now, Simon, I want you to thrust out into the deep, launch out.”

Oh, if I—like to speak on that for a while, “Launch out.” That’s

what's the trouble with people's faith tonight: you're afraid to turn it loose. There's many of you's got faith, but you're afraid to let it loose. Your faith without works is dead, just as the body without the spirit is dead. See? If you got faith, show me you faith by your works.

17 Now, see, now Paul was justifying Abraham by faith. James justified him by works. Paul said Abraham was justified, Romans 4, by faith. And so

James comes over and says that he was justified by works. Now, both of them, one confirmed the other. Now, Paul was speaking what God saw: his faith. James is speaking what man saw: his works. And if you say, “I got faith in God,” and afraid to put your faith to work, then it won’t do you no good. You’ve got to launch out.

That’s what’s the matter with the peoples today of this world, many of them has faith, but

they're afraid to launch out with it. You're just afraid to venture a little bit. Just to say, "Well, I can. I can do all things with Christ Who strengthens me." Amen.

Look at Him, said, "Launch out into the deep, and let down for the draught."

18 In other words, I can hear Peter say, "Well, Lord, why, we're fishermen. Why, we—we was born and raised on this sea here. Why, we know when the moon's right, and when all the

signs are right. There's not even a fish in that water. Well, we toiled all night long. And we know when the signs are right, and we never even took one fish. We took nothing. And then You come around and tell me to go back in the same waters where I've been seining? And let down and get a whole boat full of them? Why, it couldn't be." If he'd have said that, then he wouldn't have got them.

But he said, “Lord, I’ve toiled all night, and have taken nothing: but nevertheless, at Thy Word I’m going to let down the net.” There you are. There’s the secret: Taking God at His Word.

If there was no fish there, God’s able to put fish there. He did do it. That same net that went through that water all night long and caught nothing, but look when God said, “Put it down there.”

19 Well, maybe tonight you might have seined through every doctor's office in the country. Maybe you've been to healing meetings and been anointed a many times. But tonight, "At Thy Word, Lord, here I come." That's the way it is. "At Thy Word, Lord, I'm going to let down the net, 'cause You told me if I'd ask anything in Your Name, You'd do it. And I believe that's the truth, and I'm letting down the net right now at Your command."

Don't be afraid; ask a whole lot. You have not because you ask not. You ask not because you believe not. That's right. "Ask, and you shall receive; seek, you shall find; knock, it'll be opened." That's God's Word.

Now, we'll let down for the draught. I can see that old apostle running that big seine out there in the water, getting ready. And when he begin to pull on the net, made a couple pulls, there wasn't nothing. After while

something begin to tug, begin to take a hold. Just let down one time and try it. The little effort you might not feel much. The second little effort you might not. May go several efforts. But after while you feel a tugging. Something caught a hold. Something's on the other end of the line.

20 Like the little boy caught the electricity in the bottle. He said, "I got it, I got it." He didn't know what he had, but he had

something. Believe God; take Him at His Word. “At Thy Word, Lord, I will let down the net.” And that’s what he did and caught the multitude of fishes.

Unbelief, the first thing you know, would’ve caught that when he said, “Let down the net and take up the draught,” where they been fishing through. How foolish to the carnal mind. “Well,” they said, “there’s no fish there.”

But God had put fish there for His Word, ’cause He’d already

spoke, “Let down the net for the draught,” and if—if there’s nothing there to work on, God will put something there to work on if He said so. If you believe Him, take Him at His Word.

21 And now, another thing, they had seined within themselves all night and had got nothing. But one time taking God’s Word for it, they got all the fish, and even begin to sink their boats. Men’s extremity is God’s opportunity. When you’ve gone

as far as you can, when the doctor's done all he can do for you, it's—that's the time that God can go to talking to you. But when you got something you can lean upon besides God, you'll do it. And when it comes to the last bit, then—then you can talk to a person about his soul.

I know a man here not long ago; I couldn't speak to him at all. I'd say—he make fun of the meeting. He said, "Oh, Billy's cracked in the head." Went on

and said all kinds of things. And he was a doctor too, an intern at the hospital.

22 And the other night, about a few weeks ago, I was out there on an emergency call. He called me down to the room, he said, “Brother Branham,” little bit different then; he said, “they’re going to take my arm off.” Said, “I got five children,” said, “what will I do?”

“Well,” I said, “I don’t know.”

He said, “Brother Branham, I know one of our nurses here; we doctored her for about three years with foot trouble.” And said, “Now, she went up there one time, was prayed for and she’s normal and well.”

Said, “I know her, Margie Morgan.”

Said, “Brother Branham, you think God will help me?”

I said, “If you’ll change your attitude and believe Him.”

23 And a few days before I come up here, they told me that the doctor said, “There’s not even a need for an operation on that man’s arm.” God had healed him. God’s able, and will keep His Word, when God’s took at His Word. The secret is, take Him at His Word, if you believe it. Every man that’s ever amounted to anything, is been people who has took God at His Word. Do you believe that?

Moses back there one time, how could he ever go down and make an invasion in Egypt? There he was standing out on the desert, and he said, “Lord, I’m a man of slow speech.” He had an impediment. He said, “I can’t speak.” He begin to make all kind of excuses. But when God got through talking to him and showing him His glory, at God’s Word, he took off to Egypt.

24 Could you imagine—wasn’t that a funny looking sight that

day? A man taking God at His Word, an old man, eighty years old...Now, here's something for your skeptic. That man was eighty years old, white beard hanging way down, long white hair hanging down his back, little old skinny body, a man eighty years old. And here he come down across the desert with a crooked stick in his hand and a wife setting straddle of a little old mule with a kid on each hip, "Where you going, Moses?"

“Down to Egypt to take over.”

A one man invasion, going down...Why? He had taken God at His Word. That's right. “How do you know Moses, you're going to take over?”

“God's done told me so, and I'm going down to take over.”

25 Why, that mechanized units that they had down there in Egypt, it was the greatest city in the world at that time, or the greatest nation, had the world whipped down, chariots and

horsemen. And here went an old man leading a mule with his wife and two kiddies, and with a long white beard and stick in his hand, going down to take the whole thing over. And he did it. Amen.

God says anything, He means it. “How do you know you’re going to do it, Moses?”

“God said so; that settles it.” Amen. I like that: men who will take God’s Word.

26 One time there’s a little boy, had a sandwich in his hand,

few little bunches of fish. There was a whole, about five thousand people setting around. Jesus setting on a rock, had been talking to the people. Maybe the little boy had played hooky, all I know, we call it in Indiana hooky, truant, ever-what you want to call it. He went out fishing maybe, and he seen that Man; there's something about Him; he like to hear Him talk. Little bitty fellow, he comes up with this little lunch under his arm, why, the people's so hungry they was about to

faint. Said, “You got anything to eat?”

Said, “There’s a little lad here with five little sandwiches.”

Said, “Bring him here.”

27 My, I can imagine seeing that, just in a drama way I can draw it in my mind. I can see the little fellow...Now, as long as the little boy had, what he had wasn’t very much, he could hardly feed himself with that. But once what he had he gave to Jesus, Jesus fed five thousand.

You may not have very much, but turn it loose once; let Him have what you got. If you got that much faith, put it in Him. Turn it loose and see what it'll do. As long as it's in his hand it wasn't much, but when it got in here, Jesus' hand, it meant something. It would only feed him here, it hardly do that. But it fed five thousand, taken up baskets full afterwards. Hallelujah. My, when I think of that, my soul shakes and trembles. God at His Word...

He said, “Cause them all to set down.”

I can see Him look down at the little boy, said, “You believe I can do it?”

He said, “Yes, Jesus, I’m standing right by You. I believe You can do it.”

28 That’s what He’s trying to find tonight: somebody with childlike faith who will stand by and say, “Jesus, I believe You can do it.” If He can get somebody to do that, He will do

it. But if you back off and say, “I don’t know, I just afraid; I know I believe You, but I—I don’t...” Oh, He can’t use you. If anything that’s helpless, as a spineless person who claims to be a Christian and afraid to stand on their convictions. God don’t want cowards like that; He can’t use them.

Like old Buddy Robinson, I used to like—was reading his book; he was quite a man; he said, “Lord, give me the

backbone the size of a saw log
and give me plenty of knowledge
in the gable end of my soul, and
let me fight the devil as long as I
got a tooth in my mouth, then
gum him till I die.”

That’s the kind of faith and
determination we need:
somebody who will do
something. “At Thy Word, Lord.”
Yes sir. At Thy Word, said, “At
Thy Word, Lord.”

“Whatsoever things you ask in
My Name, that will I do.”

Then “At Thy Word, Lord, here I come.”

29 Then I can notice one day, as we was talking yesterday. There was a man who was dead; he was rotting in the grave, Lazarus, been dead four days. I can see Martha and Mary stand there, or Martha, said, “My brother’s dead; he’s even stinking at this time. But at Thy Word, Lord, You just ask it; You say it and it’ll be so.”

That's what it is: Take God at His Word. Whatever God says, God's able to perform. God down through the ages...I can see the Hebrew children that night when they come down to the fiery furnace. They were down in Babylon. What a condition, what a time, way down in Babylon. Them boys had determined that they wasn't going to be defeated. They were going to take God's Word for it. We need some more of them tonight: Shadrachs, Meshach, and Abednegos.

30 The king made a proclamation, declaration, and he said, “Ever who won’t bow to this image, will be throwed into the fiery furnace.”

They said, “Our God is able to deliver us from this fiery furnace, but nevertheless, if He don’t, we’ll not bow down to you.” I like that, that determination.

The king said, “I will burn some of that holy-roller religion out of them then.”

So they got the old furnace hot, seven times hotter than it ever was. I see them tie their hands behind them. They had a prayer meeting all that night. The next day the death march came along, plank, walked up here, a road, whatever it was, stone road, to the furnace, and they dropped off into the furnace. I can see the great strong men, the king, set up and say, "Now we'll see how good this religion is, how much whether He will take His Word or not."

31 But they had an issue from God not to bow to images. Take God at His Word. I can see them start the death march; the old skies are roaring red with the fire. Said, “You want to take it back?”

They said, “No, sir, our God is able to deliver us from this, but we’ll not bow down to your image.”

So up the road they went. As they got closer...Don’t you worry; you take God at His Word,

and the devil will turn the heat on you. Don't you think he won't.

Up the road they went. As they got farther, hotter, hotter, hotter, it begin to get, I can hear Shadrach say to Meshach, "Are you sure you prayed through?"

"Yeah, everything's all right."

"Let's go then."

32 On, right on up, begin to stagger from the intense heat coming off of there, getting close. One more step and they're going

into there. Looks like a black picture for a believer, doesn't it?

Let's turn our camera. All the time there's something going on down here, there's something going on up there too. Let's look up there and see what's going on. I can see Him setting in His great priestly robes hanging around Him, watching down there across. I can see this great Archangel Gabriel come up, pull his sword, unsheathe his sword and stand and say, "Master, have

You looked down in Babylon? Why, there's men down there, three people, that's took Your Word, and they're standing on it. And they're fixing to burn them up this morning."

I can hear Him say, "Yes, Gabriel, I'm watching them."

I hear him say, "Look, I stood by Your side; let me go down there; I will change the scene this morning." I believe he could've done it.

I can hear Him say, “Gabriel, you been a good angel; you’ve done just what I’ve told you ever since I created you. But stick that sword back in there.”

33 Stuck it back there, Gabriel took his place at His side. Here comes another Angel, flashing up real quick, his name’s Wormwood; he had the controls of the water. I can hear him say, “Master, look down in Babylon. Have You considered Babylon? Why,” he said, “let me go down

there. In the antediluvian destruction You give me the power over the waters. I broke up the springs and brought the atmospheres down. I washed the whole earth over. Let me go down there this morning. I will wash Babylon off the face of the earth.” I believe he could have done it. That’s right. Said, “Have You considered them?”

Said, “Yes, I’ve watched them all night long.” Amen.

34 His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. Sing because I'm happy. He watches every hour. He knows everything you're doing. That's right. He said, "I've watched them all night long. And you angels are great men, and you've done what I've told you to do, but I can't let you go this morning because I'm going Myself, it's a Man-size job." Amen. He said, "Look, they just got one more step. They're going right on in."

Sometimes God sets still and lets it get to the last minute. You're the only one's in a hurry, not God. He knows what He's going to do. You just believe Him; He's on the—He's on the answering side.

35 I can see Him come walking down. I can see Him get up off of His throne, His priestly garments drop around Him like that, great King of Majesty, like everything obeys Him. I can see a great big thunderhead hanging

back there in the north; I can hear him say, “East wind, south wind, north and west, come here!” Everything minds Him, all but man. Man knows more about it than He does, or thinks he does.

I can hear Him say, “Get over on that thunderhead and bring it here right quick; I got a mission for you.” The winds and the waves obey Him. Everything else obeys Him. I can see that big thunderhead roll over there,

steps up on it like a chariot. My, reached up and got a hold of a zig-zag lightning, crashed it to the skies to let them know He's on the hearing side...Hallelujah! "I'm watching you; I know where you are." Cracking that lightning...

36 As He went through I hear Shadrach say, "It'll be all right. Don't worry."

Right then I can see Him pass down by the Sea of Life and pick a palm out of the Sea of Life. And

about the time that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, stepped into the fiery furnace, there was One standing by their side fanning away the fire. Hour after hour of pleasure in there, king said, “Open up the doors and see if they’re there.” He said, “I thought you put in three; I see four, and one looks like the Son of God.” Why? Somebody took God at His Word.

On the day of Pentecost a hundred and twenty people

entered into an upper room, taking God at His Word. “Well, how’s it going to be? What is the Holy Spirit? What do you mean the promise of the Father?”

“I don’t know how It’s coming; I don’t what It’s going to do when It comes; but I’m taking God at His Word.” Amen.

37 Pull them away from Jerusalem, you couldn’t do it. They had a commission to stay there till the Holy Ghost come.

Hallelujah. They took God at His Word. “How’s it going to be?”

“That ain’t the question. It’s supposed to stay till It comes.”
Amen.

“How long?”

“Until It comes, stay right there.”

And when the Holy Ghost come like a rushing mighty wind, God’s Word was confirmed, and away they went into the streets, everywhere.

It's time for God's people to take God's Word. Mark 16 said, "These signs shall follow them that believe." Take God at His Word. "Lay hands on the sick, they shall recover." God bless you. You believe it? Bow our heads.

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