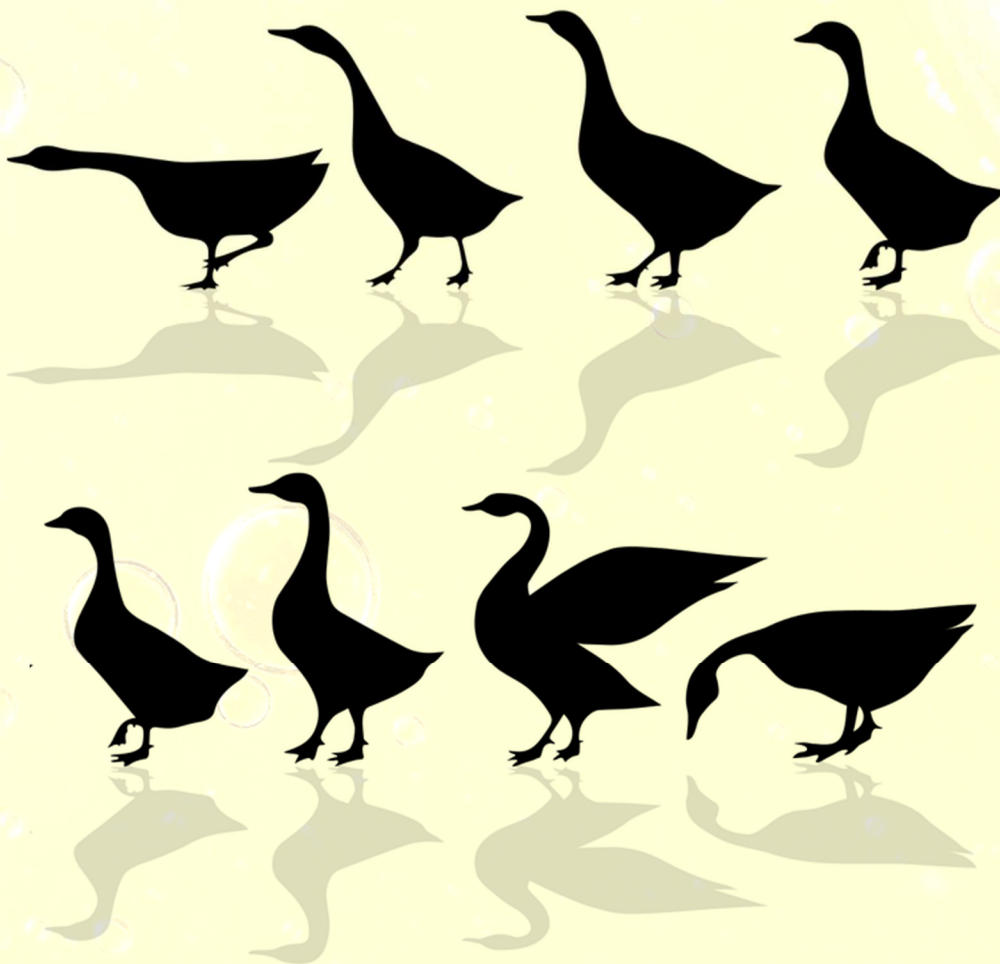


“Birds Of A Feather Flock Together”



From The Sermons Of
WILLIAM MARRION BRANHAM



1

God knew, before the foundation of the world, who would be saved and who would not be saved. By predestination, by foreknowledge, He saw every member, put every name on the Lamb's Book of Life, before the Church ever began. Jesus come to seek and save that which was on that Book. He bought the Book of Redemption. It was lost,

and He redeemed us, and all names was on that Book was redeemed when He redeemed us.

48 Then, as I have said many times, you recognize that. That's why you're here this morning, why you're coming up out of all these organizations and things. You're...There is Something pulling you. As my little thought was, about the eagle hatched under the hen, see, you—you realize there is something different. The—the church

didn't have a—a satisfying something. But, you, you heard something else that was a scream, you realized that, that you were born for That. You're a part of It. You, you fit into It, like a glove on a hand. That's why we're assembled here together this morning, is because, as my old southern mama used to say, "birds of a feather flock together," because you have things in common.

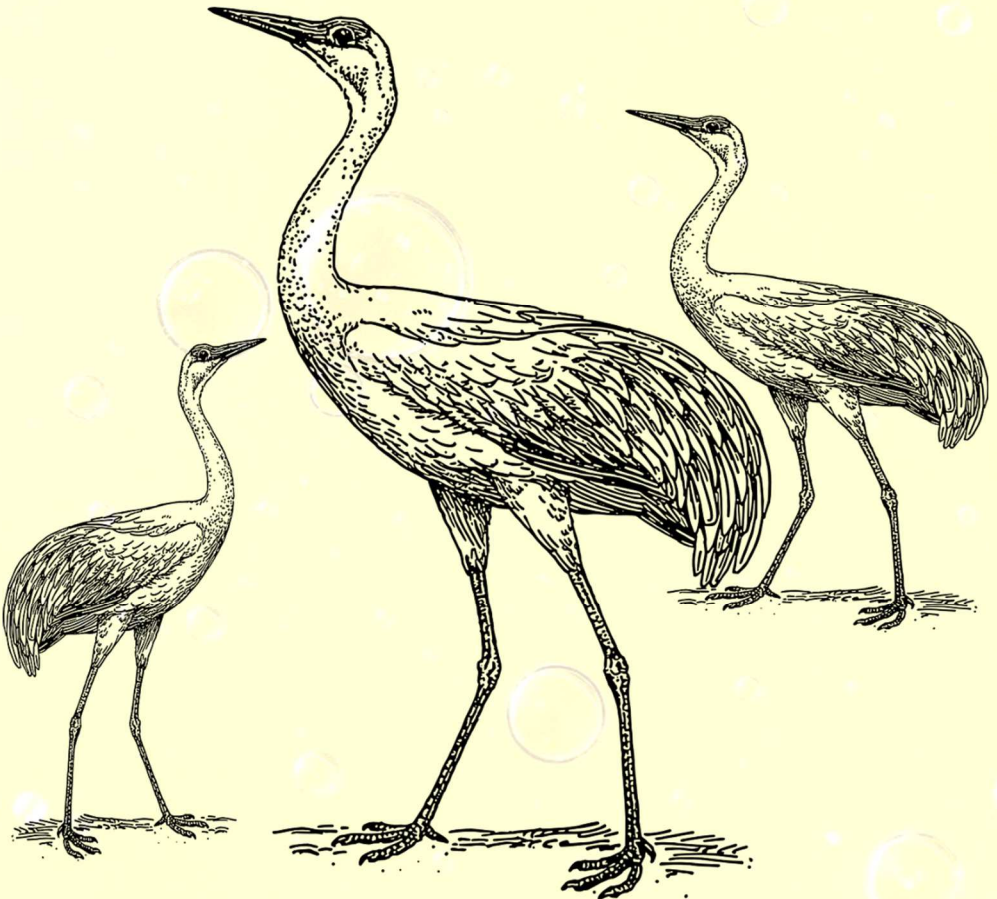
49 Buzzards and doves has nothing in common. Their diet is

different, although a dove could be hatched under a buzzard. That's right. Depends on what it was, to begin with. Now, and in that, though, the—the dove might have to be mothered awhile by that, by that buzzard, but finally he'll find his mate.

50 That's what the Church is doing today, for Jesus is the Word and He is the Bridegroom, and the Bride is a part of the Groom. Therefore the Word that is to be fulfilled this day is the same part of the Word that was

fulfilled in His day, and it's the same Word, same experience, same Life.

65-0429B - *The Seed Shall Not Be
Heir With The Shuck*



②

6 Now, Daniel was one of the...was the prophet that was carried from Jerusalem, down into Babylon, in the carrying away of Babylon, by King Nebuchadnezzar. He was a young fellow when he went down into Babylon. There was not many of them that had still holding out the grand old faith.

7 I like Daniel, because his...he had purposed that in his heart, when he went down into

Babylon, that he was going to remain a believer, and he wasn't going to defile himself with the king's meats, and so forth.

8 Now, the very thing that Daniel was, the prophet to the Gentiles. Daniel saw all the Gentile age rise and fall. He was the first one to be, we call, the Gentile prophet. He wasn't a Gentile, himself. But he saw the Gentile dispensation, from start to finish; in the head of gold, and ending up in the feet of iron and clay.

9 And while down in there, purposing in his heart that he wouldn't defile himself with the king's meats, and with the king's affair.

10 And another group of brother, named Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, was down there with them; which was not prophets, but believers. And they, also, purposed in their heart. And then when those four believers come together, I'd imagine, quite oftenly they had had prayer meetings together.

11 Just like we do, we get together because we have things in common. You know, there's an old slogan that says, "Birds of a feather flock together." And that's an old proverb, rather. And that's a pretty good thing, too. Birds of a feather flock together. Aren't you happy for that? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed.] Sure. Birds of a feather flock together.

12 Not long ago, I was sitting in a meeting where there was a man discussing something. And

he said, “Well...” he was talking about the souls that went to prison, was in prison, that Jesus went and preached to, after His death. And this man that was speaking, said, “Well, what do you think about it?”

13 And a colored brother raised up. He said, “Well, that’s just what the Bible said. ‘He went and preached to souls that were in prison.’”

Said, “What do you think it was?”

14 Said, "It was 'Souls that didn't repent, in the longsuffering, in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared,' just like the Bible said."

15 He said, "No." Said, "That's this church, preaching to those Pentecostal people that's in these denominations and everything, bringing them out of prison."

16 He said, "Now, looky here, brother." He said, "Pentecost wasn't even mentioned there. He said that. He just said, that, 'He

went and preached to the souls that were in prison.”

So I said, “Amen. That’s right.”

17 And the minister looked around at me, and said, “Birds of a feather flock together.”

18 I said, “That’s right, brothers of like precious Faith, believing just what the Scripture says is the Truth.”

Daniel had three of those companions that were with him.

19 You know, it’s good, when you’re away from home, to find

somebody that's with you,
somebody that will stand by you,
a real good friend. Oh, my! In
foreign lands, when you find
someone who wants to be your
buddy, and loves you and stands
by you, that's worth so much;
especially a stranger.

And these brethren were
taken away from their city.

*55-0109E - Beginning And Ending
Of The Gentile Dispensation*



3

41 The water supply had dried up; They had no water for them or their camels, and their—their horses and so forth. Oh, they was all disturbed and said, “Oh,

God brought us out here with these three kings to get killed out here. They'll sure get us." Then was a horrible time to think so, but it's a good thing that there was a righteous man among them, anyhow. There's one man kind of had a little of God about him. He knowed where to go to in the time of trouble—Jehoshaphat. He said, "Isn't there a prophet somewhere, that we can consult the Lord and see what's gone wrong?"

One of the fellows come up, said, “Yeah, there’s Elijah down there, Elisha.” Said, “He poured water on Elijah’s hands.” In other words, his associates had been right. Ha.

42 You know you’re kind of judged by your associates. Birds of a feather flock together. Did you ever hear that? That’s the truth. That’s an old proverb, but it’s the truth. You never did see any buzzards and doves having any fellowship with one another. Their diet’s different. And just as

sure as you get God in your heart, you're diet will be different too. You'll come out from the things.

You know why the dove can't eat with the buzzard? The dove is a different make-up; he doesn't have any gall. He can't digest them things. And that's the way it is. The old crow set out there. Do you know, a crow, he can set on a dead carcass, eat half the day, go out eat wheat the other half of the day. But the dove can

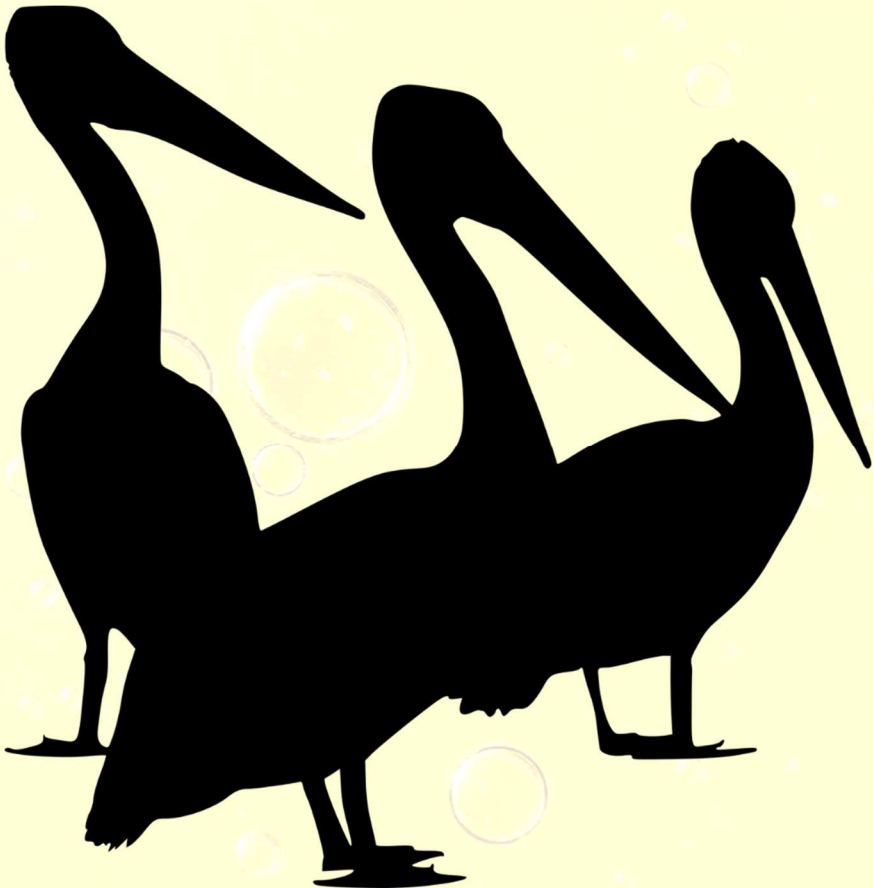
feed and eat wheat, but you can't eat the dead carcass.

43 So you see, you can have somebody pretending to be Christian, when he's not, pretending he's a believer, when he's not: fly up back out the next day and go down to the barroom, and set half a day, fuss with his wife all day long, drag on an old pipe like a big cat, or something or another, then call himself a Christian: yeah, go down to church, and shout, and carry on like the rest of them. That's the

~ 20 ~

truth. That's pretty scorching,
but, brother, it's the truth.
Amen.

55-0228 - Separation From Unbelief



4

40 Now, speaking on the Word, and the word of *Fellowship*, thinking, coming up there, it might be a marvelous time to speak just on fellowship for a few moments. That's one of the greatest things. Everyone desires fellowship. People today, they'll say, "Will you just come over with me over at the house a little while? Let's have just a little time of fellowship."

41 Then, many times, businessmen will say, “Will you have a lunch with me today at dinner?” Or go out and just have a little lunch together, eat a piece of pie or something, a time of fellowship: eating. Eating goes with fellowship.

42 And while we’re talking this afternoon, may the Holy Spirit of God take the Word of God and feed every hungry soul in here. Eating accompanies fellowship. “And man shall not live by bread alone,” saith the

Lord, “but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.” The Holy Spirit, then, likes to eat and fellowship with the believer. What a time. We’re all gathered around a great table now, where the good things of God is just piled up high. God’s got in His bounties of blessings, everything that we have need of: all the vitamins, everything that we have need of, to make us full, sturdy, healthy Christians, filled with His Spirit, washed in His

Blood, and what a time that we can fellowship.

43 And did you ever think, the old proverb that man has once said (my mother used to use this much): “Birds of a feather flock together.” That’s right. You watch them. You won’t see doves and scavengers together, because they can’t eat the same diet. A scavenger, buzzard, he can just eat anything. A crow can sit out there on a dead carcass and eat. The dove couldn’t do it. If she’d eat it, it would kill her.

She just can't eat it. She's gets over in a wheat field and begins to eat in the wheat. She associates with her own kind. But here is the startling part: Did you know the crow can eat on the dead carcass and also eat wheat? He can eat both, but... See?

44 See, you have to watch them fellows, that type, that can set in the meeting and pretending to enjoy the meeting, and go back out and take the things of the world. That's the way social believers are today.

But we like to congregate ourselves together with those who separated themselves from the things of the world: called out and been made new creatures in Christ Jesus, and fellowshiping around the blessings of the Holy Spirit. What a marvelous thing.

45 Now, man was born to have fellowship. Man, in the beginning, back in the garden of Eden, he had wonderful fellowship. God come down and fellowshiped with His company

of men and women every evening. In the cool of the evening God would come down under the great palm trees, perhaps His sacred Light, as it was, shining down on Adam and Eve, in that great cathedral in the open. Fellowship with God; had nothing to worry about as long as they were fellowshiping.

46 I love fellowship with men. I like to go out and talk with people who loves the Lord, and have fellowship with them,

because we see the same thing. Our motives are the same. Our ideals are the same. I like to talk with people on the... I've got a friend setting right down here that likes to hunt and fish. Many times we have a lot of fellowship together, just setting around talking on those things, because we like those things. Now...

47 But the greatest fellowship that any man ever had was when he had fellowship with God, when God had gave Hissself open to man to fellowship back and

forth with His creature, the Creator and His creature.

48 Now, when God was fellowshiping with Adam in the garden of Eden, Adam had nothing to worry about. Everything was on the smooth, and running right. He didn't have to worry about his clothes; he didn't have to worry about something to eat. Didn't have to worry about sickness; he didn't have to worry about death, sorrow. He knew nothing about them, just the freedom like a

child. He had a Heavenly Father Who watched over him and fellowshiped with him daily. Wouldn't it be marvelous if we could be back like that again?

49 And do you know every redeemed soul today, that's living under their privileges of that kind of fellowship with God? You believe that? God will take care and provide everything that we have need of in this journey. And at the end of the close of this old mortal tabernacle, God's

promised to give us another one.
Amen.

55-0501A - Fellowship

5

17 In a little place in the Scripture, found over here in the book of Saint Luke, of all my preaching in all my life, I have never approached this text before in my life. It's a new text that I have never tried from. But setting in my hotel room a while ago, something seemed to draw

me to this place. Shall we read it in the Gospel of Saint Luke, and we will begin at the 7th chapter and the 36th verse:

And one of the Pharisees... Him that he would—would come to his place for a dinner.

Jesus wanted—or the Pharisee wanted Jesus to come to his place for meal. Now, the—the case of it is, after you read the whole chapter on through, you are pretty well acquainted with the—with the manner of Scripture and how it speaks. But

now, as we turn our thoughts to this, there's something wrong here. There is... Just a that much of Scripture to the period will be enough to give us the idea that I want to speak on. And my subject would be "Pride."

Oh, pride's such a cursed thing, so awful, so evil is pride. But there seems to be something wrong as we enter our little scene. And we want to look at it now, not from a doctrinal standpoint, but from an instant of Jesus' life, not for doctrine.

But there, surely, is something wrong here, a Pharisee wanting to see Jesus, and having to eat with Him for fellowship. That's altogether contrary. The Pharisees hated Jesus. They had no use for Him at all. He was a—a Beelzebub to them, a devil, a deceiver. And no Pharisee had anything to do with Jesus.

18 But this Simon, he wanted Jesus to come to Him, and have some—be entertained by Him. Now, there's—there's something wrong with the picture.

When we see a—a little girl a following Grandma around all the time, little six or seven year old child following around with Grandma, there's something going on, the motives are—have been changed.

Now, a girl of six years old don't usually—or seven or eight, she likes to fool around, play around with little children her age. But if she follows Grandma all the time, now, it's either that Grandma is real good to her, or Grandma pets her, or she's

Grandma's little pet, rather, or—
or—or maybe you don't know,
Grandma might have a sack of
candy setting somewhere. See?
The thing of it is, is the motive
the child has in following
Grandma. And surely this
Pharisee, hating Jesus, had some
sort of a motive behind it that
wasn't just right.

19 Young people like to go
with young people. Little
children like to play in the
streets, the Bible speaks of that
in the prophecy of Isaiah. Little

children playing in the streets, they have things in common: their dolls, and their tops, and their hobby horses and things. Little children associate with little children. The young girls associate with young girls, the middle aged women with the middle age, the old with the old.

Clubs, Kiwanis and Rotary, they have things in common. They have to meet together at their clubs in order to have—talk over the situations of how they—about the community, or about

the—how they could take care of the poor in the situation. They've got to get together. And as the old Kentucky proverb as I've heard my mother say many times, "Birds of a feather flock together." That's a very much of a truth.

20 You never see crows and doves having much fellowship with one another. They're two different kinds of birds; one has one thing, and the other has the other. Now, the crow, he's a scavenger. He just eats dead

things. But the dove cannot eat dead things. If the dove eats dead things, then the dove would die right away; he can't digest it. The dove, the bird that we know to be called dove, symbolized the Holy Spirit of a Dove in the Bible, that dove doesn't have any gall. It cannot digest bad, foul things; because if it would, it would mean the death of the dove.

A very beautiful type of a borned again Christian cannot digest the things of the world,

'cause if they do, it will spiritually kill them right away. But did you ever notice the old crow? Now, he can set on the dead carcass that's—that's decaying, in plain Kentucky language, rotting. And he can set on there and just eat all day long. But the dove cannot go around it; it stinks, and she will fly away. But the crow can set on there and eat all day long, and then he can go right out in the wheat field and eat with the dove, too.

21 So a hypocrite, an impostor, he can go to the world and affiliate with the world, and act like the world, and live in the world, and enjoy the pleasures of the world, and come to church and pretend to be a Christian. But the real Christian can't go out into the world and come back; there's something wrong. So that shows...

Show me your company, I will tell you who you are. Let me go into your house and see what you read, let me listen to—see what

kind of music you—you have playing. Let me see what kind of magazines, what kind of literature you read. Let me look in your office and see if it's a big bunch of these vulgar pictures of pin-ups and things. And you tell me you're a Christian, I won't say nothing to you; but in my heart I will watch what kind of fruit you're bearing (See?), 'cause that's your diet.

Oh, you say, "I belong to the church. Well now, you no business judging me, Brother

Branham.” I am not judging you; the Word is a judging you. That’s right. Your fruit, your life tells what you are.

22 Oh, my, this Pharisee must’ve had some kind of a motive behind this. What is a Pharisee? What does the word Pharisee mean? We don’t use that word very often in Kentucky. What does the Pharisee word mean? In the Greek, it means “a actor, someone who acts.” Oh, I hate

that, somebody acting, trying to put on. I despise such a thing.

Many times people are trying to act like the other fellow. Listen, you quit trying to act like the next fellow, and just act out your own convictions and you get along better. Be yourself. That's right.

You see so many little children going to the picture show, come back home and want to act like the actress. Shame on you. In Hollywood, Los Angeles, I have many services out there, and I

find out that the most of the people that's growed on the whole environment of the American people to act. We're great actors, Pharisees. There they are; you'll see them; they're before the screen so much until they're always acting.

23 In the American people through television, and through picture-shows, they have seen so much of the put on, till they become put-ons themselves: too bad. And we get it in church, actors. Hmmm. God don't want

them. Far be it from us to be actors. Be yourself; God wants you to be that way. I despise seeing someone trying to do something that they cannot do.

What a disgrace, I've noticed it many times, and beautiful voices that God has given to people, a talent, and then they overtrain it. I hate to hear an overtrained voice, when they stand up to sing, and get some kind of a note till they hold it so long till they get blue in the face, just to show the congregation

how long they can hang on for dear life. And when they come back down, them people's not praising God; their mind's on their note.

24 I love good old fashion Pentecostal singing (That's right.): where you forget the piano and the organ, where you don't have to get into some kind of ritualistic, put on program. Where you raise up your hands with the tears running down from your cheeks, whether you could sing do-ra-me-fa-so-la-te-

do, or not, and just sing in the Spirit. From the heart you give praise to God. All out of the program, you have to get out of man's program to get in God's program (See?), get out of it.

Oh, my, deliver me from being a actor. Be what you are; God will bless you. You even down see sometimes ministers will do that. They will get in the pulpit, and make their voice very big. "I have now received my degree..." like it'd run shivers over you. I feel sorry for them.

People don't appreciate that. Just be yourself, people will appreciate you more. Don't you believe that. Just be old plain sassafras, hickory smoked ham, sorghum molasses. It'll do you good; you won't put on.

25 But a Pharisee, oh, I hate that word, an im—a actor. Some sisters do the same thing, got a lot of acting about them. Oh, they'll cut their husbands nose off with, "John, why did you do that?" Just snappy as they can be. Oh, my, whew. God deliver me

from ever calling on you if that's the kind of spirit you have. But let someone talk on the telephone, "Oh, how do you do? I am so glad that you called." Actors, shame on you: house angels, road devils, putting on. Just be yourself all the time. That's the best way to be. Don't you believe it?

Sure, you know how to take you then, not actors, not Pharisees. Go to church on Sunday, and oh, how pious you are and on Monday morning,

nobody could get along with you. You Pharisee, what good does it do you to go to church? Oh, my, umm. They need a conversion; that's what you need. Take the thing out, the nature of it. Methodists ought to say, "Amen," to that, because that's Methodist doctrine if I understand it right, sanctification.

55-0807A - Pride



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