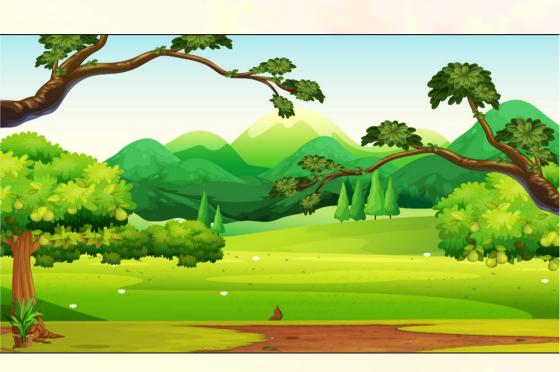
God Being Misunderstood



WILLIAM MARRION BRANHAM

TITLE: GOD BEING MISUNDERSTOOD

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Rev. William Marrion Branham

158 Now turn to Psalms 106, and the 7th verse. I was going to read on down, a piece...a part of this Psalm. But, it's David. Why it come to me, was because of this morning's message. And, I'll get my watch here and try to be out at nine-thirty, if all possible. Now on the 7th verse of Psalms 106.

Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked him at the sea, even...the Red sea.

159 I'm going to read the next verse.

Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.

The Lord add His blessings.

160 I'm going to speak to you, if the Lord willing, on the subject of the *misunderstanding;* God,

misunderstood. I'll take it like that: *God Being Misunderstood.*

161 You know, misunderstanding gets us in a lot of trouble. Many times that people say things that they repeat after somebody else, where, they misunderstood them. That gets a person in trouble. I believe it would be good for us if we just, well, wait till we understood what we was talking about. Don't you think so? I know it would

be, for me, a very good for me to find out first and then say it. See? But we are always, seem to be, misunderstood. And here David is speaking of Israel, misunderstood His miracles when they were in Egypt.

162 Now, to misunderstand is just not to say, "Well, I didn't hear what he said," but to see something done and misunderstand what it's for. That's a...That's,

you're missing the boat, all completely then.



163 Now, God doesn't do miracles just to say, "See, I'm God." God does a miracle for an understanding. See? God

does it for a purpose. And did you notice the reading of the Psalms here in this 7th verse? I think it's so beautiful, I want to read it over again.

Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; (see, they didn't understand it)...they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked him at the sea, even...the Red sea.

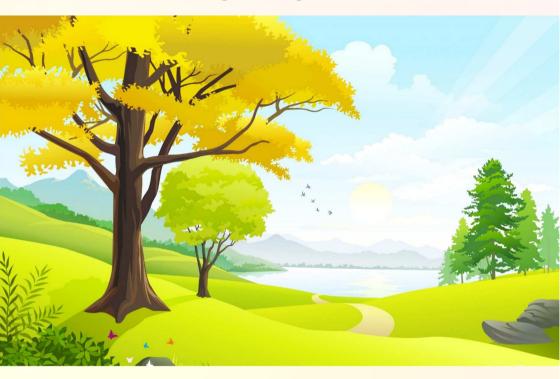
Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.

164 See, they did not understand why that God, down in Egypt, performed these miracles. He was trying to show them His mercies. He was trying to get them to understand that He was God in their midst. I love that.

I preached here sometime ago, up at Chicago, and then I believe I preached it here, the boys has got it on tape, *As*

The Eagle Stirreth Up Her *Nest*, fluttereth over young. How that the old mother eagle takes her little babies...Before she takes them on a flight, they got a lot of loose feathers in them. And they've never seen her really in her best because they're all squatted down in the nest. But she gets up over the nest and she spreads her big mighty wings. What's she doing? She screams, she wants them to

know her voice. She stretches forth her big wings.



166 The female eagle is sometimes the largest. They are said that eagles sometime, them big females,

have wings fourteen feet from tip to tip, pick up a calf and fly away with it. Fourteen feet, tip from tip; the wings, far as across this platform right here, from post to post.

167 She gets up there before this little fellow, because why? She's going to take him on a flight. He's never been out of that nest. And she's going to take him way up in the heavens and then shake him off, and let him up there to flop for

himself, to learn how to fly. So she wants to show the authority she has. She spreads forth her big wings to the strutting of the feathers, and she screams, and then she fans them. Oh, my! The feathers fly out of the nest, and everything else, she's throwing wind in there like out of a jet plane. Knocks him backwards, and he lays on his little back, and he looks up and thinks, "Mother, how great thou art! How great thou art!"

168 "See how strong my wings are? I can pick you up and pack you anywhere I want to. I'm powerful!"

169 And that's what God was doing to Israel. You know, He said, "As the eagle stirreth up her nest," that's the same thing. He found Israel in howling land down there, and He brought him up out of Egypt and took him into the promised land, on the wings of an eagle. See? And what was God doing these miracles? He was trying to get to His people that He was the mighty Jehovah.



170 And that's what He's trying to do today! He just doesn't heal people just because He can heal. He's

trying to get to you that He's the Resurrection, that He can make you well, He can raise up your body. He can do whatever He wants to, He's Jehovah! I like that.

171 But the people misunderstood Him. God is so easily to be misunderstood by unbelievers, by those who don't want to understand. (Many people try to understand.) Many don't want to understand, they just shut up themselves, and

say, "There's no such a thing," and "I don't believe in such." Then they can never understand.

172 But a man that's willing to understand, that's willing to sit down ("And come let us reason together," saith the Lord) now, that man is—is on the line of learning something from the Lord. But people who always are associated with God and God's power...You can hardly be associated with God

without being associated with His power, because when you are associated with Him you are acquainted to Him, or a relative to Him, and then you have His power in you.

173 That's the reason that people cannot believe in miracles today, because they don't have anything in them to believe with. They've got to have something in there to believe with. And when the Spirit of God is in a man, he'll say "amen" to every Word of

God and every miracle of God. But as my mother used to say, "You can't get blood from a turnip, because there's no blood in it." So that's the same way, you can't get belief out of unbeliever, because there's nothing there to believe with.

174 A man said, "I don't believe in Divine healing, no matter what you'd say." Certainly, it's not for him, it's only to those who can believe. If you're going to get

blood, get it out from something that's got blood in it. If you're going to get faith, get it out of something that's got faith in it.

175 And that's the way, God uses something that's got faith in it. He don't send you out here in a healing campaign when you ain't got faith enough to believe it. How is He going to send you out in a miracle-working revival when you ain't got faith enough to believe it? He

wants something that's got something in there that He can produce something with. So the people misunderstood.

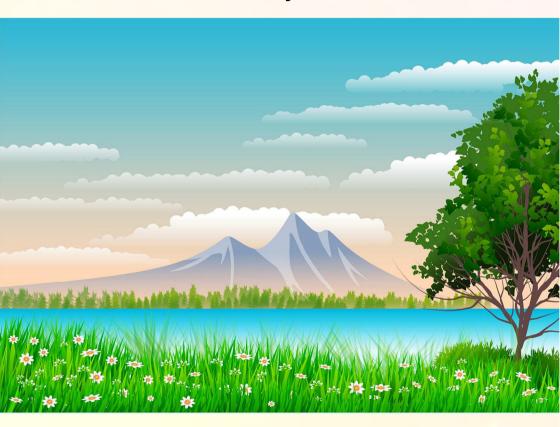
176 Noah was very much misunderstood in his day. Noah, acquainted of God, a servant of God, a believer in God. And when you become a believer in God you do things so contrary to what people think that's right till they think that you are crazy. And Noah, warned of God, prepared an ark for the saving of his

household. And the people thought that he was crazy. He was not crazy, he was just misunderstood because he was following the direction of God. Amen! I like that. He was misunderstood.

177 "How could a man, though..." You say, "There's never no rain come from the skies. What is rain?" Never had rain, God irrigated the ground. "Noah, where's that rain at?"

"I don't know."

"Show me where it's at!" "I can't show it to you."



178 "Well, how do you know it's going to come down from up there when there's

none up there to come down?"

179 Noah might have said something like this, "God told me it was coming down. And if God said 'it's coming down,' He's able to take it up there and then bring it down." So that—that settled it. If God said so, that's all there is to it. See? He was misunderstood because he was following God.

180 Elijah. I could stay on these subjects a long time, but

I've got several of them here I would like to come quickly. Elijah was misunderstood his by nation. Elijah was an Israelite, he was a Jew, and he was misunderstood because he was always condemning his nation, condemning the king, condemning the queen, condemning everything there was around. And condemning them! What a crackpot he seemed to be. Why, my, everything, it: "King, THUS SAITH THE LORD. God is going to punish you; you, Jezebel; you, so-and-so."



181 He was misunderstood. Why? He was following God. It was not Elijah they misunderstood, it

was the working of the Holy Spirit in Elijah that they misunderstood.

182 How could a man raise up against his own nation? Blasphemed his own nation, corrected, and put the curses of God upon it, the very nation, the very people that he lived with. His own race, his own color, his own creed, his own kind, and yet predict the judgments of God and called a famine upon them. He was misunderstood,

because it wasn't Elijah, it was God in Elijah that they misunderstood. It wasn't Elijah being misunderstood, it was God leading Elijah, and they misunderstood that God was a Holy God and He cannot intolerate sin.

183 And no matter if it's on your brother, sister, or mother, no matter who it is, it's sin in the sight of God and the judgment will come upon them for it. Misunderstood.

184 Daniel was misunderstood when all of the rest of the children of Israel bowed down to the image, but he and Shadrach and Meshach and Abed-nego refused to bow down. Well, they said, "What's the matter with him?" The whole nation said, "What's the matter with this crazy guy? Well, all the rest of the Hebrews recognize our god, they recognize it, they bow down when we play the trumpets, and sound the

trumpets and play the psalteries, and so forth, and sound the flutes. They all bow down, but what's the matter with this crackpot? What's the matter with him, he won't do it?" Because he was in contact with God! That's what's the matter. He was misunderstood. He was supposed to be crazy, or had lost his mind, or they was a bunch of cranks. But they were only following the leading of the Spirit. That's the

reason they were misunderstood.



185 All the prophets of the Old Testament, how they rose up and prophesied against their nation, how they prophesied against the

people, how they prophesied against the thing, putting curses upon them, and doing things like that. They misunderstood. Why? They were God's servants, they were doing the will of God, they were doing the service of God, therefore they were misunderstood.

186 And anybody that follows God is misunderstood. Jesus, our Lord, when His birth, He was misunderstood.

187 The Magi, they were misunderstood, they were following a supernatural sign to find a King that was born King of the Jews. They knowed there was a Star rising out of Jacob, according the prophecies of Daniel. And they knowed this King would be a Saviour, He would be the King of Israel. And they come two years, all the way from India, down by the Tigris River, and across the deserts and

through the mountains, everywhere, and come into the city of Jerusalem one evening about sundown, screaming, "Where is He that's born King of the Jews? Where is He?"

188 And nobody knowed nothing about it. It was a strange thing that the King of the Jews was born and people hundreds of miles away knowed about it; and right here in the city where He was born, and the place He was

born, in amongst the people He was born to, and they knowed nothing about it. They misunderstood the Magi. They said, "There's no such a thing as the King of the Jews. We got a king up here, Herod."

misunderstood in His birth when He was born. And Mary was to be mother before she was married to Joseph. Misunderstood. They thought It was born out of holy wedlock, they did not know

that the Holy Ghost had conceived this child in her. But it was misunderstood. It was a act of God and people misunderstood it.



190 They still misunderstand It, an act of God is usually misunderstood.

191 Only by spiritual believing people, people who believe the Spirit. But it was misunderstood, the Magi was misunderstood.

192 Herod misunderstood it. When Herod said, "Well, you tell me where the baby is, and I'll go worship him, too." He was a hypocrite, he was lying. What he was afraid of...He didn't know the

Scriptures that there was supposed to be a Messiah come, a King of Heaven. And Herod thought it would be an earthly king, and he wanted to kill Him to get rid of Him.

193 It wasn't a earthly king, He said this earth is not His kingdom, "If this was My kingdom My subjects would fight for Me, but My Kingdom is of up above." Herod misunderstood it, he thought it was an earthly king.

194 That's the way they say today, "What church do you belong to if you're a Christian? What denomination?"

"None!"

195 They don't get it. See, they can't understand it. They think a *denomination* means a "Christian." It's vice versa, very much so. But it's misunderstood by the people.

196 Now, we find out that Herod misunderstood It, he couldn't understand It.

197 Nicodemus couldn't understand it, the new Birth, when he came to Jesus by night. Someone condemned him. I don't condemn him. He was a good man, he wanted to find out something. He was busy through the day, maybe he was at his priest's office, or something another, he had to come by night. Anyhow, he got there, he done a lot better than a lot of people does now. They won't come day or night. He finally arrived;

before you condemn him, have you? He finally got to Jesus, and let's not condemn him if we haven't been there. And if you get there, then I don't think you'd condemn him. No, he—he got there. And he come by night, and maybe he was busy. Anyhow, he come. Maybe Jesus was too busy out praying for the sick and things, only time he could catch Him for this interview would be at nighttime. But he

finally got there, he stayed there till he got an interview with Jesus. And when Jesus said...He—he said, "Rabbi, we know that You are a Man sent from God, for no man could do these things that You do except God be with Him."

198 Jesus said, "Except a man be born again he cannot enter the Kingdom, not even see the Kingdom."

199 And the great rabbi, master in Israel, said, "Me, an old man, to be enter into my

mother's wombs and be born again?" See, he misunderstood what Jesus was talking about, he just didn't get it. Because that Jesus was talking about a spiritual Birth, and he was trying to apply it to a natural birth. So he misunderstood Him, he didn't get it. He just...the way people do. Just like Nicodemus, many of us misunderstand the things of God because we just take it and apply it for a natural thing.



200 Like, say, a doctor say, "Oh, I do not believe in Divine healing. I don't believe there's anything."

201 I heard a doctor tell a woman in an office one time, said... And she didn't know...He wanted to know what become of a growth she

had. She said, "Brother Branham prayed for me and the Lord healed me."

202 He said, "I do not believe it." He said, "I can never—I can never believe anything like that." Said, "Tell me who took it off."

Said, "Find the scar."

Said, "What did you put on it?"

203 Said, "Nothing, not at all." Said, "He just called me out of the meeting and the thing left."

204 And I was sitting right in the next room, that's right, sitting right in the next room, listening. She didn't know I was in there. And he didn't know I was in there, 'cause he didn't even know me, see. And there I was sitting in there. And he said...Taking somebody else to a doctor's office. That's exactly right. And I just wanted to hear what he said. I got—I got the patient and got out of there

when I found that, that he didn't believe.



205 So he said, "I don't believe one word of it." Said, "I've never seen anything yet

that could do anything like that. I just don't believe it." Said, "I've got to see it before I believe it."

She said, "Well, what about my—my growth?"

He said, "I'd have to see it leave before I'll believe it."

206 See, seeing is not believing. "Faith is the substance of things you don't see." See, you believe it first and then it happens. So the—the man was not a believer, so therefore it was all a

mystery to him. He didn't know what he was talking about because he—he couldn't understand it, it was a riddle to him.

207 People say today, "Oh, I don't believe in that Divine healing. I don't believe in that Holy Ghost. I don't believe in that speaking in tongues. I don't believe in that shouting. I don't believe in all this stuff like that. I don't believe in it." Why? It's a mystery! You're just

misunderstanding. It's God, here it is in the Bible. Here it is bringing the same results that the Bible spoke of bringing, then it's got to be God. You just misunderstand It, that's all. God is misunderstood.

208 His disciples couldn't understand His miracles. That night when He come into the boat, and he said, "What manner of man is this that even the winds and the waves obey

Him?" They

misunderstood that He wasn't a man, He was God.



209 That's what's the matter today with people, they want to make Him a little mascot boy, or something

another that carries the bat. They want to make Him just a little fellow around the camp.

210 He wasn't a little fellow around the camp, He was Jehovah, God! They misunderstood it. They expected Him to be just one of them. He wasn't one of them, He was God among them! He was more than a man. As I've often said, He was a man when He was hungry, but He was God when He fed five

thousand with a biscuit, two biscuits and some pieces of fishes. He was a man when He was tired on the back of a boat, but He was God when He ceased the winds and waves and made them obey Him. "What manner of man is this?" He wasn't a manner of a man, He was God manifested in a man. They misunderstood Him. They thought Him to be a man, Mary's son, a carpenter, but

He was God manifested in the flesh. Amen!

211 The Roman soldiers misunderstood Him, when they had Him set in the court, and put a rag around His eyes, and hit Him on top of the head and said, "Now, if You are a prophet, they all say You are a prophet, come tell us who hit You on top of the head."

212 See, they misunderstood that Jesus said, "I do only what the

Father shows Me to do. I do what the Father shows Me, and then I do what He tells Me to do." They misunderstood it, they misunderstood His ministry.



213 The **Jews** misunderstood Him. How He come to be their Friend and Saviour, and they wanted to make Him something was evil. They misunderstood His ministry. He said, "The queen of the south shall rise up in the Judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon. And a greater than Solomon is here." But they misunderstood that He was greater than Solomon. They thought He was just a man.

214 Many of them thought He was born out of holy wedlock, come up out of a bad family that had these desires and so forth, and a bastard child. Which we just had the question, they could not even...Why, they said, "Why, we know that You were born out of holy wedlock, You got a devil on You. Why, You try to teach us? We're rabbis!"

He said, "You are of your father, the devil."

215 See, they misunderstood. When the Roman soldiers went back one time, listening at Him, said, "Never a man spoke like this. We never heard a man speak like this."

216 It was not a man speaking, it was God! Yes, sir. Man didn't speak like it. A man tells and speaks the Scriptures, Jesus makes the Scriptures *live*. A man don't

live like this: "The Scripture says this here, here it is!" Man can say "the Scripture says it," but that's about all he can do. But Jesus could say, "I and My Father are one, My Father dwelleth in Me. He that's seen Me has seen the Father." Nobody else could say that! Amen. Hallelujah! That's right. "He that's seen Me has seen the Father." Nobody else could say that!

217 No wonder them soldiers said, "There never

was a man spoke like this. He don't speak like a scribe or a preacher, He speaks with authority! And even the devils obey Him, and the winds and the waves obeyed Him." They thought He was a man, but He was God.

218 See, He was misunderstood. Said, "Why, You were—You were born a bastard. You were born out of holy wedlock, and You try to teach us? Why, we know You are mad and got a

devil. You're a Samaritan, been over there and got them devils on You. You're trying to teach us, us holy rabbis?"

He said, "You're of your father, the devil."



219 Yes, they misunderstood Him, they didn't know Who He was. That's what's the matter today, people trying to make Him something that He isn't. He's not just a man, He's God in a Man! No third person, He's the only Person. Yes, sir. Well, sure, they misunderstood Him.

220 The Pharisee, that Pharisee that invited Him down there that time for a dinner, a big banquet, he

misunderstood Him. He thought he'd just have Him down there. I preached on that message out here not long ago at a breakfast, I believe, at Chicago, at that breakfast. That Pharisee said, "Now, look at Him sitting back there, sitting back there, unwashed feet and everything. That little woman come in and washed Him with the tears, and wiped with the hairs of her head." He said, "If He was a prophet He'd know what manner of woman that is there washing His feet. Shows He's not a prophet!"

221 Jesus stood up, and said, "Simon, I got something to say to you!" Amen, he just misunderstood, that was all. He said, "I...You invited Me to come, and I left My busy schedule to come to invitation. And your when...You never met Me at the door. You never have washed My feet. You never anointed My head. You never

kissed Me welcome. You just let Me come in, dirty and stinking and full of sweat, and set Me over here in a corner to make fun of Me. But this woman, this woman, she's constantly kissed My feet, and she's washed them with the tears of repentance," (What beautiful water!) "and wiped them with the hairs of her head. I've got something against you, Simon. Verily I say unto you, her sins which are many are all forgiven

her." Simon misunderstood; she understood. Simon said, "He's just a man"; she said, "He's God, my Saviour!" He was misunderstood. He's still misunderstood.

Calvary, they misunderstood, when they all denied Him and went away. How could they see a Man, a Man that they had knowed to perform miracles and raise the dead, yet submit Hisself to death, and walk up through

there, beaten, and crying, the spit running off His face, and blood mixed with it where they had pulled their handfuls of beard out, plucked it from His face; and warped His back till His bones was shining through, and kicking Him, and beating Him around; then cussing, drunken soldiers, beating Him right up the street. And stand and let them do that? They misunderstood, so they stood far off. That's right.



223 The devil misunderstood Him. The devil said, "Surely that cannot be a Son of God that would stand

there and be mistreated like that, and them cussing, and my disciples down there just treating Him any way, and Him taking it. He's not the Son of God."

224 Also the Pharisees, the priests, misunderstood Him, said, "If Thou be the Son of God, bring Yourself down off of there."

225 The thief on His left misunderstood Him, said, "If Thou be the Son of God, take

us off the cross, save Yourself and us too."



226 But the thief on the right understood Him, he said, "We have, we've done evil and we deserve what we're

getting, but this Man's done nothing." "Lord, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom!"

227 Watch that Voice come back, "Today shall thou be with Me in Paradise." He understood that that was God dying for our sins. The only way He could die, would be put to death in the flesh. He can't be put to death in Spirit, because He's the Eternal Spirit. And He had to be in flesh to be put to death, so they just misunderstood. He understood it.

228 One day, about ten days after that, or about forty days after that, fifty days it was, the disciples climbed up into an upper room, and they stayed up there for ten days and nights until the fiftieth day come. Then, all of a sudden, there came a sound from Heaven like a rushing mighty wind. Because Jesus had told them, "Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon

you, but wait in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with Power from on High." They knowed that It was going to come. They knowed it was, had to happen. "Go up there and wait until I send It." They waited up there. They confessed, got everything out of their minds and hearts. They were waiting, all in one accord, in one place, waiting for the Promise; walking back and forth, the men and the

women, up there walking around together in this upper room, all the doors barred so the Jews couldn't get in and—and hurt them.

229 All at once, they was up there walking around, and there came a sound from Heaven like a rushing mighty wind, whirled around through there, and the licks of Fire begin to sit upon them. The doors flew open, the windows come open, out into the streets they went.

230 And they were misunderstood, insomuch that they said, "Are these men not full of new wine? These people are drunk because we hear them blabbering off something we don't know what they're talking about." All at once, they said, "How hear we every man in our own language, are not all these Galilaeans?" They misunderstood that is was the promise of the Father.

231 Then God had a prophet there who could stand up and speak, Peter said, "You men of Jerusalem and you that dwell in Judaea, don't misunderstand this. This is that which was spoken of by the prophet Joel, And it'll come to pass in the last days," saith God, "I'll pour out My Spirit upon all flesh. And upon My handmaids and maid servant will I pour out of My Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I'll show

wonders in the heavens above and in the earth below, and fire, and vapour, and pillars of smoke. It shall come to pass, before the great and terrible day of the Lord shall come, that whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved."

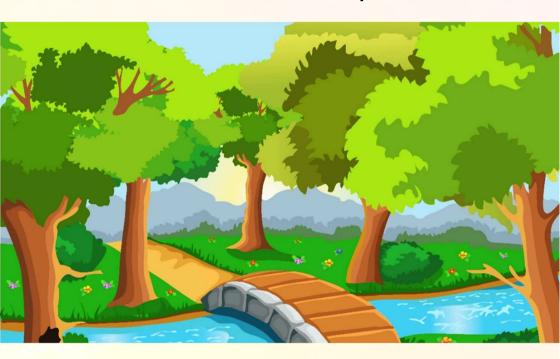
232 It was the work of God! It was the Holy Ghost, but they misunderstood It. He was misunderstood.

233 He's always been misunderstood. Israel

misunderstood Him. The people in Noah's time misunderstood Him. The people in Daniel's time misunderstood Him. The people in John's time misunderstood Him. The people in—in the prophet's time misunderstood Him. The people in the Pentecostal age misunderstood Him.

234 The people in this age misunderstands Him, it's still the same. They don't get It, because He's misunderstood.

It's, they're trying to compare the natural with the spiritual.



235 When the people in there, right after the day of Pentecost, when they was all filled with the Holy Ghost, had this great big meeting up

there, they called a man down there, crippled from his mother's womb, two of them was going along the street and this beggar shook a can and asked for some money. And he said, "Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have I'll give it to you." He said, "In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk!" And he took the man by the hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankle

bones received strength. He begin walking, and leaping, and running, and jumping, and praising God, went into the temple. And all the people begin to come together, and screaming and carrying on. Why, it was unusual.

236 And they put them in jail, and threatened them that they "Should not preach anymore in the Name of Jesus."

237 And Peter said, "Who should we listen to, God or man?"

238 And they turned them loose, thinking because they had whipped them a little bit and threatened them (that they'd hang them the next time, or burn them, or put them on the cross, or something), they'd stop it. But the next thing they found, they was out on the street doing it again. Why? They misunderstood. It wasn't them

people; it was God in those people, doing those things.

239 When they caught up little Stephen at the Sanhedrin Court, that morning, said, "We'll take him before this court. When all these rabbis and Jews and high priests and holy fathers, and all of them gathered out there, these doctors of divinity, it'll scare him in the wits." So they brought him out in these chains, and stood him out there, a little fellow like a lamb

amongst a bunch of raving wolves. They said, "Watch him take down now, say, 'I'll take it all back, brethren, don't you all bother me."

240 He said, "You stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! Why do you resist the Holy Ghost? Like your fathers did, so do you!" Amen!

241 They found out it wasn't him! For they picked up clods, and throwed their hands in their ears, and begin

to gnash upon him, and clod him to death. And when he raised his head up towards the heaven, the bats beating him from one side of the head to the other one, he said, "I see the heavens open, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God." Amen! And he fell asleep in the arms of the Lord Jesus. When he died, he said, "Father, lay not this sin to their charge."

242 See, they misunderstood what they

did. Paul, standing there looked at it, later on it got on his nerves, and he said, "I'm the least among all of them, because I bore witness to Stephen's death, Thy saint." Amen. That's it.

243 See, people misunderstand this enthusiasm. People misunderstand today. They misunderstand the power of the Holy Spirit. They call it a bunch of holyrollers. They call it a bunch of people that ain't

got their right mind. They misunderstand, that you have to lose your...what you call "your right mind," in order to know Christ, because you have the mind of Christ then. You can't have the mind of the world and the mind of Christ at the same time, one's carnal and the other one's spiritual. "He that walks after the flesh is carnal, he that walks after the Spirit is spiritual." Amen. So I'll lose myself and find it, Lord, in

Thee. Yes, sir. So God is misunderstood. It's not you that's misunderstood, it's the Holy Spirit making you do that that they misunderstand. Amen. They're not speaking against you, they're speaking against Him. People are misunderstood.

244 There they go, let them go, but they get right back in the street and start again. The same today. They misunderstand the people. They don't know what It is.

ľm 245 Today misunderstood in my ministry, that He sent me to the people. They misunderstand it. Every one of them said, "We believe Brother Branham..." I talked to a preacher a while ago, said, "Brother Branham, we all know that you was sent to the Church, but, the idea is, how do you come baptizing in Jesus' Name?" They misunderstand the Scriptures. They misunderstand It. That's what He sent me for, that's my

purpose of being here. "Why do you teach the serpent's seed, and things like that that's contrary to what we teach?" Well, brother, that's why I'm here. They just misunderstand it. Amen. But God is bearing me record by His Word and the signs of the Holy Ghost in...?...No matter much they...-under-...misunderstand It, God is confirming the Word! Amen.

246 God is always been misunderstood. And those

who live with God are misunderstood with God, because it's God working in them. Amen. Do you believe It?

I love Him, I love Him Because He first loved me.

Do you love Him? Raise up your hands and say praises.

...-chased my salvation On Calvary's tree.

247 Are you glad you are misunderstood? We used to

sing a little song, saying, "Now, I'm marked, marked, marked, marked by the Spirit Divine." That's right. People that once loved me, turn their back on me now because I'm marked, marked by the Spirit. Amen. I lost my mind to the things of the world, to receive the mind of Christ; therefore, if I have the mind of Christ, my mind seeks those things which are above. I'd like for somebody to show me any different correct baptism besides the Name of Jesus Christ. I'd like for somebody to show me a Scripture that says the serpent didn't have a seed. I'd like for somebody to show me a Scripture that says there's three Gods.

248 Then they say, "Well, why is it?"

249 God sent His Message and bears record of It. He confirms the Word with signs following. That's what the Bible said. They can't

deny that, it's a fact. But what did they do? They misunderstand It because I didn't come in the name of the Assemblies of God, the Oneness, or the Twoness, or the Threeness, or the Church of God, or the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, I come in none of them names, I come in the Name of Jesus Christ. And God, by His mercy, confirms the Message by the power of the resurrection of Jesus

Christ. So It's still the Spirit of God that the people misunderstand. That's right, misunderstood.

250 Sure, you're misunderstood, all that live godly in Christ Jesus is misunderstood. All the way from righteous Noah, all the way down till the modern-day saint today, is misunderstood. Always been, people misunderstand It.

251 Israel misunderstood it. They don't understand; they

just can't because they are carnal in spirit, and not...It won't deviate with the spiritual, because It will not mix.

252 But I'm glad that we live in a Kingdom that's not made with hands of man. I'm glad that we're going to a Kingdom that man nothing to do with. I'm glad that our Kingdom above. And if our Kingdom is above, we're born from above, then we seek those things

which are above, where Christ sits at the right hand of God, oh, where He's not ashamed of us. Is our testimony...We're not ashamed of Him on this earth, because we are pilgrims and strangers. We're not of this earth, we're born of the Spirit of God. We're sitting together in Heavenly places in Christ Jesus, washed in His Blood, born of His Spirit, filled with His grace.

253 That's it, misunderstood. But, what do

we care, we love Him. Don't you love Him? All right, Teddy, give us the note on *I Love Him*, and let's sing it to the top of our voice.

I love Him, I love Him

Because He first loved me

And purchased my
salvation

On Calvary's tree.

254 Isn't He wonderful? Don't you love Him? Aren't you glad that you're peculiar? Royal priesthood, chosen people, peculiar

people, offering spiritual sacrifices, the fruits of your lips, giving praise to Him.

255 I'll sing you a song now, I feel like singing.

I find many people who can't understand

Why I am so happy and free;

I've been filled with the Spirit, there isn't a doubt,

And that's what's the matter with me.

Oh, that's what's the matter with me,

Oh, that's what's the matter with me;

I've been filled with the Spirit, there isn't a doubt,

And that's what's the matter with me.

256 Do you like that? Let's all sing it then.

We find many people who can't understand

Why we are so happy and free;

We're filled with the Spirit, there isn't a doubt,

And that's what's the matter with me.

Oh, that's what's the matter with me, (Praise God!)

Oh, that's what's the matter with me;

I've been filled with the Spirit, there isn't a doubt,

And that's what's the matter with me.

Oh, when I get happy, I sing and I shout,

Some don't understand it, I see;

But I've crossed over Jordan to Canaan's fair land,

And that's what's the matter with me.

Oh, that's what's the matter with me, (Praise God!)

Oh, that's what's the matter with me;

I've crossed over Jordan to Canaan's fair land,

And that's what's the matter with me.

257 Oh, I love that. Don't you? Crossed over Jordan to Canaan's fair land, I bid farewell to the world, lifted up above the things of the world, now I'm living in this Heavenly atmosphere. Sure I act funny to them buzzards down there, yes, sure, I'm flying above it. That's right. What do we care? We are living in Canaan's land. Amen! Yes, sir. Eating the new Grapes, just having a wonderful time; full of glory,

full of power, full of the Holy Spirit. Yes, sir.

258 Said of Stephen, "Was a man, full." Full of what? Full of what? He was full of the Holy Ghost, he was full of power, he was full of wisdom, he was full of might. What'd it all make up? He was full of the Holy Ghost! That's where all these things dwell. That's what the church of the living God is. Aren't you happy for it, Christian? Act happy. If you're misunderstood, "All that live

godly in Christ Jesus shall be misunderstood." They've always been, down through the Bible.

259 Now, what am I trying to say? To you people who speak with tongues, to you who shout, dance in the Spirit, people say, "Oh, it's nonsense," just remember I've went right back and showed you. Right down through the Scripture, they're always misunderstood. Remember, you're in the Scripture, and you're doing that which is right. Stay right with it, God is with you. Just keep right in the Scripture, God will take care of the rest of it. Amen.

260 I love Him. Let's sing my good, old baptismal song, the one we was singing the first time that the Angel of the Lord there ever appeared before man, in his presence. I had seen It before, myself, but first time He ever come down. And when He come down, He—He said, "As John

was sent to forerun the first coming of Christ, your Message will forerun the Second Coming of Christ." Hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of people standing on the banks down there when It come down on June, 1933, at the river. And we were standing on the banks, singing.

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand,

And cast a wishful eye,

To Canaan's fair and happy land,

Where my possessions lie.

I am bound for the promised land,

I am bound for the promised land;

Oh, who will come and go with me?

I am bound for the promised land.

Oh, I am bound for the promised land,

I am bound for the promised land;

Oh, who will come and go with me?

I am bound for the promised land.

When shall I reach this healthful place,

And be forever blest!

When shall I see my Father's face,

And in His bosom rest?

Oh, I am bound for the promised land,

Oh, I am bound for the promised land;

Oh, who will come and go with me?

I am bound for the promised land.

All o'er those wide extended plains

Shines one eternal day;

There God the Son forever reigns,

And scatters night away.

I am bound for the promised land,

I am bound for the promised land;

Oh, who will come and go with me?

I am bound for the promised...

261 Let's just sing that again, and shake hands with somebody around you.

I am bound for the promised land,

I am bound for the promised land;

Oh, who will come and go with me?

I am bound for the promised land.

262 Now, without a shadow of doubt, every one of you that has accepted Christ, and know that you are born again of the Spirit, let's raise our hands now and sing.

I am bound for the promised land,

Well, I'm bound for the promised land;

Oh, who will come and go with me?

I am bound for the promised land.

263 I haven't seen this for a long time. Ladies, reach in your purse and get you a handkerchief. Gentlemen, reach in your hip pocket and get your handkerchief out. Now we're going to have a wave-gift to the Lord. All right, all of us together, we're going to wave like we're going into

Canaan now, wave your handkerchief. All right, now.

I am bound for the promised land,

I am bound for the promised land;

Oh, who will come and go with me?

I am bound for the promised land.

264 Now, if there is someone here that hasn't made their election and calling sure, that would like to come while we sing it again, would

like to pull out your handkerchief and wave with us again. The gate's open now, the tickets are free. Won't you come? Step aboard the old ship of Zion, she's going, moving out. Let's go.

I am bound for the promised land, (it won't be long)

Oh, I am bound for the promised land;

Oh, who will come and go with me?

I am bound for the promised land.

265 As we bow our heads:

To be like Jesus, just to be like Jesus,

On earth I long to be like Him;

All through life's journey from earth to Glory

I only ask to be like Him.

From Bethlehem's manger came forth a Stranger,

On earth I long to be like Him;

All through life's journey from earth to Glory

I only ask to be like Him.

266 Don't forget Sunday. Don't forget Wednesday night is prayer meeting. Remember, pray much, pray for me, pray for your pastor, pray for your neighbor, your deacons, your trustees, pray that God will have His way with us all.

To be like Jesus, to be like Jesus,

On earth I long (that's my heart's desire) to be like Him; (misunderstood)

Remember, God...?...Isn't that your desire? Think of it.

...from earth to Glory
I only ask to be like Him.

[Brother Branham begins humming *To Be Like Him*—Ed.]...humble and lowly,

On earth I long just to be like Him;

All through life's journey from earth to Glory

I only ask to be like Him.

267 With your heads bowed now, and your eyes closed, and our hearts centered on God. We will call on my precious, good friend, Brother Roy Borders, from California, if he won't the have...pronounce benediction upon this meeting. Brother Borders.

61-0723E - God Being Misunderstood Rev. William Marrion Branham



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