

# God-Called Man

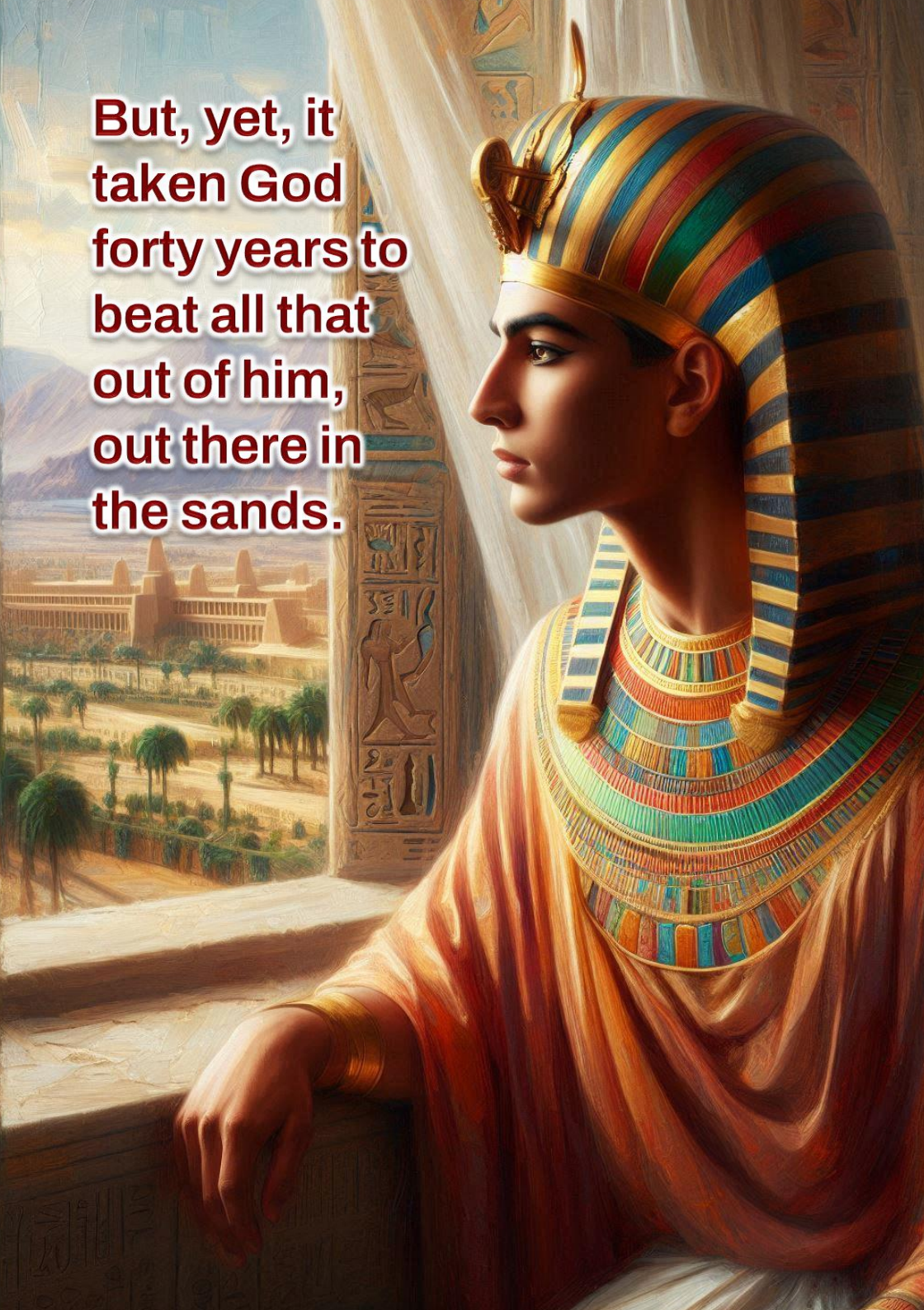
By

William Marrion Branham





**But, yet, it  
taken God  
forty years to  
beat all that  
out of him,  
out there in  
the sands.**



## **William Marrion Branham**

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*Title: 58-1005E — God-Called Man*

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28 In the reading of the Word tonight, in the Book of Second Kings, I wish to read in the 2nd chapter, for just a little text, to find a context, God willing.

*And it came to pass, that when the Lord would take up Elijah unto heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.*

And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry ye here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Beth-el. And Elijah said unto him, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Beth-el.

And the sons of the prophets... were there at Beth-el came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold... your peace.

And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went to Jericho.

And the sons of the prophet... were there at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold..your peace.

*And Elijah said unto him, Tarry here, I pray thee, for the Lord hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the Lord liveth,...as thy soul liveth, I'll not leave thee. And they two went on.*

29 May the Lord add His blessings to His Word. My subject for tonight is: *God-Called Man*. And I will try to be just as briefly as can, because we've got a great prayer line coming up just in a few minutes, but, just to give you a little look at the times that we're living.

30 We hear this cry on the radio, and in different places, and coming from sincere hearts, “Lord, give us revival in our time.” And from letters from Christians around the world, we hear that cry, and it does something to your heart. It’s inspiring. It’s uplifting. It’s quickening, to the soul, to hear the people of the Lord call for a revival.

31 And God has made a promise, “If the people that are called by My Name shall assemble



themselves together and pray, then I'll hear from Heaven."

32 And so we, tonight, want to think on that. And remember, that, in the midst of all this cry, God cannot send a revival till He's got men in shape to take it. We cannot have a revival until we get men, God-called men, God-trained men, that's not trained up in the schools of theology and of education, but rugged men of faith, that God has brought up in the school of His rugged training.



Men who are not afraid to face the fire! Men who has come in the Presence of God; and knows His power, and knows His omnipotence, and knows His healing power! Some men that's trained to know the living God! It's all right to train them by the Word, but, "The letter killeth; the Spirit giveth Life."

33 And before we can have this revival, God has to call out and train men, God-trained men, to carry this Message. And they don't

care what the opposition is. They are willing to go to the fiery furnace in defeat, or to the lions' den, or wherever it may be. They're ready to go, because they been in the Presence of God, and know that He is. Whether it's to victory or defeat, they still stand the same. That's the kind of training God does to men. And it's very strange to think that God would do that, that God trains His men like that, but He does. You know, we have an old song we sing:

Some through the waters, some  
through the floods,

Some through deep trials, but  
all through the Blood.

34 God leads His people  
through great trials, to purge  
them. And sometime it takes years  
to do it. And as for myself, tonight,  
I believe that right now God is  
training such men to meet the  
front line, men who are going  
through, and, time, shook from  
their feet. Sometimes look like the

whole thing is falling, but yet, in the midst of it all, they know that living God and keep their face forward, keep moving on.

35 And many people praying for revival, I wonder if they're sometimes, if those who are praying, if their own prayers don't stop up the wells of blessings. When they're cowardly and afraid to trust God, afraid to take Him at His Word, afraid to believe that He still lives today, when His Bible



plainly says, that, “He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”

36 God doesn't call, very seldom, the smart men, the educated, the intellectual. They play their part, and they are great men. But usually when God wants the job done, He gets somebody who hardly knows his ABC's. Search the Scriptures. Look through the histories. Men that amounted to something with God were not men who had great educations, but men who, well,

had no education, only a desire in their heart to serve God. He got the plowman, the shepherd, the fisherman, the hunter, those who lived in nature. In that stillness and quietness of nature, there God could speak to them. And that's who He called.

37 And if they find that, when He gives a call to a great intellectual, that person finally goes back to his intellectual conceptions. And after while, when it comes to working the

phenomenal, he's too mixed up with the peoples of the world, to accept such. Therefore, he finally results to a denomination, and goes on off and makes a minister. And that's all right, and I have nothing against that person that would do that.

38 But when God gets ready to do something in the supernatural realms, He usually gets a man that He can put His trust in, and anoints him and sends him out, and he is fearless at the job. That's

the kind of men we need today; not polished scholars, but men who know God in the Power of His resurrection.

39 For instant, there was a man in the Bible, by the name of Moses, who had got all of his training. He knowed all of the theology. He knew everything that he should know. He... If he would have needed any education, he could teach the masters in Israel, or, in Egypt. He didn't need one thing. And the Bible tells us that he was



learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians. Why, he could teach their scholars. He could teach their scientists, things. He was keyed to the very point, when it come to intellectual. But, yet, it taken God forty years to beat all that out of him, out there in the sands. And when he got all of his intellectual conceptions of God beat out of him, out there in the sands, the metal was ready to be molded over.

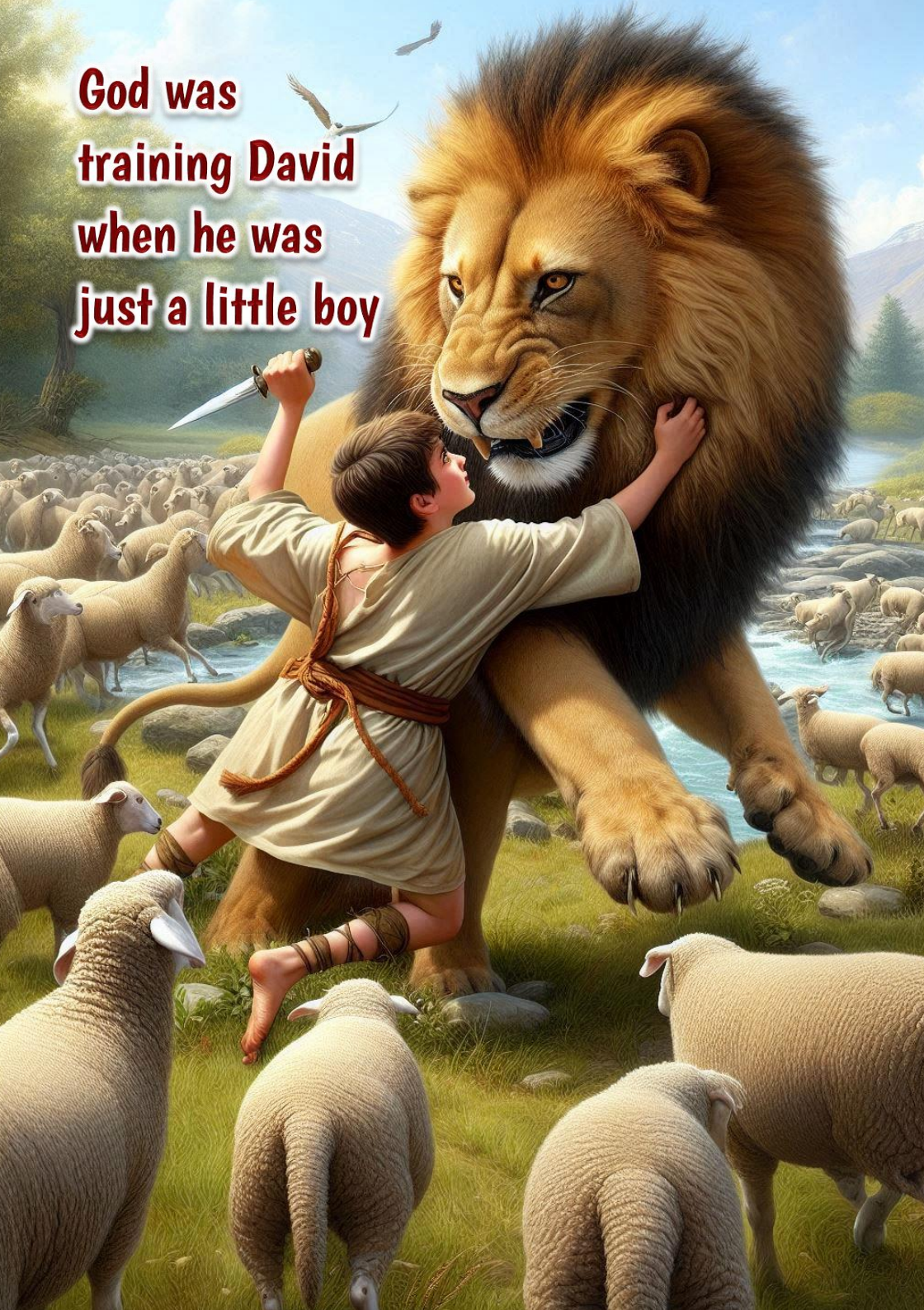
40 That's the way God takes His men and beats out all of their fears and all of their intellectuals, and then the great Master Potter puts them on the wheel and begins to mold them over again. Workmen, worthy! It's God's man. Who could train a man more than God Himself? Watch the way He trains them.

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**God was  
training David  
when he was  
just a little boy**





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41 We would think again of another, by the name of David. God was training David when he was just a little boy. The prophet Samuel come up and poured oil on his head, and anointed him, because God was going to train David to be a mighty warrior. And look at the training He gave him.

42 I was reading, some time ago, up here at Green's Mill, where I usually go to pray, where God said to David, "I've took you from the shepcote, from following those few sheep of your father's out there, and I made you a great name like great men of the earth."

43 And I think of the rugged training He did to David. He never so much as schooled him in some school, but He schooled him in His own school. David was a hunter and a shepherd. And in the Psalms

he wrote of green pastures and still waters, because there he was alone, by himself. He wasn't contaminated with the things of the world.

44 God has to get a man away from the things of the world, so He can get him quiet, so he can listen to God, that still, small Voice. Then, once in contact with God, he becomes fearless then. Notice that he don't care what anyone says; he's been in the Presence of God.

He knows God in the Power of His resurrection.

45 And then, David, we see him. One day, God permitted a bear to come in and get one of his sheep. David just took after that bear. No doubt but what he prayed, because a little later on he confessed to it. And he prayed and asked God. He was caretaker over that sheep. He could not lose that sheep. And he must save that sheep, at all price. And he grabbed his little slingshot, and took after



that bear and killed him. He must save that sheep. You see what God was training him for?

46 God wants His shepherds to save the sheep, regardless what he has to be called and what he has to go through. Save them sheep!

47 Then He seen that David was gallant over this bear, so He just raised the power of the animal a little greater, and He sent a lamb...a lion in and took one of the lambs.

48 And a lion is a fierce animal. Oh, in Africa, when I was hunting them...A lion can kill ten men before you can say, “Jack Robinson.” Oh, powerful, great beast! Just with a big roar and, just, men are consumed. And the one who dies under the power of a lion never feels any hurt. It’s such a scare, to hear that roar as he gives. Those great mammoth feet, just in a second, he’s tore down a dozen men.

49 And to think, of a little boy! The Bible said he was “ruddy.” That means he was a...just a little bitty fellow, with a little slingshot. You know what it is, a little piece of leather with a string on each side. And a hungry lion, with already the taste of blood in his mouth, run in and grabbed a sheep. David looked up to God, and said, “I can’t lose that one. You help me, Lord.” And he knocked the lion down, with the slingshot. And when the lion rose up against him, that little boy,

and the lion weighing about five hundred pounds, or better, that little boy weighing maybe seventy or eighty. He pulled, from his little belt, the knife. And when the lion raised up, which would kill ten men in a couple slaps, he grabbed the lion by the beard and killed him.

50 Courage! God don't want cowards. He can't use you if you're afraid to take His Word and believe Him. He wants gallant men, won't pay no attention to nothing but what the Lord says. That's the

kind He has to move with. Regardless of what the church says, what the pastor says, what the church stands for; he stands for God and righteousness, and His Word. That's the men we...God will send these days for His revival that His people are praying for.

51 Later in years, when he went up to meet his brothers at the battle, there was a big old giant up there, fourteen-inch fingers. And he bragged, and he said, "Now let somebody come fight me. If you

can whip me, I'll surrender, and vice versa, and we'll serve." Ever who surrenders will, of course, will be the one that loses.

52 That's the way the devil likes to do it. When he thinks he's got the edge on you, he'll tell you, "You can't get by with that. You can't preach Divine healing in the Methodist church, Baptist church." Well, you Methodist preachers just get a hold of God one time, and find out whether you can or not. Uh-huh. You'll never do it with your



theology that they teach. You'll have to get a hold of God and know that He is.

53 They say, "The Pentecostal people." A few years ago, there was a bunch of people standing on the corner, not even a—a building they could get into. But did you read *Life* magazine, the other day, what they said about them? It's one of the greatest phenomenals this age has ever knowed, is the rising of the Pentecostal church. Certainly. "And they produce more

converts in one year than all the rest the churches do, put together.” That’s what *Life* magazine said. Why? They may be mixed up in some things, but, brother, they are gallant; stand out there, toe-to-toe, and call black “black” and white “white.” When the revival finally breaks, it’ll break among them. You watch and see if it doesn’t. They’ll get straightened down, one of these days.

54 And, David. When Saul put his armor on him, and said, “David,

if you're going to fight this giant," said, "why, you're nothing but a boy, just a youth, and he has been a warrior from his youth, how can you fight him?"

55 Listen to this little David. You see, he did not say it like this, "Saul, your honor, sir. My father sent me to grammar school, college, high school. I have a Ph.D. I—I—I am equipped to do this. I'm a smart man." He never said it like that.

56 He said, “My lord,” he said, “when I was herding my father’s sheep out yonder, a bear come in and got one, and I killed him. And a lion come in and got one, and I knocked him down. And when he raised up, I slew him.” And he said, “The God that delivered me from the paws of the bear and the lion, can also deliver me out of that hands of that uncircumcised Philistine.” A God-trained man!

57 There stood Saul with all the training that any man could have,

to know how to fight. David didn't know nothing about a sword. He didn't know nothing about a shield. Well, Saul went and put his great big armor on him, and little David was standing bowlegged almost. They found out that his ecclesiastical vest didn't fit a man of God; just mashed him down. And all of our creeds and things won't never match God's equipment yonder.

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And God had found a man that was  
an honest man, that was a good  
man. His name was Elisha.





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*Title: 58-1005E — God-Called Man*

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58 Oh, how we could go on and on, and say many, of many different ones. But, straight to our text, to hurry.

59 Elijah was getting old, and he knew it wouldn't be long till he would have to leave the world. And God had found a man that was an honest man, that was a good man. His name was Elisha. Now, if you'll

notice, one of them's name is Elijah and the other one is Elisha.

60 Now, he never went down into the forms, and so forth, and went and found in the schools of theology, and up in the great high schools of those days. What did he do? He went out into the field and found a man plowing with twelve yoke of ox. What? Elisha, the one was plowing, knowed how to appreciate a straight row. And he knowed if he turned to look back, he'd wiggle off the road. And God

knowed that a man that knowed how to plow a straight furrow, knowed not to put his hands on the plow and even turn to look back. He never waited till he got his education, wiggled along the road. He just kill the ox and made a sacrifice, and took off with Elijah, as soon as that mantle went over him. He was ready, willing. God knowed He could make him able.

61 Now, God has got to give him some training. He had been training how to keep his eyes on

the furrow, with twelve yoke of ox, and one man plowing with them. He taught him some patience, and how to be patient, and train those ox to walk straight in the line.

62 He had to train some men, afterwards; keep them on the Bible, on the Word, lined up with God, stay straight in the line.

63 And, then, even God had to school him a little bit. He said, “Now you tarry here, for I’m going

over to—to Gilgal. The Lord has called me.”

64 And the prophet, after he had felt that Power upon him, that robe of Elijah, he said, “As the Lord liveth, and your soul liveth, I’ll not leave you.”

65 Went on to Gilgal, which is the—the place of Christian confession and baptism. And then he said, “Just stay here now. This is good enough. You’ve made confession and baptism. This is



good enough. I'm going up to *Bethel*," which means, "the house of God."

66 Now, that would been all right for a many professor. "Oh, I've just come into the church and got fellowship. Why not just stay right here?"

67 But, listen, Elisha couldn't think that way. He had already felt the Power of God. He knowed there was more for him. So he said, "As the Lord liveth, and your soul

liveth, I'll not leave you." Oh, how I like that!

68 And he went up to the, Bethel, to the house of God, and there he found a bunch of scholars. They were all well-trained preachers, and they walked around and told him, said, "Sir, do you know what? You're on the little end of the stick. Did you know Elijah is going to be taken away from you? He's too old. He can't live very long. Elijah is going to be

taken, and you're going to be standing out there as a fanatic.”

69 Let me tell you something now. A man that's ever tasted God, will not be willing, or, cannot quench his thirst at a man-made cistern. He can't do it. There, all their theology that they had there at the school of the prophets, would not quench the thirst of that man of God, who had had a taste of God.

70 And they kept persuading him, “Oh, you should stay here. And, why, in six weeks we could give you your Ph.D. And, you know, it wouldn’t be very long, till you take about four years of training here, and we could give you the right to preach. You know, if you proved out to be all right, we’d sent you out in our denomination.” That won’t satisfy a man of God. “We’ll train you to be a minister, if you’ll just stay

with us about four or five years here.”

71 He didn't have time for that kind of stuff. He was on his way to that Fountain. He had done come above that. He had done had a taste of Heaven in his soul.

72 And he said, “Do you know your head is going to be taken away?”

73 And listen to what he said. “Yes, I know it. But hold your peace.” In other words, “Save your



breath. Don't try to tell me about it. Don't try to tell me what I'm doing. I know where I'm going and what I'm after."

74 God, give us men like that, God-trained men who knows not to wiggle off on *this* and wiggle off on *that*.

75 "I know where I'm going. And don't speak to me about it. Just hold your breath. Don't try to discourage me, 'cause it isn't going to do any good."

76 Oh, if the people that's prayed for would just have that much courage!

77 "Oh, the days of miracles is past. That wasn't real. You watch, you'll get sick again."

78 "Just hold your breath. Don't tell me nothing about it. I'm moving on. The revival is coming. God has promised it." Oh, you sons of God, move out into that sphere yonder, fearless. Fearless! Take God at His Word.

79 “I know he—he is going to be taken away. But that isn’t what I’m...You haven’t got nothing here to interest me. All your degrees and Ph.D.’s, and Bachelor of Art, and all this stuff, doesn’t satisfy me. Just hold your breath.”

“Well, you’re going to crack up out there.”

80 “Well, if I crack up, let me crack up. I’m on my road.” On, he was going.

“You can’t make it go over.”

81 “I know I can’t make it go over, but God is going to take me over,” he said.

“Well, Elisha is going to Jordan.”

“I’m going with him.”

God requires Jordan in every life.

82 So, Elisha come around. Said, “Now, Elisha...” Elijah said to Elisha, “You’re just a young man,” perhaps something like this, “and really you haven’t had any

schooling.” The old prophet was trying to try him out. He said, “You’re just a young man. You haven’t had much schooling. Why, you don’t...It’s, really, you haven’t had a grammar school education. Only thing you know to do is how to plow. So you had better stay here, and may get your Bachelor of Art. See? You better stay and get your degree.”

83 But not Elisha, not that man who had once touched God, felt that Power of the anointing upon

him. He said, “As the Lord lives, and your soul never dies, I’ll not leave you.” He had a purpose. He saw the vision. He know what was going to take place.

84 And they both went down to Jordan. *Jordan* means “death.” There they stand, the old man and the young man. It really represents Christ and His Church. And there they stood, by the Jordan. There she is, coming down out of the Judaeen hills, the great riffles a roaring like that. And Elisha, with



his gray hair hanging down his back, and his dimmed old eyes looking across Jordan...And the young man watching every move that he made. One, the young man, was waiting for a vision, to carry out the will of God. The other one was going Home. They was both at Jordan. Elisha, to him...He's going Home.

85 Elisha had had a bitter life. That woman preacher down there had give him a rough way to go, Jezebel and Ahab. And the stones

and all that he had went through! Elisha was getting tired. And he knowed that he had fought a good fight, and he had finished the course. Just across Jordan his retirement laid.

But Elisha was watching for that Spirit was on him.

86 So, if you notice, every believer, when you come to a place where you have to sell out, you'll feel the cold waves of Jordan lapping at your feet. Are you going

across, or are you not? *Jordan* is “separation,” separating.

87 And standing back on the hill was these preachers, yet, hollering to Elisha, “You better not go over. You’re going to go overboard.” You hear them, the remarks, yet, today.

88 Well, Elisha said, “If God is God, and that’s His prophet, I’ve got to take his place, and I need his spirit to do it with, I don’t need their school. If their school would

have done it, they would be taking his place. But God called me to do it, and I need his spirit.”

89 If the schools of the churches would have took the place, and the Power that Jesus offered, they would have took it, years ago; Methodist, Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian. But it'll never do it.

90 Takes the Spirit of Jesus Christ! And you'll cross Jordan, of every denomination behind it,

everything else, and stand alone with God.

91 So, he stood with him at Jordan. Elisha looking up there, knowing, somewhere across there, God would meet him. And he took off his robe, and he looked around to the young man. And he smote the Jordan. And when he did, the Jordan opened up. And they walked over, on dry land.

92 See, the Jordan ain't so bad, after all, if there is Something with you to open up the way.

93 Oh, when they hit the other side! Hooked to every bush was a horse and a chariot. The King of kings had sent an escort to bring Elijah up Home. It was all over, for Elijah. He had had enough of it, about eighty-something years, of fussing with them people down there, and having be...go through hungers and strifes, and everything

else. He was ready to go Home. And he looked around to Elisha.

94 And Elisha wanted to see a vision. Oh, he had all the schooling, back there he could have stopped at. They wasn't getting nowhere. God was going to train him His own way. So when he looked over there, looked, all—all them bushes hooked around there, these chariots of Fire and horses of Fire, it done something to Elisha. He saw a vision. Yes, brother!



95 And when God taken Elijah up, he came back with a double portion of his Spirit. He was ready for the revival then.

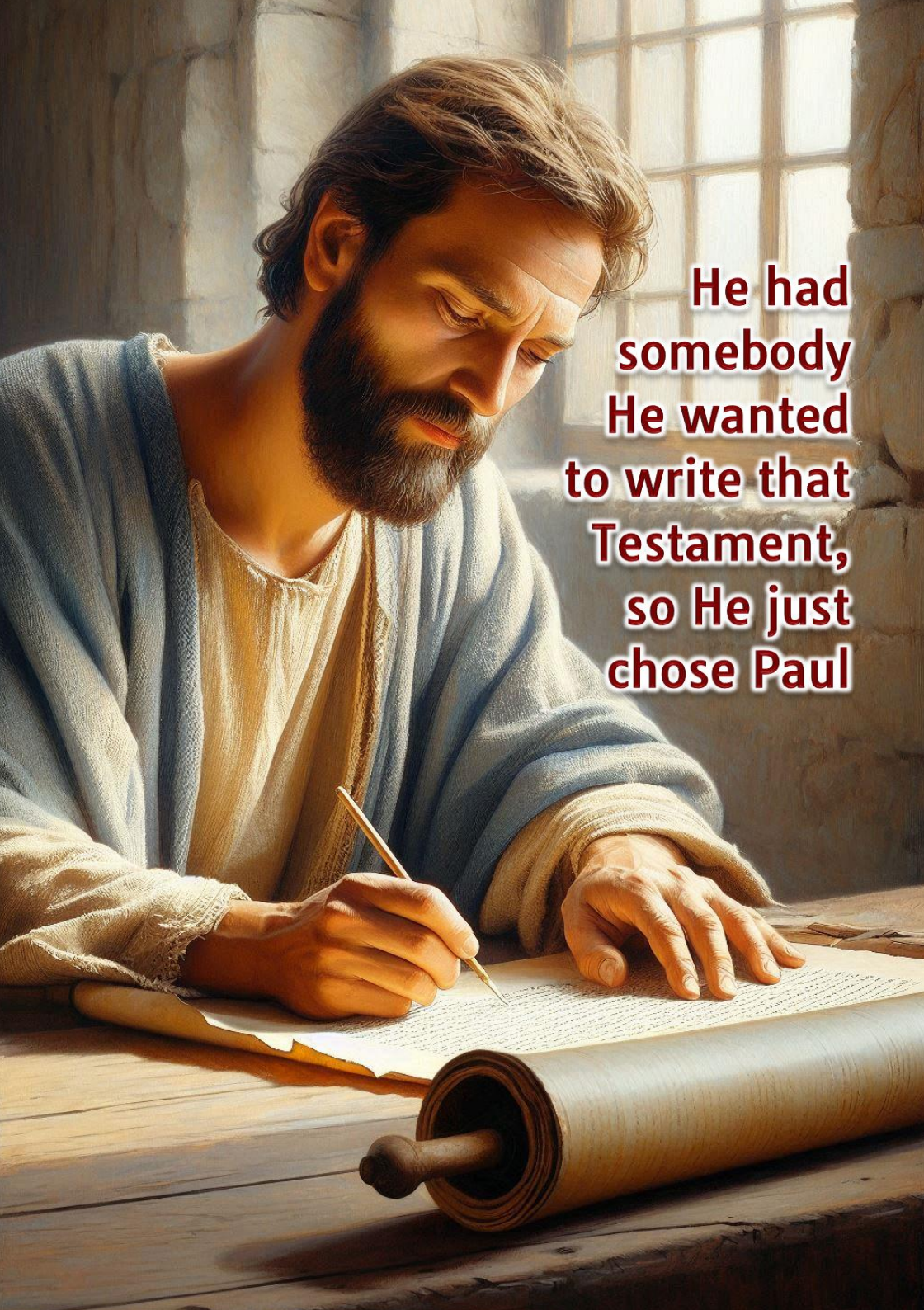
96 Notice the man then, being just a plowboy before. God made his name immortal. All the prophets that stood around, watching him, had to bow to his feet because he had the Power of God upon him.

97 There is coming an hour when God shall make the world

bow at the feet of men and women who has plunged through and crossed Jordan, and separated them thing...selves, from the things of the world. Brother and sister, tonight, whatever you do, whatever you think, you cross Jordan with God. Go on over and separate, leave the world behind. Let God train you for His own service. We are living in a day before this revival, but God is searching out, trying to find hearts.







He had  
somebody  
He wanted  
to write that  
Testament,  
so He just  
chose Paul

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98 Look. He found a man by the name of Paul, oh, a self-stied Pharisee. But He had to work him over, like, before he could become a disciple. Look what He done, all down through the ages, to men. He had to take them and pump their theology out of them. And Paul, as soon as he saw the vision, he didn't go up to Jerusalem, to

Gamaliel, the great teacher, the greatest in Israel, that he had been taught by. He never went back to him, to consult him. Why, he never even went to Jerusalem, for fourteen years later. But he went down to Egypt, in a prayer meeting. And there God let him write many Books of the New Testament. See? God is looking for men. He had somebody He wanted to write that Testament, so He just chose Paul. And He just got all of his theology out of him. And Paul



said he had to forget all that he ever knowed, to learn Christ.

99 God today is trying to empty the world out of us, and get us to empty ourselves out, and be fearless men and women who love God, and will stay with God, and will cross the separating line, Jordan, that He could use us for His glory.

100 This is the hour that I want you to think hard. And if you have never crossed this place, if you've

never come across this line, where you still say, “Well, my mother belonged to a certain church.” That’s all right. That doesn’t take your place. See?

101 God is calling men and women, today, to the battlefield. He’s not calling them to Gilgal, neither is He calling them to Jericho, or Bethel. He’s...They will perish. But He’s calling them to cross Jordan, so He can get you out into the school of His Own

Power, and make you and mold you.

102 Look what He's doing right here now, sending down the Spirit of His Son. He is performing signs and wonders and miracles, which the world hasn't seen the last two thousand years. The scientific world has caught the picture of It, the Pillar of Fire, the Angel of the Lord. Hangs in Washington, DC, tonight, of the hall of religious art, the only supernatural Being was ever scientifically proven to be

photographed. He puts forth His same signs and wonders.

103 What is it? It's crossing Jordan. Get alone with God. Lay in His Own furnace of refinery. Get on the big Master Potter's wheel and let Him mold you. Tonight, while we're in prayer, while we're coming to that place, lay yourself right over on His wheel, and say, "Lord, here I am. Mold me and make me after Your Own fashion." And God will do it.

104 While we bow our heads just a moment for a word of prayer. Just before prayer, I'd like to ask this question to people inside and out. How many in here sincerely would like to go with Jesus down to the Jordan, tonight, and there cross over there to where you could see a vision and see what God really means? Would you raise your hands? God bless you. Just look! I guess there's two hundred hands in the building, up. Go down to Jordan, not down to

the seminary. Elisha passed right by that.

They said, “Tarry here.”

105 He said, “I don’t want to. That’s man-made.” Ah, it’ll never quench that thirst of a man who is thirsting for God. No seminary experience, no—no degrees of art, or so forth, will never, never quench that thirst, till you’ve drank from that Fountain of Life.

You that raised your hands,  
pray with me now.















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