

Not money I'm after. I'm one to serve the Lord Jesus.

William Marrion Branham

Title: 53-0329 — Israel And The Church #5

105 Not long ago, out in the West, I was having a meeting. I went home with an old rancher for dinner. Oh, and some of his people had been healed. He had give me a check there that would have bought me forty-five of these tabernacles, if I'd have wanted. I said, "I don't want your money."

Howard, my brother, was with me, said, "Bill, why didn't you take that check?"

I said, "I don't want his money." Let me live day by day. Not money I'm after. I'm one to serve the Lord Jesus.

106 He stood there when that woman was healed out yonder, the Melikians, in California. You seen it here in the Louisville paper. When they come here, two of those agents, and brought a million, five hundred thousand dollars, and offered it to me when I lived in this two-room shack. I said, "I don't even want to look at it. No, sir. No, sir." The love of money is the root of all evil. Keep away from that stuff.

This rancher walked out of there, he said, "Reverend Branham?"

I said, "Yes, sir."

He said, "You see them mountains over yonder?"

I said, "Yes, sir."

"How far you think they are away?"

I said, "I don't know."

Said, "They're eighty miles." Said, "I own plumb to that, and plumb beyond that. It's my grazing ground."

I said, "My, that's wonderful."

107 He said, "I see down in there. See that city?" He said, "I own the bank in that city; I own all that ground down around *there*, and I own *this* way." Oh, all he owned!

108 Stopped, in his little station wagon. I looked at him, very nice man. I laid my hand on his shoulder, I said, "Brother, I want to ask you a question."

He said, "All right."

I said, "Look right up *This* away. How much do you own up *That* way?" See?

He said, "Brother Branham, I'm afraid I don't own anything."

109 I said, "There's where my treasures are laying now. I don't have nothing down here. 'Whether I own tent or a cottage, why should I care? They're building a palace for me over there! Of rubies and diamonds, and silver and gold, His coffers are full and has riches untold." Yes, sir. That's where the riches lays, up There. And where your treasures is, your heart is also.

110 They was taking a love offering one time for Gypsy

Smith. And when they went back in the back of the building, to go out that night, there was a poor little ragged girl standing there. She was all...Her clothes was all tore off of her. She had something, she said she wanted to see Mr. Smith. So Gypsy Smith said, "What do you want, darling?"

111 Said, "Mr. Smith, I didn't have any money to give you, but," said, "about a month ago it was Christmas, and somebody give me a lollipop. And I love you so much, Mr. Smith!" Said, "My daddy got saved, he's not a drunkard now." Said, "I thought I'd bring you this lollipop."

112 Mr. Smith took it in his hand, tears rolled down his cheeks. Patted her on the hand, he said, "Honey, in my offering tonight lays as much as thousands of dollars in checks, but this is the greatest gift that I've got of all of it. It come from your little humble heart." Oh, my! ~ 10 ~

113 What you've got tonight, friends, you're not nothing, anyhow. Why don't you give all you've got to Christ? Come, let's cross this Jordan. Let's go over and possess the land. You say, "Well, brother, you know I've got a good job in this city. I'm...I belong to a certain organization in this city." What are you, anyhow? Give what you've got, over to Him. Let's gather up here around the Jordan and cross over tonight, go over into the promised Land.

~ 11 ~

53-0329 — Israel And The Church #5



So I always know that that's one weakness of ministers that usually takes them out of the harness of God, is money. So "Love of money is the root of all evil."

William Marrion Branham

Title: 53-0608E — At Thy Word

3 And now—and last night, or yesterday afternoon, rather, or it's last night it was, they taken in the meeting here, a love offering for me. I want to thank you. I'm not worthy that you should give it to me. I didn't think about it until last night when they brought the-to me and said, "Here's the love offering for you." Why, I was really happy for that.

And I will assure you this, Christian friend, that every cent of it that I know what to do with, I will give it to the glory of God. Anybody's welcome, just as welcome as they can be, to search through what I do with money. Every penny that I don't have to have for my family, and what I have to have for my expense and things, goes right straight to missionary work. And I take the Gospel to the other parts of the world myself, then I know then what it is.

4 I never took a offering in my life. I never was able to do it. I remember one time...Some of my folks are setting here from the church. And I remember here not long ago, I got a place where they...You ever have a place where you couldn't make ends meet? I-I preached there at my tabernacle for twelve years without one penny of money. I was a State Game Warden in this county here also, of State of Indiana, for a number of years. And I patrolled high lines, so

~ 5 ~

forth, and worked, made my living. I didn't need to—to…I always thought, "If a fellow, why I was young and could work, why not work." And then I preached on the side.

5 Pretty near every night in the week, walked right along on the high lines with my uniform on. And find somebody got repented and take them down the creek and baptize them and go on back with wet clothes on. That's right. Farmers and everything out in the field get talking about—about the Lord and they get to crying and give their heart to God, I'd take them, pull the straw hat off and we'd go down the creek and settle it right there, go on our road rejoicing.

I've done it when I had to break the ice. Go right on in, and clothes froze to me and never took a bad cold over it in my life.

So I remember one time...Now, my wife's setting present too, so I will probably hear from this after church. So we got to a place where we couldn't make the ends meet, so I said to her, "I'm going to take up an offering."

She said, "I'm going over to watch you."

So I went over to the Tabernacle, I said, "You think I can't do it?"

6 Now, not because they wouldn't, them dear people would—would be willing to cut their arm off for me. But I just

didn't want them to do it. So always know that that's one weakness of ministers that usually takes them out of the harness of God, is money. So "Love of money is the root of all evil." So we come here, all the Branhams is vagabonds and as poor as they can be. I want to be like the rest of them.

Here some time ago a fellow was going to give me a Cadillac car, way out in California. His wife had been healed with a cancer, and he said, "Well, Brother Branham, we give Avak a Cadillac." Said, "We will just go right over and buy you one."

I said, "Thank you, brother. My old Chevrolet truck's pretty good shape yet," I said.

They give me a Pontiac, and I just kept swapping it back each time, and so they...He said, "I...We want you to have a Cadillac."

7 I said, "Wouldn't I look good, coming down through Arkansas

now, a big Cadillac car and here my people coming to me, and little old women out there, half dead, with back trouble, female trouble, pulling a cotton sack through the field like that; about fifty, a hundred pounds of cotton pulling behind them; maybe had some fat bacon and corn bread for breakfast, and say, "Oh, there goes Brother Branham in a Cadillac?" That-that don't look right to me.

Now, if you got a Cadillac, that's all right, understand (see?), but I'm just talking about myself.

I remember I went to a convention, one of the "Voice of Healing" conventions. I pulled up. Here was one fellow setting there with a great big custom built Packard. Here set another one with a Lincoln, and I had an old '35 model Chevrolet. If that didn't look like-like a sore thumb between those big cars. But it got me there, as well as

theirs did. I was getting there just the same.

So I remember taking this offering. I went over and old Brother Wiseheart, bless his soul, he's in Glory tonight, an old deacon was there, aged man, I said, "I'm going to take up an offering. I want you to. I got something..."

8 And everybody begin to look at me. And old Brother Wiseheart, many of you here in the Tabernacle remember him. And so he went... I said, "Get my hat, I want to pass it, this is something..." And everybody, course, went...There's a little old woman setting in front there, years ago, hard times. She got down in one of these little pockets you carry under a little apron, you know, and the pocket's beneath the apron. So she got this little pocketbook out, had a little snap on the top of it. She unsnapped it and begin to pick out some nickels. My, I couldn't take that poor old thing's

money. I begin to feel it lay on my heart, and getting about that big, I said, "Oh, I was just kidding you, to see what you would say." My, setting there like that. I said, "I wasn't meaning that."

9 Brother Ryan, an old man; I think he's setting over here somewhere. You usually see him setting over here. He's got long hair and long beard. He come from up around in Michigan. He had rode an old bicycle down there and give it to me. He

couldn't get it back, it backslid on him. So I fixed it up a little bit and painted it. I took it off and sold it for five dollars, and I didn't have to take up the offering. So, I...The Lord made a way, anyhow, didn't He? So He will make a way. And I thank you very much, friends, with all sincerity of heart. And with the warmest of Christian love, I-I thank you. And by God's grace when we meet yonder at the great day, you'll find that I've

~ 16 ~

done the best that I could. May the Lord bless you.

53-0608E - At Thy Word



She says, that, "I love you so much. I am thirteen years old. I give you this offering. I got it selling bottles. God bless you forever": thirteen cents.

William Marrion Branham

Title: 60-0716 — From That Time

2 Another thrill that just come a few moments ago, as Billy, my son, give me a little package. And I-I tell you, it was the sweetest thing that I—I've had in quite a while. There was a little girl here, and she got her little soul all stirred up, and she sent me a-an offering. And if the Federal agents think I'm going to turn this in, they're wrong. And

it's got a little note here that's real cute.

3 She says, that, "I love you so much. I am thirteen years old. I give you this offering. I got it selling bottles. God bless you forever": thirteen cents.

4 That was really sweet. She never signed her name, said, "just a little girl that loves the Lord." Whoever you are, sister dear, God bless you. That's...You don't know what that means to me. That's just as sacred to me as somebody giving me a hundred dollar bill in there.

5 I think it was the great Gypsy Smith, in reading some of the context of his life story. He was asked one time what was the greatest thrill he ever had. He said, "Well, they were going to take a love offering for him one night, and as he come up the back steps," he said, "there was

a little ragged gypsy girl standing there."

6 And said, "Mr. Smith?" Said, "We've come from a poor family." And said, "You have led my mother and father to the Lord Jesus." And she said, "I knew tonight was your love offering, and I didn't have nothing to give you." She said, "And a lady today give me a-a lollipop, and I just didn't want to drop it in the offering, Mr. Smith, so I-I just wrapped it up and thought I'd give you my offering personal." A lollipop, little sucker.

7 He said he looked at that poor little ragged child and what happened. You know, that means, that's from the real heart. You know, that's just something that's sweet and touching. And I think that's where real life lays, is when it's from around the heart.

60-0716 — From That Time



God will bless him and give him just a little ministry, then the first thing you know, one of the downfalls is *money*

William Marrion Branham
Title: 64-0412 — A Court Trial

And now, I thank you people. I never got a chance to ask the manager, but I believe that all the expenses and things were met. And I—I appreciate that, every offering, everything that you did. And usually they take up a-an off-...(Did they do that?) You didn't have to do that. They said...He said they give a

offering after everything was paid.

You know, I been a ma-...in behind the pulpit, now, for thirtythree years. And I never took a offering in my life, never one time, even in my own church, never took a offering in my life. I worked when I pastored the church there, the tabernacle at Jeffersonville, I...seventeen years with the Public Service Company, and never one time took an offering in my life. I paid

~ 4 ~

my own expenses and so forth, and paid my tithes, and everything I could, right into the church, and everything went right into the church.

And now, usually out here, they give me an offering. And I want to make it clear ('cause some of the trustees are sitting, present, now): The offerings that's given to me, the money, it doesn't go directly to me. I get a salary from the church: I get one hundred dollars a week, that's fifty-two hundred dollars a year, a hundred dollars a week. But now to the offering that you give to me, it's designated to the work of the Lord. Here is what the trustees does with it: It cannot be spent for nothing else. It's earmarked, as we call it, that it cannot be spent for nothing else. That money goes into a certain treasure; when that treasure builds up, called, "for overseas missions," designated to that...

And now many times, overseas, you can see what we get up against here in the United States, and you can imagine what it would be over there. And when we go over there to those poor people that don't have nothing, not even enough to eat, way back in those heathen lands...l've seen little mothers laying on the street and their little babies, their cheeks sunk in, and dying, and the mother try to give you the baby; and if you'd take that one, here's another one,

here's another one, another one; and nothing at all to eat. And we rake out enough in our garbage cans to feed those people. That's right. We don't realize how well off we are.

And in the African jungles and so forth, what's them people got to bring me over there? They haven't got one cent, they don't, no way at all of getting me there. And I feel that they should hear the Gospel, too, and the Gospel that—that the Lord Jesus has given us this week.

I take that money, 'cause I...you give it to me, and I'm the steward of it. So it goes in, by me working in this foundation, then it cannot be spent for nothing else, but overseas missions.

And it takes this same Gospel right over there to them. Don't...I go myself, so that I know that I do the very best I can, knowing that I have to answer for every cent of that money. And I—I want to be a good steward to God. And if I can't be faithful over those things, then how am I going to be faithful over other things. You see? So, I want to—want to thank you.

And the offering that was given to me (as—as the brother just said) this afternoon, I—I asked them not to do that. But, usually if they don't...and they know this: if the expenses cannot be made, then we take some of that offering of, that's been sent in by mail, at the church (where it's designated to this *other*), then we write off the expenses. We don't want—don't want it to cost nobody. See? We never...

And I have absolutely told the manager in every meeting (Brother Jack Moore, setting here, was one of my first men in the field; he knows that I never would stand still for no begging for money: "Who'll give *this*? And who'll give *that*?"), "Pass the collection plate, and forget about it." God, it's when He—when He quits furni-...when He quits supplying my needs out here, it's time for me to leave the field then. So, I don't believe in this begging, and pulling, and persuading, and threatening, and—and everything else for money. No, sir.

When I first come into the ministry, I found out, through history, there is three things that's hurts a man, a servant of Christ. And when he...God will

bless him and give him just a little ministry, then the first thing you know, one of the downfalls is *money*.

Next is *popularity*: When he gets to thinking he's *somebody*, right then he's on his road out. See. We're...there's no big shots among us, we're all the same, we're God's children (See?); there's none of us big, and none of us little, we're all God's children.

~ 13 ~

Then (money, popularity), and women: And I'm noted as a woman-hater so, you know, you, that's way away, so that—that's out of the picture. I got one woman, is all the woman in the world, and that's my wife, sweetest woman that God ever put on earth, for me. That's right. She's mine, and mine alone; and I'm hers, and hers alone. And that: when I was a young man I thought that; now I'm an old man and I still think it.

So I...she...l've tried to shun those things, and tell the Lord Jesus, "God, it's so hard being out here, 'cause the ministry is so much different. It just—just puzzles people every way. I have hard enough to fight those things with Satan, let alone these others." So, I'm out to do the very best I can, for everybody I can; to the Kingdom of God be glorified.

64-0412 – A Court Trial



And the only way she could give respects to God was to respect the servant of God

William Marrion Branham

Title: 56-1002E — Elisha The Prophet

60 So, Elisha, he had to pass through a little place called Shunem. It's not very well mentioned in the Bible. I think over in Joshua when they was dividing the lands, they mentioned where this little place, Shunem, was. But every little spot, God's going to have a witness somewhere. So there happened to be a real lady lived

up there in Shunem. And she was a loyal woman, a real lady. Her husband was an elderly man.

61 And it come to pass that Elisha, when he would go through, he went up to Mount Carmel. And on the road up, he had to pass through Shunem in order to get to Mount Carmel. Now, Elisha had a cave up there. He had him a special cave where he went to pray. By the way, that's what it was, a cave up in Mount Carmel. He went up there

at the new moon and on Sabbath to pray.

62 Well, he wasn't very well wanted in the city, I suppose, for this woman must have seen him as he passed through and seen him rejected. And Shunem was just about as far up as he could get in his journey, and he'd have to stay there overnight. So he would rest there, maybe in the streets, or in the woods, in the fields somewhere, as he passed by, and maybe sometime without food. And this good woman as she went up into the city, quickly she spotted this man and knew that he was a holy man.

63 Now, she being a Shunammite; yet in her heart, she was a believer. And no matter where the person is that is a believer, God in some way will get the true Message to them just as certain as He's God. That's right. He will manage to get it somewhere. He will put an ache on somebody's heart somewhere, they'll write to them,

they'll hear a testimony, turn the radio, or something another; they'll hear the true Message. God will grant that to them.

64 And this woman, perhaps, maybe, let's say she, one day, she went up in the street and she heard someone preaching on the street corner. And she seen him rejected, and she knew that was a servant of God. So I can imagine after Elisha got through preaching, she said, "Kind, sir, would you go and meet my husband? I will fix you all some lunch, right away."

65 Well, I can hear Elisha say, "Thank you, ma'am. I'll be glad to do that for I'm a bit hungry after the message." And down to the house they went. She goes in and introduces her husband to this prophet and Gehazi, the servant. And she made some cakes ready right quick, and some little dainties, some little cookies, and so forth.

66 And by the way, there's a little Danish woman last evening that sent me a box of cookies and some things to take... I know she's not...She can't understand English, anyhow, if she's here. Probably don't want to know what, the right hand know what the left hand's doing. And I thank you, each one, for your little tokens and blessings. I appreciate them. And this little Danish woman sent me some cookies to take home to the babies. And said they were

Danish, and she couldn't write English, so had someone else to write it. Now, I'm having the awfulest time to keep out of them before I take them to the kids. I'm just having an awful time. I walk back and forth, and look at them, and back to the other side and look at them. But I'm trying to make it out till I go home.

67 But maybe this woman set a plate full of them on the table, and Elisha had a—a real jubilee. And he thanked the woman for it. And time after time he passed by. So the good woman own impression or revelation...Do you believe in following revelations? Certainly. I believe the Church is built upon Divine revelations.

68 And as she was inspired to do something for this man, I can hear her say one day to her husband, "Now look, dear, we're—we're well...we can do this. We have plenty. We have great farms, and so forth, and we're able to do this. Now, we

are both believers in Jehovah, and this is His servant. Now, let's do something nice for him, and in doing for him, we'll be doing for Jehovah. And after all, you're getting aged, and I'm in the middle age; so it won't be long till it'll all fall somewhere; and we have no children or nothing, to go to. So let's just do something nice for Jehovah by entertaining His prophet; for I perceive that he is a holy man, and he passes this way."

69 She called him "the man of God," for she seen God working in him. And she knew that God was in this prophet, and she wanted to give respects to God. And the only way she could give respects to God was to respect the servant of God. Now, friends, that's the way you do it, is when you respect God's order. That's true.

56-1002E — Elisha The Prophet





From The Sermons Of WILLIAM MARRION BRANHAM