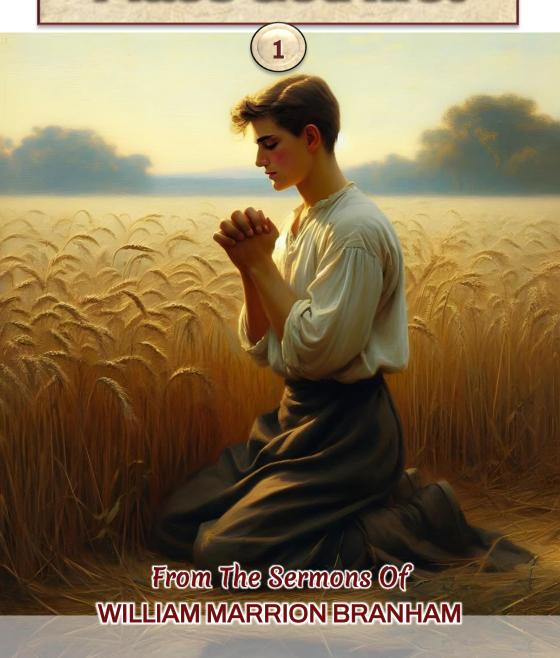
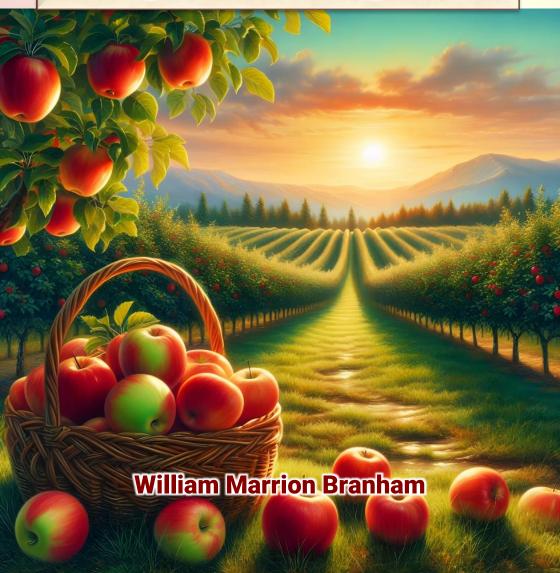
### **Place God first**



God must have first place in your heart, first place in your life, first place in everything that you do or what you are.



Title: 57-0825E — Hebrews, Chapter
Two #2

Take heed. Let every other thing be secondary, even your home, your husband, your wife, your children. Whatever it may be, put it second. Place God first. You say, "Brother Branham, over my children?" Over anything. Place God first. Let Him be first.

111 Elijah come off the mountain, one day. He was an angel, a messenger, God's messenger, anointed. And he found a widow woman picking up two sticks. He said, "Go, bake me a little cake, and fetch me a little water."

112 And she said, "As your soul liveth, I have but just enough cakes, or enough wheat dough, to make one little pancake. And I just have enough oil to go in, to mix it up, for shortening. And I'm

picking up two sticks." The oldfashion way was, it's the Indian way, of crossing the sticks and burning it from the middle, and keep pushing it in. Made a many a camp fire like it. Said, "And I'm going to cook that little cake for me and my boy, my baby. And we're going to eat it and die." There had been a drought for three years and six months, no water nowhere.

113 That stern, old prophet, looked that woman in the face.

He said, "Go, bake me a cake first." What a command, for a man to tell a widow woman, starving to death, to feed him first. What did he say? "For THUS SAITH THE LORD, the barrel will never go empty, nor the cruse dry, until God sends rain on the earth."

First, God. She went in and baked that little cake, and come give it to the prophet. Went right back and baked another one, and another,

and another. And the barrel never went empty, or the cruse dry, until God sent rain on the earth. She put God before her children. She put God before anything else. She taken the Kingdom of God, first.

114 God must have first place in your heart, first place in your life, first place in everything that you do or what you are.

God must be first.

He doesn't want the second place.

He doesn't deserve the second place.

He deserves the best, and the first, and all that we've got. He deserves it. Blessed be His holy Name!

For God also bearing... witness, he gave testimony, both with signs and wonders,...divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

115 Not what men say, what the church said, but what God's will was.

Oh, we need to seek the will of God, not the favor of your neighbor, not the favor of your children, not the favor of your husband or your wife.

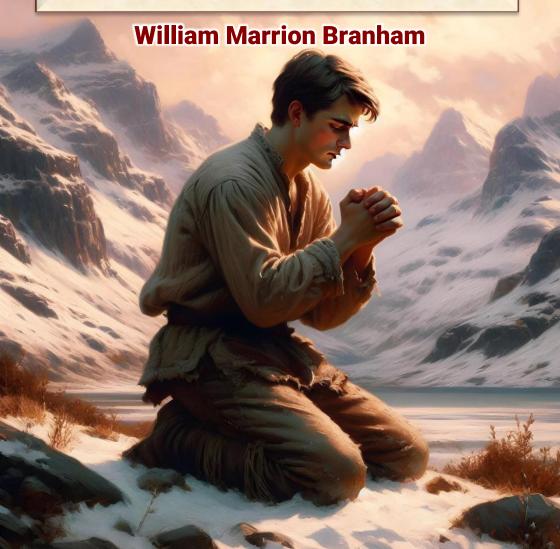
But, seek the will of God, and do that first.

Then everything else, the will of the wife and the will of the children, will fall right in with it. But, place God first.



Read the Bible every day. Pray every day.

Don't make any decisions too harshly or too quickly, without first considering God about it.



Title: 54-0723 — The Prophet Elisha

10 Now, they went off in such a hurry, without even considering God. And when they found out the seven days was up, well, their water supply was cut off. They didn't have any water to drink. And there they was out there with their cattle, and with their animals, and their water supply was cut off. And looks like

that it was just about the end for them.

Now, that's what we do.

Sometimes we go off on a tantrum somewhere and not think about God, not pray over it, ask the Lord whether we should do it or not, and we find out that our supply of blessings is cut off.

Then we wonder sometime, "Well, wonder why I can't have no more blessings."

You don't watch, you let down in your prayer life.

You say, "Well, I'm a Christian." Well, that's the more sign you should pray, more than ever.

Read the Bible every day.

Pray every day.

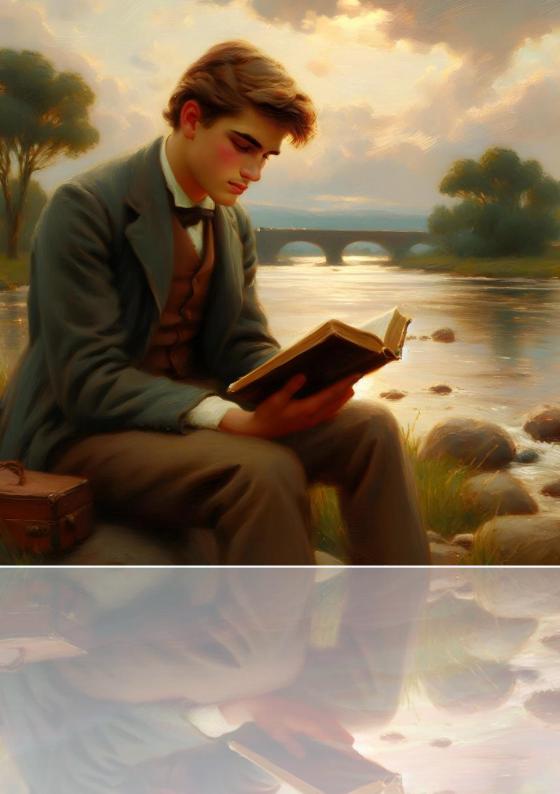
Don't make any decisions too harshly or too quickly, without first considering God about it.

Ask Him, "Shall I do this, Father?" Ask Him, "Is it Your will for me to do this?"

Then see what the Holy Spirit will speak to you.

He might not give you a vision, but He will speak in some way to you, to let you know, if you'll be sincere and ask Him.

54-0723 — The Prophet Elisha



# Now, all things ought to be considered prayerfully, first



#### Title: 55-0724 — Enticing Spirits

42 Now, in the Scripture, once, there was a man by the name of Jehoshaphat, a great man, a religious man. And he went over to another king which was the king of—of Israel. And he, Jehoshaphat, being the king of Judah. And he went down to Ahab, the king of Israel, and they got all buckled up together, and made an alliance with

another, to go fight up at Ramoth Gilead. And they did it without first praying.

43 Oh, if people could only realize! That's why I come this morning and asked you to remember me as I go overseas. In all things, pray!

Someone come the other day and said, "Brother Branham, do you think it's wrong to do a certain thing?"

44 I said, "Why do you questioning about?" See? If

there's a question in your mind, leave it alone, don't do it at all. Just stay with that. When you start to do anything, and if it's a question whether it's right or wrong, stay away from it. Don't go into it at all, then you know you're right.

45 Now, all things ought to be considered prayerfully, first. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these other things will be added."

#### 55-0724 — Enticing Spirits



No matter what anybody else says, give Jesus first place.
Amen. That's what we want to do always.



## Title: 55-0828A — The Unwelcomed Christ

30 Listen. In America, when we send—when the President comes to a city, well, they lay out the carpet. They drape the flag, put flowers everywhere. The bands play. Everything. The show is booked. Everybody. They want to make him welcome. But when Jesus comes, you push Him in a mission. You make ready for everything else but Jesus. That's the way that Pharisee did. Oh, my, what a pity to see that condition.

31 Listen, I want to ask you something now. Did you ever pray for Jesus to come to your house? If you did say—if you have, say, "Amen." Sure you have. How did you treat Him when He come? Do you give Him a little place up in the attic? Maybe your sewing party's there that day. When Jesus comes to your heart, do you feel like

crying; you feel like weeping out; you feel like praising Him? But what do you do with Him? You put Him up in the attic. You put it...You go up in the attic, over in a little room, or down in the cellar, and you get down there, say, "Thank You, Jesus," or something. You're ashamed of Him before your company. (Shame before your company, ashamed of Him before your company.) If you are, you ought to repent today. Amen. Give Jesus first place: first place,

first in life. First your best; not—not your second, your first. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; other things will be added."

32 But do you let Him set back when you're—when you're talking to your boss, and Jesus comes down, and He wants you to testify to Him and tell your boss that the love of God's in your heart? Are you ashamed of

Him? Do you give Him a little corner?

I might ask this to Jesus: "Jesus, will you take second place?"

"Yeah."

"Would You take third place?"

"Yeah."

"Will you take fifth place?"

"Yeah, I'll come anyhow."

You think your neighbor would come if he taken fifth

place? No. That's what makes me love Him, makes me to know He's [Blank spot on tape—Ed.] He's the God of heaven. He'll take any place (Hallelujah.) that man will give Him. (that man will give Him, any place man will give Him in your heart.)

33 Some of you people only go to church once a year: "Oh, my. It's Easter morning." You put—you put on your most charming garments, your beautiful hat, and you go down to

church, and you set twenty minutes. And then you come back, and you say, "That settles it till next Easter." Does Jesus accept it? Amen. Yes, He accepts it. Any place you'll give Him, He will accept it. He'll never rebuke you. He will give you [Blank spot on tape—Ed.] Oh, yes.

We have other things too that we think more important. My brother, my sister, the most important thing in your life is to

entertain Jesus Christ. You believe that? Amen.

believe that the most important thing in any life is to entertain Jesus Christ properly, in first place in your worship, first place in your life, first place in everything. Jesus Christ deserves that place. Amen. I believe it with all my heart. But if you don't, He'll take second place. He'll go down in the basement with you. If you're ashamed of Him when you're out among the people, and then you go down in the basement so nobody will see you, He'll still come. That ought to make you love Him above everything in the world. Jesus in second place...Jesus in fourth place...Jesus in tenth place...But still He comes; you invited Him.

34 Now, that's what you do in church, lot of times. Listen. I want to say this in reverence: you'll call for a revival [Blank spot on tape—Ed.] and you'll pray hard.

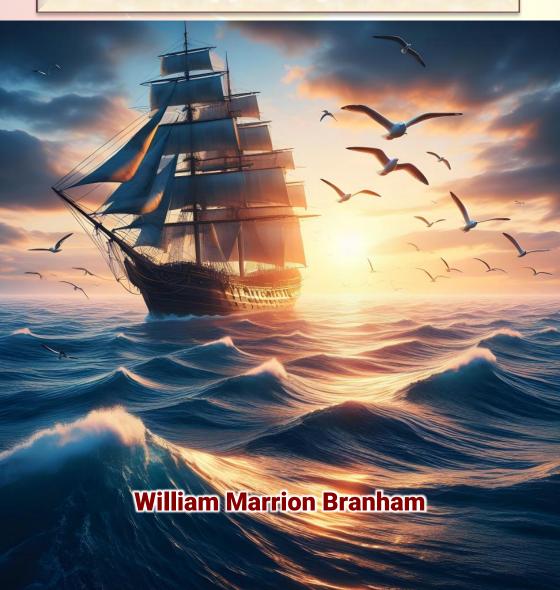
And then when the Holy Spirit comes in, you'll cast It off: "I don't want none of that. That's holy rollers." You are setting Jesus aside. When somebody testifies of being healed, you're ashamed: "Oh, I don't know her. I won't stand with her." You ought to give Christ your first place then. Stand by that person: "That's my brother. I love Jesus, too." He has first place. No matter what anybody else says, give Jesus first place.

# Amen. That's what we want to do always.

55-0828A — The Unwelcomed Christ



If we would let the thoughts of our heart, and the meditations of our mind be upon Him, He would appear often to us.



## Title: 56-0401M — The Mighty Conqueror

46 And as they journeyed along, on their way down to Emmaus, about a sabbath-day's journey, about a couple of miles, I guess, on their road down, walking along the side of the road, they were speaking of His death.

47 I want you to notice. Just when they were speaking, "Oh,

why could it ever happen? How could it ever happen to us? We've left our church now, to follow this Man Who we thought surely would be the...Why, we seen Him raise Lazarus from the grave, after he had been dead four days. And how could a Man, that could raise a dead man from the grave, ever die?" But God works in His Own way. He was just...Just like a seed goes into the ground and dies, and brings forth again. "Except a corn of wheat falls into the ground, it abides alone," says the Bible.

48 So they was wondering.

But while they were thinking on Him, He appeared to them.

And that's the way He usually comes to us.

When you usually find your greatest blessing; you housewives, when the children is all gone to school and you're out by yourself washing the dishes, or something. When you're running the sweeper on the floor,

or something. When do you men? When you're setting, eating your lunch, maybe by yourself, and reading the Bible on the side, somewhere where you're on your road going home, in the car, and you are meditating on Him.

If we would let the thoughts of our heart, and the meditations of our mind be upon Him, He would appear often to us.

But the trouble, we're thinking about where we're going to make the next dollar, and what we're going to do here, and how this is going to be.

Jesus said, "All these things will be taken care of, but seek ye first the Kingdom of God."

56-0401M — The Mighty Conqueror

### **Place God first**

