



Why Are We Not A Denomination?

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WILLIAM MARRION BRANHAM

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**Saturday Evening September
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**Branham Tabernacle,
Jeffersonville In**



Rev. William Marrion Branham

15 So I'm thinking, tonight, to begin with, to start with, it seems to be the Lord lays upon my heart just for this subject, the...*Why Are We Not A Denomination?* The reason that...Now, we have nothing against other peoples who are denomination. We have nothing against them, but I want to explain why that we never went in with any denomination. I was ordained in a little Baptist church, as

you know. And the Baptist is not a denomination, wasn't, till just recently, and now it's becoming just as much denomination as the rest of them. But, the reason that we never become a denomination...

16 Now, we are an organization. We are an organization, recorded here in the—in the courts, as an organization, a group of people that's organized together to worship Christ, but

we're not in a denomination. No one is going to dominate over us, you see. It's not a denomination. It's—it's just an organization, a fellowship amongst Christian believers. People come here to the church. And this becomes their home church if they wish to come, as long as they live.

17 And they can come here and disagree with everything that we preach. That's perfectly all right. You

still, as long as you are a Christian, you've got fellowship, and a hand out just the same as the rest of them. See? If I said I believe in baptizing by immersing by water, and you believed in sprinkling, and stayed right on it, we'd still be just the same as we was if we both agreed. We might not be able to see eye-to-eye, alike. But as long as you are a Christian brother or sister, you're

perfectly welcome, see,
everybody.

18 So we don't have any
denomination, because I think
that denomination separate
brotherhood. Some of them
will say, "Well, we ain't got
nothing to do in that revival.
That's the Methodist
revival." "Well, that's Baptist.
We ain't got...We're
Methodists. We ain't got
nothing to do with
that." Brother, if Christ is in it,
we got—we got all to do with

it. We got to put our...It—it's the Body of Christ that is—is suffering. And I see that so much in the lands today, to how that we have...Now, Christ never did, at any time, ever organize any denominational church. Now, just let that be well assured.

19 Now, now, I'm going to ask you tomorrow night, if any of these things you want to know, like some history that I'm quoting, or something another. I don't have time just

to drain that through, I won't get to another subject, 'cause you could spend weeks on that very same subject. But if you want to know the place, anything, just ask me, and lay it up here on the—on the desk, and I'll get it answered for you.

20 Now, the oldest denomination, and the first denomination church that we ever had, is the Catholic church. And it was organized three hundred and something

years after the death of the last apostle. And that's right. You get it in the early Nicene Fathers, and you get it in the writings of Josephus, and, oh, many of the—of the great historian. See? And as far as in the—the...any of the church ages, down through until the death of the last apostle, and three hundred years the other side of the apostles, there was no denominational churches. And

the Catholic was the first denomination of a church.

21 And the Protestant church are the denominations who has pulled out of a denomination. The first reformation come, was Luther; after Luther come Zwingli, after Zwingli come Calvin, and just on down like that. And down to the Wesleyan Revival, and on down to Alexander Campbell, John Smith, and whatmore, see, on down. And the last

movements that we have up now is the different phases of the Pentecostal age.

22 And I believe that God has dealt in each age. But did you ever notice that, every time a church ever fails, and as soon as they denominate they start failing right then? And whenever they fail, God never raises that church again. It goes right straight to seed. Now you just...If you want to know the history on that, we—we can produce it,

that—that no church, not ever in the history of churches, has any denomination ever fell that ever rose again. Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, whatever it may be, when they fell, they are gone. Now, that's right. Now, this, I—I told you now, put on the jacket, 'cause we're going to make this stick. See? There has never, at one time. When a man come out as an individual and organized a church, it started.

23 God deals with individuals, not with denomination. God in no age ever dealt with a denomination. He's always dealt with an individual. In the Old Testament, He dealt with individual. In the New Testament, He dealt with individual. In any age, He's always dealt with individuals, and not denominations. So, therefore, if God isn't in the denomination, what's the use of me having anything to do

with it as a denomination?
Now, I'm not talking about the
people in that denomination,
I'm talking about the
denomination itself, 'cause
God's people is in all those
denomination.

24 Now, God never lets
anything happen unless He
gives a warning to it. I don't
believe there's anything that...

25 Now, like we have
issues that comes out, in the
churches, such as we've had
one recently about blood and

oil, and so forth. And you know the “Dear Brother Branham” letter, and so forth. But the reason that I stood against that, because it’s not in the Word. And that’s the reason that I’m against denomination, because it’s not in the Word. And it has to have something we have to base our faith upon. And if we can’t base it upon some denomination, we’ve got to base it upon God’s Word. For

That is the only foundation, is God's Word.

26 And then if God's Word doesn't speak of a denomination, but speaks against the denomination, then we must speak with the Word. Regardless of what bishop, what anyone says, what anyone thinks, what a good man says, what anything says, if it's not according to God's Word, then it's wrong. See? It must be, the Word

must be the last thing. God's Word must be the final amen.

27 Now remember, I'm not unchristianizing anyone (you understand that) in denominations. There's tens of thousands of precious souls in all those denominations, who are God's children. But to separate them and segregate them, I'm against it. And God's Word's against it.

28 And I believe that there isn't an ism that's in the land today, there isn't an ism that's

ever been in the land, but what that it was foretold coming, by God's Word. I believe that God's Word supplies everything that we have need of, right here in the Word. From the...our beginning to the end, it's found right in God's Word. And then I—I believe that if it's in God's Word, then we should...It foretells. And God's Word is a warning.

29 Now, you don't read God's Word just like you read

a newspaper. You read God's Word by the Holy Spirit, see, because the Holy Spirit Itself speaking through Christ. Christ thanking God that He had hid these things from the eyes of the wise and prudent, and would reveal them to babes such as would learn. So, you see, there's no way of ever being educated, there's no way of ever denominating. There's only one way to get right, that's, be led by the Spirit of God. And that

experience you had must cope with this Word. See? Then you got it. See?

30 Like when we get down here in a few minutes now, we're dealing with people who are—are...Some of them are radical Calvinists, some of them are radical Arminians, and—and different ways. Now, there's always, no matter how thin you slice it, it's got two sides to it. That's exactly right. And they've both got arguing points. But, the

thing of it is, where lays the Truth of it? That's where we're coming to, where we think, by the grace of God, we show you the Truth of it. Now let's just take...and this is just where I got some of these church doctrines wrote out.

31 Let's turn in your Bibles, just a few minutes, all of you now. And let's get over to Revelations, the 1st chapter; or the Revelations, the 17th chapter, to start with. And let's just start

reading and find out now where these churches began at, and what—what started it. Now, the Bible forewarns everything. It forewarns the days that we're—we're living in. And now, Revelations, the 17th chapter, if you will. I said 13th, I didn't mean that, that's on the...We get that after a while, too, that's in the prophecy of the United States. But listen real close now.

And there came unto me one of the seven angels

*which had the seven vials,
and talked with me,
saying...Come hither; and I
will show...thee the judgment
of the great whore that sitteth
upon many waters:*

32 Now remember, this sounds mysterious. Now this ill-famed woman, now, if we're going to teach this, you got to find out first what these symbols mean. Now, a *woman*, in the Bible, represents "church." How many knows that, that we are

a Bride? The Church is a Bride.

33 “Come here and I’ll show you the judgment.” Now, there’s going to be a judgment spoke upon the great whore, the unclean woman that sits upon many waters. Now, the *woman* symbolizing a “church,” and *water* symbolizes “people.” Now, if you’ll notice it, also, look, the 15th verse while you’re there, 15th verse, the same chapter.

And he said unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples,...multitudes,...nation s, and tongue. (See?)

34 Now, this great church, great woman, now remember she is a ill-famed woman. And if woman represents the church, (and Christ's Church is a Bride, a holy Bride), then here is an unholy woman. Then it would have to be an unholy, pretended to be, bride. See? Now, and

what does she do? “She sits upon,” or to be *above*, means, “to have the governing over many waters.” In other words, she’s got power through all the nations and tongues and people. She’s a great person, this woman is.

Now, *whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication,...*

35 “For kings of the earth have committed fornications,” rich men, great men have. How would you commit,

how would a king commit, fornications with a church? It's spiritual fornication. Spiritual! What is fornication? It's, well, it's like a woman living untrue to her husband. She's living with another man while she's got a husband. And this church, then, is—is pretending to be the Bride of Christ, while she's committing fornication with the kings of the world, with her unclean living, unclean profession. Oh, It's deep and

It's rich. I just love the Word.
Now notice.

*...whom the kings of the
earth have committed
fornication, and the
inhabitants of the earth have
been made drunk with the
wine of her fornication.*

36 Her “wine” is what she
was giving out, her
stimulation, “We are the
Church! We’re the ones got
it.” See? Now, just draw that
in your mind now. All right.
“So he carr-...”

37 Now, the angel told John, “I will show you this judgment that’s coming to this great church.” Now watch.

So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sitting upon a scarlet coloured beast,...

38 *Scarlet*, in the Bible, represents “royal.” The color *scarlet* means “red.” And *beast* represents “power.”

Did you notice, the beast come up out of the sea, that

was in Revelations, the 13th. And when you see the beast coming up out of the sea, is meant that this power was raising up among the people.

But in Revelations 13, when this lamb came up, he came up out of the earth, no people, United States. But then, after, he had two little horns, civil and ecclesiastical powers. And then he received power, and spoke like the dragon did before him. So you

just got to mark it down, we are coming into a religious persecution with the same things that they did in pagan Rome many years ago, for it's THUS SAITH THE LORD.

Now watch it. "Sitting upon a beast, a power."

39 Did you notice Rebekah? When Eliezer found her, it was in the evening time, and she watered the camel. Cause, Eliezer said, "If the damsel that comes and waters this

camel, that will be the...and gives me a drink, that will be the one that You have chosen, Lord, to be the bride of Your servant, Isaac.” And while he was yet in prayer, Rebekah come and drawed water and give him a drink, and watered the camel. Notice, the camel was a beast. And that same beast that she was watering, was the one who packed her to her bride, Isaac.

40 And, today, the power of the Holy Ghost, that the Church is watering and worshipping, is the Thing that will pack It from this earth, to meet the Bride. Sure, Isaac was out in the field, in the evening. We don't meet the Lord up in Glory. Ephesians, the 5th chapter, says that we shall meet Him in the air. Oh, that makes the Methodists get ready to shout. Think of it! See? The Lord...

Isaac had come out from his father's house, and was out in the field when he saw Rebekah coming on the camel. And she loved him, at first sight, and jumped off the camel and run to meet him. That's right. That's where we meet the Lord. And the very camel that she watered, packed her to her husband.

And the very Power that the Church is worshipping, that the world is calling fanaticism, that the

Church is worshipping, will be the same Power that'll take the Church up in the air, "To meet the Lord in the air." The Holy Spirit! See? There is...

And, look, Rebekah was a virgin.

41 And this woman is a prostitute, we're speaking of here. Now, you get what the power is now? The—the power, what the means, that, the beast. She was on a scarlet. Now, what kind of a beast would it

be? *Scarlet*, that would be a “rich” power. What kind of a church is this she’s going to be now? She’s a rich church, and she’s a great church, and she’s a powerful church, and she’s influence sweeps the multitudes and people. And the kings of the earth have committed spiritual fornications with her, that’s the great men of the earth. Now we’re going to find out who she is, just in a minute, and

find out about these
denomination.

*And the woman was
arrayed in
purple (kingly),...arrayed in
purple and
scarlet colours,...decked with
gold and precious
stones...pearls, having a
golden cup in her hand full
of the abomination and
filthiness of her fornication:*

42 What'd she have in her
hand? Her doctrine, what
she's holding out to the

people, “We are the Church. We are *this*.” And she’s made the kings of the earth become drunk with her, like that. “We are *this*. We’re the great power! We sweep every nation. We’re the greatest church there is. Come on, drink of our...Here, pour out a little bit of it. *You* take it. *You* take it.” There it is, see. And she had in her hand a cup. Look.

And the woman was arrayed in purple and

scarlet colours,...decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of the abomination and filthiness of her fornication:

43 Now, friends, we're not reading a daily newspaper. We're reading God's Eternal and blessed Word. All heavens and earth will pass, but that Word will remain. That's right.

And upon her head was written a name, was the name

written, rather, *MYSTERY,*
BABYLON THE GREAT, THE
MOTHER *OF*
HARLOTS, THE
ABOMINATION OF *THE*
EARTH.

44 Now, here some time ago, I don't think in the church here, but I preached on a subject, *Handwriting On The Wall*, and give the historical standing of Babylon. Now, every ism that ever come up, every religion and every ism that there is in the world

today, began in Genesis. Now, if you'll get Hislop's *Two Babylons*, if you want to chase it in history, or some of those fine books, you can even find every ism that you want to find. I'm going to take you back there in a few minutes, on women preachers, see, and show you just where it first started from, see, back in Genesis. And on these different things, just how they come up out of Genesis. *Genesis* means "the

beginning.” How many knows that that’s right? Genesis is the beginning. So, everything that is, had to have a beginning.

45 When I look at a tree...I been in the woods for couple, three, about two months. I see a tree, how pretty it is. I see it, it goes down; another one comes up in its place, perpetual life. And I think of that. But somewhere that tree had a beginning. It had to have a beginning. And the

only way it could be designated to be a tree, or to be an oak, or a beech, or a poplar, or a palm, or whatever it was, there had to be a master Intelligence behind it. Or if there just one, been one oak tree, everything in the world been all oak tree. But Something, great, master Intelligence, had to set it in order.

Blessed be His Holy Name! He's the One Who sets the moon and the stars in the

solar system. He set everything in its order. And He will set His Church in order. It'll turn just like He wants Her to turn; east, west, north, or south, or whatever He is. When we can get these denominational ideas out of our mind and throw ourself wholly into Calvary. He'll set it in order, if we're just as submissive as the trees and His other creation. You never see the moon saying, "I ain't going to shine tonight. Some

of you stars shine in my place.” But we, oh, we’re different, you see.

46 Now, Babylon, watch how Babylon appeared. It appears in the first of the Bible. It appears in the middle of the Bible. And it appears in the last of the Bible. Now, there’s something. Now, it begin with Nimrod. Nimrod founded Babylon in the Shinar Valley, right close between the Tigris River and the Euphrates. And the Euphrates

passed through. And—and how that every road, through all that country, led straight to Babylon. And each one of those gates were about two hundred feet across, those gates made out of brass. And when you got inside of the city of Babylon, every street led straight to the throne.

47 Now, you can go to Rome, today, and every road will lead to Rome. And there's a little virgin Mary standing on every corner, at a turn of the

road, with a Christ child in her hand, pointing that way towards Rome. See? It appears in the first, the Bible; it appears in the middle of the Bible; and here it is in the last of the Bible.

Now I just want to read on, just for a few minutes, so you get the background of this. See? All right. "And I saw the woman," now watch, "the church." When you see *woman*, just think of "church." See?

...I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints,...

48 Now, where does the word *saint* come from? The word *saint* comes from “sainted one,” or “sanctified one,” sainted. All right.

...I saw her drunk with the blood of the saints,...

49 Now, if this woman is the church, she’s persecuted the saints. And she’s the greatest church. She has power all over the earth. She’s

over many waters. And she's...The kings of the earth commit fornications with her. Well, who is she? Kind of a mystery. Now the Spirit is going to...You know, there's supposed to be nine spiritual gifts in the church; to wisdom, and one to understanding, and one for healing, and one for *so forth*.

...and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus:...

50 Look like they didn't care much what Jesus said.

It's what the church said.
That's right. And that's
correct, too.

*...and when I saw her, I
wondered with great
admiration.*

51 “I wondered with
admiration. I...It was a—a—a
marvel thing about her, how
that I wondered how that
she...” Now let me just take
John's place and try to open
that up a little bit, see. John
said, “There she sits. She is
pertaining to be a Christian

church. She's got all the access to the monies of the world. She's got the kings of the earth in at her feet. She's a rich and colorful thing, and how can she be drunk with the martyrs of Jesus? How can she persecute the saints? How can she kill those martyrs of Christ? And yet she's claiming to be a Christian, herself, a Christian church." Now watch.

And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou

marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, and which had...seven heads and ten horns.

52 Now, this is just common reading here now. You catch this. This will be very easy.

The beast which thou sawest was, and is not; and shall descend out...ascend out of the bottomless pit, and shall go into perdition: and they that dwell upon the

earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they see...when they—when they beheld the beast which was, which is not, and yet is.

53 Now, now this has got to pinch, so here it is. He said, now notice, that, “When all,” not just a few, but, “all that dwell upon the earth shall wonder.” All of them will wonder. The whole world will

wonder about this woman. There's just one group that won't be wondering about it, and that's those who had their name in the Lamb's Book of Life.

54 Now, I just might as well squeeze this in right here, 'cause we're going to get into it in a few minutes. See? When was their names put on the Lamb's Book of Life? From when the last revival they attended? The night they went to the altar?

The night they joined the church? I'm not trying to hurt you. But, I'm telling you, the Bible said, "Their names were put on the Lamb's Book of Life since the foundation of the world." Exactly! When God, in the beginning, saw that He would send His Son, and He would take a sinner's place, when God's Son's Blood was shed. The Bible said His Blood was shed before the foundation of the world. How many knows the Bible says

that, that, “The Blood of Christ was shed before the foundation of the world”? When that Blood was shed, every member of the Body, whose names was written with that Blood, on the Lamb’s Book of Life, at the foundation of the world. What you so scared about? Oh, brother! That unlocks the doors, doesn’t it?

55 Well, now let’s just read this right here, and see if what that that says is right.

See? “And the angel said unto me, ‘Wherefore didst...’” I believe it’s the 8th verse, “And the beast which thou sawest...” All right. That’s it.

The beast which thou sawest is, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit,...

Now, we’re coming back to that, but I want to get this other, ’cause we’ll get on it.

...and shall go into perdition: and they that dwell upon the earth shall

wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world,...

56 “There’s going to be a bunch on the earth,” in other words, “that’s going to be deceived,” for he deceived them. And there was only one group that was not deceived, and that was the one that had their name on the Book of Life since the foundation of the world. We get in that a little later.

57 Now notice the woman, the church, she was “*Mystery, Babylon.*” We see her appear by Nimrod. What was Nimrod’s purpose? Nimrod founded a city and caused all of the other cities to pay tribute to this city. Could we see such a thing today? Is there such a place today? Is there a church that has domination over every nation in the world? Certainly. Is there a place today that

makes every nation pay tribute to it? Is there a place?

Let's go ahead and read the rest of this, just a little bit, so you get the whole picture of it. All right.

...which seen *the beast which was,...is not, and yet is.*

And here is the mind that has wisdom.

58 Now, how many knows that wisdom is one of the gifts of the Spirit? Now, what kind of a group is He talking to,

then? He must be talking to a group of people that has the—the gifts of the Spirit operating in this Church.

...here is to the mind that has wisdom.

59 Now, you stop, find that all through these church ages here. Pulling out, the Holy Spirit speaking out, how those gifts to be working in the last day. Now, we got gifts of healing working. Oh, it's—it's going good. Well, brother, there's other gifts. That's just

one of them. That's just a little minor thing. Well, here is a far greater gift right here. Which would be the best, the gift of the Holy Ghost of wisdom, to put the Word of God together and to show the Church where we're standing, than just to get somebody healed? We all want to be well. But I'd rather have my soul well, than my body well, anytime. Oh, my!

Hear the Holy Spirit speaking through John, on

Patmos, said, "Here is to the wisdom. Let him listen to This." Now we're getting a picture drawed out here. "Here is..."

And here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

60 There is only one city, that I know of, in the world...There is two cities, that I know of, that has seven or more mountains in it. Cincinnati is one of them,

which is supposed to be the fiction story of Cincinnati. It's the mother wolf, you know, that...so forth. But it has more than that in it. But there's no one church dominates Cincinnati.

There's only one place in the whole world, that has a church setting on seven hills, that dominates the entire world. Now, I've just come from there. All those things.

And I seen there where it said, "And here is to wisdom."

Revelations 13. “Let him that has wisdom count the numbers of the beast, for it’s the number of a man.” Not a bunch of men, a group of men, but “a” man. “And his number is six hundred and sixty-six.”

61 I’ve often heard, that, over the throne of the pope of Rome, it’s wrote, “VICARIVS FILII DEI.” I often wondered if that was true. Draw a line, and draw it up in figures, in Roman numerals, and see if it is. It’s

exactly the truth. I stood *that* close to the triple crown of the pope, in a glass, “Jurisdiction of hell, heaven, and purgatory.” See? So, those things, I’ve just come from there, just come from Rome and know it’s the truth. Now we know it’s pictured out.

And here the seven kings: five are fallen (which was at that time), *and one is* (that’s one to come now, which was Caesar), *and another is yet*

to *come* (which was Herod, which was wicked);...

62 Now watch. Watch how perfect it is.

...and when he cometh, he must continue for a short space.

63 Does anybody know how long Herod reigned? Six months. Pulled his mother through the street, on a singletree of a horse. And burnt the city; and laid it onto the Christians. And fiddled on the hillside while they

were...while burning the city.
Six—six months. And see,
“And the beast...” Now watch,
look what a rascal that he
was. See? Now watch.

*And the beast that was,
and is not, even...is the
eighth, and is of the seventh
(the nature of the
seventh), and goeth into
perdition.*

64 Anyone knows
what *perdition* means, is
“hell.” And watch where he
ascended out of, “hell.” What

is it? The bottomless pits. There's no foundation for a Catholic doctrine. There's no Bible for Catholic doctrine. There's no such a thing as any Bible for any Catholic doctrine, not at all. They don't claim to be. The priest set up there, this little priest up here at Sacred Heart church come over there. He said, "Oh, he..." I was telling him about baptizing Mary Elisabeth Frazier. He said, "Oh, you baptized her according to the

way the early Catholic church baptized.”

I said, “When did that?”

He said, “In the Bible, your Bible.”

65 I said, “Did the Catholic church baptize that? Is that the teaching of the Catholic church?”

“Yeah.”

66 I said, “In the infallibility of the Catholic church, why has it changed so much?”
See?

67 He said, “Well, see, you all believe the Bible. We believe the church.” See? “We don’t care what the Bible says. It’s what the church says.” That’s exactly right. You ever come to a showdown, to it, try it once, see. They don’t care what the Bible says; that has nothing to do with it. They care what the church says. See?

68 But we don’t care what the church says. We believe what God says. Amen. For the

Bible, it's written, "Let every man's word be a lie, and Mine be the Truth." That's why we're not denomination.

69 Now watch. Listen to this, just a minute. "Five kings which it was, fallen, five kings." If you want that from the history, I'll show it to you. "And one is, and one to come."

Now watch, "the beast." Now, the beast wasn't a king. He was "one which is, which is not; and yet he is,

and is not; yet he is, and is not.” What is it? Succession of the popes, a power, a beast ruling. That’s when pagan Rome was converted to make papal Rome. Pagan Rome was converted, and then it become the papacy, which, they had a pope in the stead of a king, and the pope is the spiritual king. That’s the reason he’s a crowned, spiritual king, claims to be the vicar of Jesus Christ. There you are. Now notice.

70 And we're going to bring that Catholic doctrine out of there and show you how it's waded right down into the Protestant churches, see, how she's still laying right in the Protestant church, lot of it. Contrary, exactly, to the Bible, absolutely contrary. Now, "A beast which was, which is not." Now remember, "All of them will be deceived, upon the earth, whose name was not written from the

foundation of the world.” Let’s see.

And the beast that was, and is not, (the 11th verse) and yet is the eighth, and...of the seventh, and goeth into perdition. (He’ll continue on until he hits the bottomless pits at the end of the road.)

And the ten horns which thou saw are ten kings,...

Now watch here. If you want to see something striking, watch this.

...are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

71 They're not crowned kings; they're dictators. See, they never was crowned king, but they receive power as kings, one hour, in the reign of the beast. That's just in this little shadowing time right now where dictators are rising up. See? "Receive power as king, one hour with the beast." Now, all right.

These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: (Glory!) for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, the chosen, and faithful.

72 Wish I could preach a sermon right now on that, "The chosen, before the foundation of the world, and abiding faithful in their calling."

Hallelujah! That's it. "They are called, the chosen, and the faithful." *And* is a conjunction, see, "The chosen, and faithful." They shall overcome him. No matter how great they get.

73 And this great communism, communism move we got today, don't worry about that. That's working exactly into the hands of God. I can prove it by this Bible. He is going to make her suffer for every martyr she

ever killed. Yes, sir. You watch these kings all agree together, and will hate her. And the whole nation, the whole world, sweeping communism. Why, it's got to be a move of God, to punish it. You say, "Wait a minute, Brother Branham. Communism, a move of God?" Absolutely, certainly, is a move of God. The Bible said so. But it's moving in to pronounce judgment upon an ungodly and disgracefully

illegitimate people. What's left in this world? What have we got? Here the other day...

74 I'll stop on my subject just a minute, if it's possible. I was reading in a piece of Scripture where that an illegitimate child will not enter the congregation of the Lord for fourteen generations. How many knows that? That's right, Deuteronomy 23; an illegitimate child. If a woman is caught in the field, that's, away from protection of man,

and a man overcomes that woman, that man will have to marry her. And regardless if she becomes a prostitute, he has to live with her till he die. And if this woman marries him, pertaining that she is a virgin, and she isn't, then she can be killed for it. And if a man and a woman which are married, and they bring forth an illegitimate child, that, the congregation of the Lord he'll not enter, to fourteen generations. And forty years is

a generation. It will be four hundred years before that sin ever gets out of Israel.

75 God hates sin! How do you expect to wade over the Holy Blood of the Lord Jesus, just because you belong to a certain denomination, expect to go in? You're going to come God's grounds or you're not coming at all. Right. Deacon, preacher, whatever we may be, has nothing to do with it. You come on God's term.

76 Fourteen generation.
The person is sitting present
now who was discussing that
with me. Said, “How do we
know who would ever be
saved then?”

77 I said, “There’s where
you ought to be a good
Calvinist.” Your name was put
in the Book before the
foundation of the world. God
takes that blood stream.
That’s up to Him. See?

“But what’s that got...”

78 Listen. You young people, today, I don't know whether you come to this church, or where you come, you young boys and girls. Did you realize, the things that you're doing, if there is another generation, your children will be judged for what you do? Haven't you no respect of decency? You girls that's out here wearing these little old shorts and things around, you know, that's reflected on your

daughter. Did you know your grandmammy was a—a flapper, and your mammy a chorus girl, and that's the reason you're a striptease today? Certainly. What will your children be? Yes, sir. God said He would visit the iniquity of the parents upon the children and their children, to three and four generation.

79 And do you realize, my brother, every time you do

that which is right, that'll be visited on your children?

80 Look here, let's take Hebrews, the 7th chapter. The Bible said, when—when Melchisedec met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the king, and blessed him, and It said, now, “Levi...” He's talking about paying tithes. Said, “Levi...” had “...an order from the Lord to receive tithes from his brethren.” And Levi who received tithes, paid tithes, for

he was yet in the loins of Abraham when he met Melchisedec. And Abraham was his great-grandfather. Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, Jacob begot Levi; Levi, father, grandfather, great-grandfather. And while Levi was in the loins of Abraham, the Bible said he paid tithes to Melchisedec. Hallelujah!

81 Don't let nobody tell you that any kind of a move in the world can ever interfere

with God's great cog. She's moving right on! It was planned back there in the beginning. There ain't a devils or enough devils can interfere with His program.

82 Now, the Bible didn't say "potentially" he paid it. The Bible said, "He paid tithes," when he was in his great-grandfather's loin. Glory! That's my Lord. Oh, He knowed it, even, before the world was ever formed. He

knowed everything. And in Abraham, he paid tithes.

83 And sister, brother, how can you run out here, and people live and run around with man's wives, and wives breaking up homes, and living the way you do, what do you expect another generation to be? Here's what it is. It's become now to nothing but just a bunch of illegitimate, messed-up born, bunch of corruption. And there's one thing left for it, and that's the

atomic day that we're living in. That's exactly right. We're at the end time.

84 Sitting this morning, way back yonder in the hills of Kentucky, a little old boy, you couldn't hardly get in ten foot of him, from making sorghum molasses. Probably didn't know hardly which was right hand or left. When he heard...I had got over on a posted grounds. I didn't know where I was at. I was just in some of the hollows. And I

was going up there to going squirrel hunting. And when I set down up there, I got talking to him. And this boy said he was going in the army. And come to find out, we got to talking about the Lord, and he said, "Preacher, don't you believe that we're at the end time?" Way back up there in them mountain.

85 I said, "Sure, we are. Sure, son, we're at the end time."

86 Here we are. This is the hour that we're living, brother. We're in the place. Can't you see how that mothers back yonder, and daddys, how they lived, and grandpa and grandma? Can't you see how papa and mama has lived? No wonder we're in the corruption today. No wonder, you could preach your head off; they'll wear shorts just the same, and spit in your face. They'll smoke cigarettes and blow it right at you, and

say, “Tend to your own business.” Why? Because that’s the tribe they come out of. I’m going to get to that, directly, *The Seed Of The Serpent*. We’ll find out where she moves in, see why they act like that. They’re the devil’s children since the foundation of the world. That’s right. And we’re nothing in, left for it, so just judgment is only thing is left. Can’t have nothing else but judgment. God will just whack

the whole thing out. And man has done it themselves. God didn't intend it to be that way, but He knew it would be that way. That's the reason He said he would, "Deceive all that lived upon the face of the earth, except those whose names were put in the Lamb's Book of Life before the foundation of the world."

87 Let's watch it. Read a little further now. Now, now I believe we're on the 12th.

And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

These shall have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

And these shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with

*him are—are
called, the chosen, and
faithful.*

*And he said unto me, The
waters which thou
sawest, where the whore
sitteth, are
peoples,...multitudes,...nation
s, and tongues.*

*...the ten horns which thou
sawest upon the beast, these
shall hate the whore,...*

*88 Watch that now, these
“ten horns,” these ten
kingdoms. See, that’s*

everything falling in, what these dictators are. Watch the way dictators lean to. Where's it leaning to? Just—just tell me a dictator that doesn't lean towards communism. See? And they shall (what?) hate “the whore,” the woman, the church. But what? Watch what's going to do it.

...these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

89 They'll blow that thing off the map, just as certain as I'm standing here. We just had time to take up that subject there of that church, and run it on down through the Scripture, where It said, read, "All the kings of this earth, and all the shipmasters, and all, wail, for great Babylon met her desolation in an hour." One hour, her time had come! And, oh, how It said, "Rejoice, you saints, and all you holy prophets, for God

has revenged the blood of the saints and your brethren upon her.” See, that’s right. Sure, communism playing right into the hands of God. Just like King Nebuchadnezzar played right in the hands, to come take them Jews, when they walked away!....?...

90 And sin can keep corrupting, righteous seed can remain in there and seed can keep corruption, and corrupting and corrupting till after a while it runs out. It gets

to a place, because their mothers and daddys and so forth has lived so before us, and in that way, till there's nothing left for us. And you know what Jesus said? If He didn't cut the work short, there'd be not even any flesh saved.

91 Can you see? Can you see why we got these? I'm not making remarks. Arthur Godfrey's and everybody, you know, see, and Elvis Presley's, and—and hips

down, the overalls, and hair hanging down their neck, and all these way the teenagers are acting. What does it? What is it? [Brother Branham knocks on the pulpit eleven times—Ed.] Because it's coming out of a bunch of fore-lived, illegitimate people. Nothing left! Oh, they'll stand up and sing, "Nearer, my God, to Thee," like pea-picker Ernie and all those others like that, sing some kind of a hymn, and so forth like that.

Brother, you know what? That, that's absolutely hypocrisy. Yes, sir.

92 Man has got no business in this pulpit that gets out there and rock-and-roll and boogie-woogie and all that kind of stuff. He hasn't got one speck of business behind here. This is to the priesthood, the called of God. God's called ministers belong behind here. And don't belong back here for such as that. That's what's the matter with it today,

they've made the church no more than some lodge. Lodge is all right, you want to do that, that's up to you. But let me tell you, there's a lot difference by try...between a lodge and a church. Yes, sir. You want to do those things in a lodge, and have all them kind of parties and so forth, that's up to you. But, brother, the church ought to be swept from the pulpit all the way to the basement. That's right. I don't mean swept with a new

windows and so forth. I mean with an old-fashion, God-sent revival that'll scatter the thing from one side to the other. Yes, sir. Like turning a light, electric light on a bunch of roaches around a cob of an apple. Yes, sir, they'll scatter when the light fly.

93 Now watch, "They have one mind, give their power." I'm below that now. "The ten horns." Yes, now.

For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, (there

you go), and to agree, and give their kingdoms unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

Now, and the woman which thou sawest is the great city, which reigns over all the kings of the earth.

94 Now, there's not no need of pushing around, we know that is the Catholic hierarchy. There's no need of anybody...I—I believe that just as firm as I believe that I have received the Holy

Spirit. I believe that just as good as I believe that I'm a Christian standing here today, that that Catholic hierarchy is the—the...The Vatican City is the—the city that sits on the seven hills. The hierarchy of the church is the beast which was, which is not. She is Babylon. It's everything pictured just exactly, just perfectly all the way through the Scriptures. It's the Catholic church.

95 Now, now here is your shocking point. You say, “Well, you ain’t hitting me, Brother Branham.” But let me just ask you something. Let’s go right back now to the 5th verse.

*And upon
her head was...written,
MYSTERY, BABYLON THE
GREAT, THE MOTHER
OF ABOMINATIONS... THE
MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND
ABOMINATIONS OF THE
EARTH.*

96 What was she? W-h-o-r-e. And she was a m-o-t-h-e-r. What? M-o-t-h-e-r. She had begotten something. A mother of sons? Of harlots! What is a harlot? Same thing as a—as a whore, immoral woman. What made her immoral? Her doctrine. She was pretending to be a Christian church, but was giving out man-made dogma. And here she says that she had...If she was the first organization, then seems like there's some

organizations come out of her. She was the mother of harlots. Is that right? A mother of harlots. Couldn't be a mother, now, of boys. Couldn't be a mother...It had to be mother of women. And, if they were women, they were churches. Now let's find out. What come out of the...

97 What was the first organization? Catholic church. What was the second organization? Luther. What was the third organization? Zwingli. What'd it come on down to? Calvin. And there come into Anglican, and the

Anglican on down into Methodist. The Methodist, what'd the Methodist produce? Out of there come Alexander Campbell. Out of Alexander Campbell come John Smith. Out...Alexander Campbell is the Christian church; then, they had had four or five, church of Christ and all those other little isms run out. Then here come the Baptist church, it had a lot of little pull outs. And out of the Methodist church come...out of the Methodist church, come, first come the Wesleyan Methodist, and then they broke off four or five times. Then they come to another type of Methodist, and then they come off again, then they come to the Free Methodist. And—and then they

come from that to the Nazarene. And from the Nazarene to the Pilgrim Holiness, and the Pilgrim Holiness on down. Just little isms running out like that, keep running on down, each one of them little—little starters back there come right on down. And what did every one of them do? And it finally winded up in Pentecost.

98 And what did Pentecost do? The same thing their mammy did, they went right back and organized. And what did it become? A—a denomination. Walk into one, the first thing, “What’s your doctrine?” Boy, they comb you with a fine-tooth comb, see, to find out what you are, what you believe. And if you don’t just tally right up with

them, brother, you're excommunicated right now. And that's right.

99 And don't think just because you say you're Pentecostal that you're secured. Brother, there'll be just as many Pentecosts off the road as there is on the road, I'm sure. See?

100 Now, all those organizations, if they had just left the Pentecostal blessing go, not organize it, just keep it in a brotherhood and let the Holy Spirit do the segregation. The Holy Spirit segregates. Ananias and Sapphira come in one time, said *so-and-so*; and the Holy Spirit said, "Why did you lie?"

101 But we say, “Now, that’s Brother Jones, don’t you say nothing bad about him now, he’s the best payer we got in church. I know he got the Holy Ghost; I heard him speak in tongues, and I’ve seen him shout in the Spirit.” That don’t have no more than pouring peas on a dry cowhide. See? Not a thing to do with it. God does the say. He’s got the say whether he is or is not. Absolutely. “But we took it over to our denomination. Well, we kicked him out of the—out of the Assemblies, the Oneness picks him up.” The Oneness carries him a while, and then they kicked him out. Because, they carry him over there, and the Jesus Only picks him up. Jesus Only packs him a while, and

then the next thing picks him up is church of God, picks him up. Church of God of Prophecy picks him up, and the Tomlinson move gets him. Oh, my! Brother, if we haven't about run out! That's in Pentecost, the last revival. And now they got the Blue Flame, and they got the oil worshipers, and the—and the blood in the face. And, oh, mercy, I don't know where they gone to now.

102 Just one thing, that's the whole thing has become corrupted. Did you know the Bible said it would come corrupted? Did you know the—the Bible speaks of this day, will be here, when even the tables of the Lord will be full of vomit? And said, "Who can I teach doctrine? Who can I make understand Me?

For precept must be upon precept, is upon precept, upon line upon line.” Who can He teach doctrine? Those that are weaned from the breast, the mammy. See?

103 Now, there isn’t—there isn’t a woman, an ornery woman in this town but what could bring forth a virgin daughter. She is when she’s born, now, and she can go good. But if you don’t notice, of her mother has been of that nature, that girl, nine times out of ten, will act just exactly like her mother does. Now, you know that’s right. An old woman that’s runs a house of ill fame, could bring forth a little girl. She could be sixteen years old, just as clean and moral as any lily, but, if she remains that way. But, the thing of it is, she

goes right back and acts like her mother.

104 Now, the Catholic church was the first old prostitute that's come up with doctrines that she made up of herself, superstitions, which, the Bible said, "She come out of the bottomless pits and will go back to perdition." The Bible said that. Now, if they teach that, it's wrong. It's wrong, according to God's Word. And then here comes the Methodist church, which was born out of her, a beautiful young lady, but what did she do? She turned right back around and do the same things that her mammy does. Lets her congregation wear shorts. Let them smoke cigarettes. Let them carry on and act just like they

should. There ain't nothing said about it. The little old half-baked pastor back behind there, the pulpit back there, is afraid he'll run out of salary someday, or a pan of biscuits.

105 Let me tell you, brother, I'd rather preach the Gospel, and eat soda crackers and drink branch water, and tell the Truth about it. If every one of my congregation got up and walked out, I'd tell them the Truth about it. Yes, indeed.

106 What's the matter? Oh, it's a meal ticket. "Well, you know, I'm the pastor of the biggest church there is in the city." You Baptists and Methodists listen to a false prophet. Now, that's rough, but anything that teaches contrary to this Bible is a false prophet. I don't care how

polished it may be, it's false prophecy. That's right.

107 "Oh, everything is all right as long as you got your name on the book." You might have your name on a dozen books. If it ain't on the Book of Life, you're lost! You can be ever so good, you can be just as loyal and clean and moral as you can be, that won't have one thing to do with it.

108 Esau was twice the guy that Jacob was, when it come to being a man, taking care of his old blind daddy and everything else. And Jacob was a little shyster hung around his mother's apron, little old sissy boy. But God said, "I love Jacob and refuse Esau," before

either boy was borned. Romans 8 says so. That's exactly right.

109 God knows what's in man. And He knows what's in the church, too. We live by the Bread of Life, the Bread of Word of God. Now, that's why we're not a denomination.

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Denomination?*

Rev. William Marrion Branham

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