

Altar Calls

I SAMUEL 1:9-10

9. *So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD.*

10. *And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.*

DESPERATIONS [63-0901E]

...Hannah; she stepped right through the whole crowd and **went to the altar.**

ISAIAH 56:7

7. *Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.*

MARK 11:17

17. *And he taught, saying unto them, Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? but ye have made it a den of thieves.*

LUKE 18:9-10

9. *And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:*

10. *Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.*

A TRUE SIGN THAT'S OVERLOOKED [61-1112]

I've always been against an altar call. Might as well say it. I don't believe in them. There's no such a thing in the Bible. How can any man come 'less God calls him? You couldn't keep him away. You don't have to call anything if God's called him. Altar call's a Methodist idea. That's right. Altar call... They get a hold of them, say, "John, you know, your mother died a long time ago..."

"Oh, boo hoo; yes, brother; hoo hoo." That's not conversion.

Here a few nights ago we had a--a display in Louisville of a woman brought in in a casket, laid upon the platform of the armory. "Hundreds of people," said, "run to the altar." The Gospel's not a scare. It's not a sympathetic feeling; it's a conversion of conviction.

PERFECT STRENGTH BY PERFECT WEAKNESS [61-1119]

Altar calls are when people come up and try to persuade and pull people, "Come on, John. You know, they... Your mother died, praying for you. Come on, John." That's not conviction, friends. No.

THE GREATEST BATTLE EVER FOUGHT [62-0311]

So many people, lots of times, has misconstrued the Word. And I've been misunderstood by this, by making altar calls. I said, "I wasn't much on an altar call," **not meaning that you shouldn't make an altar call.**

But somebody get somebody by the arm, say, "Oh, Brother John, you know what? Me and you been neighbors all this time. Come up here at the altar, get down." What's he doing? Wish I had a blackboard here, I could show you what he's doing. He is trying to work through his soul, on affections. That don't work. That's not the avenue. Certainly, it isn't.

Maybe he's working in (the what?) a memory, through the sense of his soul. "Oh, Brother John, you had a wonderful mother. She died a long time ago." A memory! See? You can't do that. It's got to come down the line of free moral agency. You, yourself, let the Word of God... You don't come because your mother was a good woman. You don't come because you're a good neighbor. You come because that God calls you to come, and you accept Him on the basis of His Word.

EARNESTLY CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH [53-0614A]

But what's the matter today, you've took the altar out of the church, and put it down in the basement. And the only fire you got on the--left, is in the basement. Hallelujah. What we need's an old upper room experience, where God pours out His Holy Ghost power and fire, like He did in the beginning.

THE RESURRECTION [53-1205]

We used to have a mourner's bench. You took that down in the basement. We don't use it no more. That's the truth. And we... All the fire we ever had on the altar, we put it in the stove. What we need today...

You say, "Well, Brother Branham, I'm afraid you'll get a little fanaticism, a little wild fire." I'd rather have a little wild fire than no fire at all.

LOVE [56-0726]

And just as I was leaving, and Billy and them taking me from the platform, all of a sudden, I snapped right back and feel better than I do right now. And that's how I made the altar call.

God, perhaps, I pray that He has--has done something for me in that line, that I can make my altar calls afterwards, because after all, **that's what the meeting is for, is to make altar calls.** Amen.

WHY [60-0309]

I know it's right, and **I do believe in altar calls,** people come up and confessing and so forth like that.

EXPECTANCY [52-0817A]

Something happened in this meeting that's never happened before in my--any of my meetings. **Right while the Angel of the Lord was a dealing with the people, He stopped and said, "Make an altar call."** And I heard Brother Baxter, my brother who's a genius at that, give an altar call the night before--or I believe, maybe the same night. I-I don't know when it was. But I just walked in, and Billy had come out and met me and took me around to the room. And when I heard him make an altar call, and I walked out and about five people stood to accept Christ, and then right in the time, at that time where the Lord was moving out over the audience, then **He stopped me and said, "Make an altar call."** And thirty some odd came.

EL SHADDAI [60-0802]

Now, to you that raised your hand, will you come stand here just a moment? Surely, **God stopped me in my message tonight, and said, "Make that altar call."**

LEADERSHIP [65-1207]

The old-fashioned altar calls, they're out of style today, but **God still moves in them.** Can't you feel It moving on you, church?

GOD HIDING HIMSELF IN SIMPLICITY [63-0317M]

It's looking over the altar, and He's expecting you here, sinner. He will be looking down upon you. Later they'll have a little light setting here that when the altar call is being made, a light will flash on to that...

LOOK [63-0428]

If you would like to come forward to the altar, to stand for prayer, if you haven't received the Holy Spirit; haven't met these qualifications, of the book of Acts, that Peter spoke of, and you would like to meet them this morning. While we sing one more verse, I would like to invite you, come stand at the altar for prayer.

JESUS CHRIST THE SAME YESTERDAY TODAY AND FOREVER [63-0604]

Now, if that is the truth, every sinner ought to find himself here at the altar, a place here, and ask forgiveness of sin.

GREATER THAN SOLOMON IS HERE [63-0605]

You who want Him as your Saviour, come forward now in Jesus' Name. Walk forward now and stand up around the altar here for prayer, just at this time.

GREATER THAN SOLOMON IS HERE [63-0605]

Why did He tell me, right in the middle of that healing service? Why did He tell me in that healing service, "*Call the people to the altar*"? It may be somebody's last chance. I don't know. Only thing I know, is, obey the Spirit.

BE NOT AFRAID [63-0607]

Today, we can't stay at the altar five minutes. Something is wrong. What's the matter?

BE NOT AFRAID [63-0607]

God, send us a revival before we perish. That's right. We need an old-fashion, God-sent, soul-stirring revival, yes, find Christ back among us, find Christ in the old-fashion altars and meetings that we used to have years ago.

BE NOT AFRAID [63-0607]

Now, while they're laying hands upon the sick, if there's a sinner, or a person that wants to be saved, that wants to come up around the altar now, next, rise right up and come forward now.

THE FLASHING RED LIGHT [63-0623E]

Satan... I was just fixing to make the altar call, and that's just when he wants to show himself. So did you ever notice when you start to make a altar call, even little babies will start screaming, and things like that? That's Satan. You who are spiritual understand.

THE INDICTMENT [63-0707M]

Now there is no room to bring people around an altar. Let your seat, where you're at, be an altar.

INFLUENCE [63-0803E]

...we have been praying for the sick, but I'm making an altar call. I'm making an altar call to both professors and those who have never made a profession.

ONCE MORE [63-0804A]

Let me tell you something. You had better destroy your enemy before your enemy destroys you. That's right. Bring back the old-fashion prayer meetings, the real godly repentance, the all-night altar service.

GO WAKE JESUS [63-1103]

And if you're not a child of God, will you walk up here at the altar while the Holy Ghost is anointing me and anointing these others, and let us pray for you?

GO WAKE JESUS [63-1103]

You never see me have a healing service, then turn right back around and make an altar call. See? But the Holy Spirit said, "Do it." See? "Do it right now. This is the time. You do it." I thought... I turned over to Brother Mack. He said, "You do it." Here they are, seven, the complete number. May be their last call, but they've heeded. They've done just exactly what God told them to do.

GO WAKE JESUS [63-1103]

...some, spiritually dying, they rushed to the altar. The Angels of Heaven are rejoicing, according to the Word of God, "The lost has returned."

SOULS THAT ARE IN PRISON NOW [63-1110M]

...if you've got any darkness on your life, won't you come right here around the altar now, while we continue to sing. Right now, if there is a worry, if there is a spot, don't put it off any longer.

SOULS THAT ARE IN PRISON NOW [63-1110M]

Altars and aisles, and everything, are filled now. If you can't get around a altar or aisles, anywhere amongst these hundreds here; just stand up, if you say, "I want to stand and pray, just the people might know," or kneel, whatever you want to. Oh, my! Now you can't hardly see anyone sitting down. It's people standing everywhere.

THE WORLD IS AGAIN FALLING APART [63-1127]

Won't you come now and stand right here for prayer? You that desire to, would walk right up around the altar, just a moment, while we keep our heads bowed.

THE WORLD IS AGAIN FALLING APART [63-1127]

May there come **the Power of God**, that's brought them up around this altar, may It come to them in the resurrection of Christ, and will give to them that great Eternal Life that they are seeking for.

THE TOKEN [63-1128E]

To come to the altar with a dry-eyed confession is a tradition. You should die there to your Sacrifice, as you identify yourself that you are dead. Amen. Buried in Christ, the-- the world is dead behind you. And you're to walk in a new life with Christ Jesus

INFLUENCE [63-1130B]

O God! If the church, if the people that calls themselves Christians, could only see this today, and would drive them to the altar somewhere to pray.

CHURCH ORDER [63-1226]

He would be defeating His Own purpose, if He's trying to get a line of thought to you, to the congregation, to make an altar call and something butt in.

CHURCH ORDER [63-1226]

...lay that Word in there just as the Holy Ghost gives it to you, see, just like that, just place it right in there the way He says do it, see, under the anointing.

Then take your altar call, say, "If anyone here in this church that would like to accept Christ as Saviour, we're asking you, inviting you to the altar right now, just stand to your feet." See?

GOD'S PROVIDED WAY FOR THIS DAY [64-0206E]

What they need is an old-fashion prayer altar where they pray through, until using themselves, come in God's provided way, till they free themselves from the world.

GOD'S PROVIDED WAY FOR THIS DAY [64-0206E]

A birth is a mess. So is the new Birth! It'll make you do things you didn't think you would do. It'll make you get down at the altar and cry, scream, wash the paint off your face, raise your hands, praise God, speak in tongues, and all kinds of things. The new Birth will do that because it's God's provided way to be borned again.

THE TOKEN [64-0208]

Will you come up. And just every person that's not a Christian, come up here and stand here at the altar, just a moment. That's good. The Lord bless you, my brother. The Lord bless you, sister. Come right up around the altar here.

THE TOKEN [64-0208]

Won't you come, stand around, anyone else would like to come at this time? The altar is still open. They might not... It might be too late, after a while.

WHEN THEIR EYES WERE OPENED THEY KNEW HIM [64-0212]

Heavenly Father, this is the results of the meeting. Here comes sinners, fifteen or twenty of them gathered around the altar, wanting to give their hearts to You. I pray, Father, that You will receive them...

INFLUENCES [64-0215]

You that don't know Christ as your Saviour, you're invited now to the altar, if He is speaking to your heart. I'm not very much on persuading. I think the Holy Spirit Itself does the persuading. But if you're here, and you're without Christ... Now remember, you will answer at the Day of the Judgment, for what you do with this tonight. See? Now if you want to come, I'm here to pray with you.

INFLUENCES [64-0215]

Now I'm going to tell you what you've done. You've done the horriblest thing you ever done. There is two or three hundred people here ought to be at the altar.

INFLUENCES [64-0215]

Now there's a group of you in here ought to be at this altar, seeking the Holy Ghost. That's THUS SAITH THE LORD. You see what I mean? Once more I'm going to make this call.

IDENTIFICATION [64-0216]

Now we haven't time for the altar call, but I want the altar call to be in your heart.

A GREATER THAN SOLOMON IS HERE NOW [64-0306]

I ain't going to call no prayer line, 'cause I'm going to make an altar call.

A TESTIMONY ON THE SEA [64-0307]

Listen! What we need is a revival, that sinners, looking upon Christ, repent, run to the altar with their hands up, screaming for mercy, and the whole church is a flame of fire, with the glory of God.

THE VOICE OF THE SIGN [64-0321E]

And then at any time, that anyone feels that--that they would like to come to the Lord Jesus, no matter what part of the service is going on, you come right then. Don't wait till the altar call is made. Don't wait till the invitation is given. You come right then, accept Christ, and come right up and confess Him right then. For that's our main objective of being here, is to see souls born into the Kingdom of God.

THE VOICE OF THE SIGN [64-0321E]

Someone wondered why I never made the altar call. **I wait till I'm led to make it.** See?

JEHOVAH JIREH PT2 [64-0403]

This is an altar call. Stand up. We have no altar to come to; your heart is the altar. Just pull back all the unbelief, and know that He's here now. Stand up on your feet, you who wants to accept Christ right now, in the Divine Presence that you feel, that's vindicated now.

JEHOVAH JIREH PT3 [64-0404]

I've went to places, even, and people who is supposed to be Spirit-filled people, and see altar calls made, and, why, you couldn't get people to go in with anybody, to pray with them. See, that shows it's Ichabod, "the Spirit of the Lord has departed." See? But when you see that zeal and Fire and longing, and long for human souls!

You notice, through the week, I've just took my time, and watched discernment and things like that, that the people would catch it and find out the Holy Spirit is near, then make that altar call. You ministers understand what I was doing? See, to make the altar call now when they was convinced, now hundreds of them are in there now to receive the Holy Ghost.

JEHOVAH JIREH PT3 [64-0404]

I believe God is going to do some great things tomorrow. I'm hoping He is. That's the reason I make altar calls, do everything I can, to find favor with Him.

THEN JESUS CAME AND CALLED [64-0417]

Tomorrow night is kind of a night we give for salvation, just to make stress on an altar call, stress on those to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

JESUS KEEPS ALL HIS APPOINTMENTS [64-0418E]

You know, I'm so surprised. My heart feels real funny. I thought, today, when I was praying... Had another message I was going to speak on. He told me to do that. He told me to say that. I thought every bobbed-haired woman would be standing here at that altar call. See, you just get so hard and so far away. See? You pass that line between that surging, see, not hearing the Word of God. I thought surely it would happen. But I guess maybe it's later than I really think. Remember, the blood is not upon my hands. I have not shunned to declare to you the Counsel of God, the way It is.

WHO IS JESUS? [64-0620B]

I like to see them get down there at the altar, and die, beat, and squall, and slobber.

A MAN RUNNING FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD [65-0217]

Like my little nephew, a while ago. About ten years now, he's went from pillar to post. Some morning he goes to this church, this Catholic church down here, and take this one because what some holy father he talks about over here, and some other over here, and some over here. What does it all amount to? See? And now he is still hungering and thirsting. I said, "You're place is at the altar down there, son." See?

There is no way of getting out of it. When God ever takes out after you, you just might as well give up and go on. That's all.

THIS DAY THIS SCRIPTURE IS FULFILLED [65-0219]

I talked to my nephew, a while ago, a little Catholic boy, that said, "Uncle Bill, I've run from pillar to post, going everywhere, trying to find something." Night after night, before this meeting started, he has been crying. And at nighttime, he's been dreaming dreams of coming in, running up to the altar, where preaching, and making a confession that he's been wrong.

A MAN RUNNING FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD [65-0217]

Dear God, we pray now that Your mercy and grace will be sent upon each and every one of us, Lord. We're here around the altar. Many could not come up; You'll meet them at their seats.

THE SEED IS NOT HEIR WITH THE SHUCK [65-0218]

...have you come too soft for a prayer meeting? Have you come to a place that you're scared to stay over ten minutes at the altar?

THE EASTER SEAL [65-0410]

Coming to the altar won't make you believe. Shaking hands with the minister won't make you believe. But if you're called of God, and you're an eagle, to begin with, just a scream tells you. You'll believe. If you really believe it, I'm going to pray with you.

AND KNOWETH IT NOT [65-0815]

...people said, "Within six months, it'll be turned into a garage." But literally thousands of souls has found Christ here at the altar.

THE INVISIBLE UNION OF THE BRIDE OF CHRIST [65-1125]

I pray, dear God, that in every mission, everywhere around, and in across the world, that they will come to the altar...

THE INVISIBLE UNION OF THE BRIDE OF CHRIST [65-1125]

The altar is open. We're ready. Just come right up, out--out of your seat. Come right on up and kneel down here at the altar, this brother that's just come.

THE INVISIBLE UNION OF THE BRIDE OF CHRIST [65-1125]

Come on, people. Can't you feel Something tugging at you? I--I know there's many of you here that should be right here at the altar, and just this six or seven people here is not what is setting in here. Now, if you believe me and watch here at the platform, things happening, you believe me now. One day my voice will be stilled. You won't hear it no more. You might wish you would have come.

THE INVISIBLE UNION OF THE BRIDE OF CHRIST [65-1125]

I'm just going to wait, 'cause there's many, many, around the altar now. See? Maybe one of them, if I held just a little longer, there might be another one out there, might be somewhere in New York, it might be somewhere in Philadelphia, out in California, Arizona. Somewhere, there might be another one coming. Pastor, wherever you are, don't give the altar call up now.

THE INVISIBLE UNION OF THE BRIDE OF CHRIST [65-1125]

These, probably, Lord, has heard a many altar call. But You're still watering at It, Lord.

THINGS THAT ARE TO BE [65-1205]

Wasn't it a strange thing, the night that you staggered into the mission, the tent meeting, or the little church somewhere on the corner, and something the preacher preached on, a certain subject, and you just fell right at the altar? See? See? God knew that, before the foundation of the world. See? It--it seemed strange to you, why you did it then. But now you understand;

CHURCH AGE BOOK

Where are those vast numbers that keep coming to revivals and answer altar calls? Are not most of them merely emotional in their approach, or desirous of something physical rather than desiring that which is truly Spiritual? Is this age not like the day in which Noah entered the ark, and the door was shut, but yet God tarried in judgment seven days? No one was literally turned to God in those silent days.