

Choosing A Church

JOEL 3:14

14. *Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.*

ROMANS 8:14 *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

MATTHEW 6:21 *For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

ABRAHAM AND HIS SEED AFTER HIM [61-0423]

Oh, the ministers today are having such a time with the--getting their people out to prayer meeting on Wednesday night. They--they love television program, and--and they love amusements. Sunday... They don't want to come to church on Sunday, many of them. They tell me, the ministers, that the church pews are empty, emptying out, because that people are beginning to go... The world offers so much class, and so much fancy, and--and tinsel upon the things of the world, and the people fall for that.

Now, that shows that at the beginning, they had nothing to start with. For if you love God, I--you can't--you couldn't wire you away from church. They couldn't chain you away from it. They can't hide a believer from God. He... In his heart, oh, he might be all deceived.

Now, there's many people that actually think that they're right. But if they'd just stop and watch your life, you'd see they're--the Spirit of God isn't in there. If it doesn't cope with this Bible, then there's something wrong with the experience that you have. So you must come back and line up with the Word to see if the Life of God is in you. If you love the world better than you love prayer meeting, if you'd rather watch a television program than to pray, there's something wrong with you. If you'd rather take a Sunday afternoon ride instead of going to church, there's something wrong with you somewhere. "*Because where your heart is, there your treasures are also,*" said the Lord Jesus. Your heart is built into it. You're a part of it. You become a part of Christ, because you're built into the structure of Christ, because you're the Bride of Christ, if you love Him.

THE CHOOSING OF A BRIDE [65-0429E]

There's another choice that we have in life, that's, a life's companion. A young man or young woman, stepping out on life, has--has been given a right to make a choice. The young man chooses. The young woman has a right to accept or reject it. But it's still a choice, on both sides. Both man and woman, they have a right to choice.

THE CHOOSING OF A BRIDE [65-0429E] And if we would study what we're doing when we're going to get married, when we choose our wife, our husband, if we'd study it over! **A man should pray earnestly, for he could ruin his entire life.** Remember, the vow is "*until death do we part,*" and he could ruin his life by making the wrong choice.

THE CHOOSING OF A BRIDE [65-0429E]

The same applies by choosing a church. Now, **you must pray over the church that you are fellowshipping in.** Remember, churches carry a spirit.

GOD KEEPS HIS WORD PT1 [57-0306]

And I've went into meetings. I want to ask you something. You go into a meeting, a pastor that jerks his head, watch every one of the congregation jerk their head. You go to a--a meeting that a pastor's a real wildfire... run-about, you watch every one of the congregation act the same way. But you go into a place where a pastor's a solid Gospel teacher, all hell will never move that church. That's right.

FAITH IS OUR VICTORY [58-1004]

God wants to mold and make us what He wants us to be. But how can we do that, or how can God do that, when we won't even stand still for Him to do it. We want to be our own master. We want to think our own way of thinking. And many people come into the church, and join the church, and put their name on the book, and doesn't even consider what that church believes, or check up with that church, how they preach the Word of God, or whether they stand for the full Gospel or not, or just pick out a portion and add a creed, floating, drifting, and never be able to amount to anything.

MAKING THE VALLEY FULL OF DITCHES [56-0728]

You know, here some time ago I heard of a church up in the northern part of Indiana was making their choice for a pastor. And the whole bunch of them, almost a hundred percent, unanimously voted on a guy because of his looks, great, big, fine-looking young man.

And I asked an old grandma lady; I said, "How did you vote in that case?"

"I seen them give the brother a Bible that day when they brought him into the church, and give him the privileges of being their pastor." And I said, "I always said he was such a handsome looking fellow."

I said, "But that's not all of it, sister. The thing of it is, what does he preach? What does he feed with? Does he feed with some kind of little revelation program? Does he talk about roses and flowers, or who's going to be the next president, or some baseball game, or some fish fry, or party? Or does he preach the Word of God and stand on It, firmly?" Yes, sir.

I CORINTHIANS 3:4-7

4. *For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?*
5. *Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?*
6. *I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.*
7. *So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.*

THE CHOOSING OF A BRIDE [65-0429E]

So, if I was choosing a church, I'd choose a genuine, fundamental, Full Gospel, Bible church, I was choosing one to put my family in.

I SAMUEL 22:2a

2a. *And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him;*

PROVERBS 29:18a

18a. *Where there is no vision, the people perish:*

JOHN 13:35

35. *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*

THE WAY TO HAVE FELLOWSHIP [55-1009]

I would rather have a church that knows nothing about any spiritual gift, and just be so in love with each other and with Christ, I'd rather have that than every spiritual gift operating in the church.

THE WAY TO HAVE FELLOWSHIP [55-1009]

That's right. And if you had perfect love you'd have perfect gifts. That's right. So work first with **love**. That **brings fellowship, and fellowship brings gifts**.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PT2 [54-0103E]

...may you so live that you'll become so burdened--may God put on you people so burdened for lost souls till you can't sleep day nor night. May God grant this Branham Tabernacle that privilege of becoming so burdened. I don't care if you never shout, if you never do anything else, if you're just so burdened for lost souls till you can't sleep. When you do that, the world will be slipping in here to be prayed for (That's right.), the world coming to be prayed for.