

## **This day this Scripture is fulfilled.**

It is not often that people are aware of Scripture being fulfilled. Yet when confronted with such fulfilment, I wonder how many would accept it? Undoubtedly FEW, because God brings it about in such simplicity that it is hidden from the eyes of the “wise and prudent,” as the Bible says. Two instances of Scripture being fulfilled, one from the life of Christ, and one occurring two thousand years later in the life of William Branham, though vital to mankind, have been overlooked by most.

The date was January 24, 1965; the place Phoenix, Arizona. The time was in the morning, and Brother Branham was to speak at a Full Gospel Businessmen’s Fellowship International Convention sponsored by Brother Carl Williams. The message Brother Branham preached that morning was entitled “*Birth Pains*”. A few days before his wife had given him a new Bible, one exactly like the one he had used preaching the Gospel all over the world. On this morning he had brought this new Bible with him to service. As a result a scene would unfold that would exactly compare with Scripture.

When he came to the pulpit that morning, after addressing the audience, he opened the new Bible to his text and began reading the portion of Scripture where it speaks about the end of time and the things coming upon the world like a woman in travail. He read down to the bottom of the page and, as he turned the page, two of those new pages stuck together so that the verse he desired to read to continue the text was hidden between the pages. He was puzzled because the other chapter began the page in exactly the correct verse number that he was looking for, and yet as he read, he found that the Scripture verses didn’t correspond.

This experience is recorded on the tape “*Birth Pains*” where he can be heard asking the ministers on the platform whether this is not the correct place for the verse, whether it is not to be found in such-and-such a place. As he turned the pages back and forth, not realising that they were stuck together, a Chaldean Priest, Bishop Stanley, Archbishop of the Metropolitan United States for the Chaldean Catholic Church, also at the convention as a speaker, was sitting on the platform, watching Brother Branham. Bishop Stanley was dressed in his

priestly clothes with his red vesture. He walked up to Brother Branham and said, *"Be steady, my son, for God has a purpose in this. Here, use my Bible."* Brother Branham took the Bible from the Priest, read the text that he had been unable to find, closed the Bible, and handed it back to the Priest, and continued his message.

He spoke that morning on the "block busters" of World War 2, and the trench warfare of World War 1, showing that these things were all "birth pains", like a woman in travail. He showed this to be the judgements of God, the *"beginning of the days of sorrows,"* and that the world couldn't stand another war. He mentioned the Atomic bomb that had fallen on Hiroshima, and the world-destroying power that men have today, clearly relating it to the time spoken in the Scriptures as the *"beginning of the days of sorrow."* In short he proclaimed judgement on the world.

That night, as he journeyed back to his home in Tucson, he had stopped at a restaurant for something for the children when the Spirit of the Lord came upon him and showed him a striking parallel to his experience of that morning. He was referred to a time (in Scripture) when Jesus Christ had preached at the synagogue in Nazareth, as recorded in Luke 4:17-19:

*17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,  
18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,  
19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.*

Isaiah was prophesying of someone to come whom the Spirit of the Lord would anoint to preach the Gospel to the poor (not necessarily those in natural poverty, but to the poor in spirit who would realize that they would have to depend on the Grace of God and the shed blood of Jesus Christ). These poor then, were those who would realise that it was not by the shedding of the blood of bulls and goats, but it was by the price of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. There was to be a message of Good News, a new Gospel brought to these people who were poor in spirit; And He would not turn them away, for they would be helpless without Him.

This new Gospel would come also to the brokenhearted, the unsatisfied whose

hearts would break within them because religion itself had become a *"form of godliness"* without power. He would preach deliverance to the captives (captivated by systems) who could not even see that they were in bondage. *"Rich and in need of nothing,"* yet they would be *"miserable, poor, naked, and blind,"* as the Bible warns. Their blindness was spiritual, and they had need of eye salve to let them see the plan of Salvation. Jesus was to open these spiritual eyes, to give them real eyes that they might see what God was doing on this earth. Also He was to set at liberty those who were bruised - put out because they were spiritually sensitive and beaten down by organised religion. (As it came to pass, wanting only to obey God, if they didn't do exactly what the Pharisees said, they were put out.) In short Isaiah spoke of the coming Messiah.

The parallel that Brother Branham was shown is found in this - Jesus read the verses from Isaiah 61 and read only as far as *"...preach the acceptable year of the Lord."* Then He closed the book, gave it again to the priest and sat down. The Bible says, *"And the eyes of them that were in the synagogue were fastened on Him."* Then Jesus made the outstanding statement, *"This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears."*

In John 3:34 it is written...

*"For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him."*

Thus John the Baptist bore record that the Spirit of God was upon this One, Jesus Christ, who did the things that the Messiah was supposed to do. He preached the Gospel to the poor and the brokenhearted. He brought deliverance to the captives. He gave sight to the blind. People feared the miracles and said, *"Surely God hath visited His people, for He hath sent us a mighty prophet."* Some said, *"If this be not the Christ, when He does come, will He do more miracles than this one did?"* Scripture was being fulfilled. Jesus even sat in the synagogue and told the most religious people present on earth that *"This day this Scripture is being fulfilled in your ears."* But they didn't realise it. He was anointed by the Spirit of God, doing what the prophet Isaiah had foretold. He declared the *"acceptable year of the Lord."* At that time, the Jews could have accepted the Messiah, but they refused Him.

NOW, NOTICE what we have already pointed out, Jesus closed the book. He did not finish reading Isaiah 61:2. He stopped in the middle of the verse. He left out the portion that states... *"...and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all*

*that mourn;*" WHY did He leave it out? Because it applies to His Second Coming.

Now, then, to those who have not yet realised the parallel of this event to what happened in Phoenix: There had been a man sent from God, in whom the Spirit of the Lord dwelled, and the second portion of Isaiah 61:2, was fulfilled in Phoenix, Arizona, on January 24, 1965, when this Prophet of God, with the spirit of Elijah, DID EXACTLY what Isaiah had prophesied that he would do - he declared the "*day of vengeance of our God*" when he preached 'judgement on this world' in his sermon entitled "Birth Pains". Just as it was in the days of Jesus, when He stood in the synagogue and "*the Priest handed Him the Bible*", and He handed it back saying "*This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears*," and they didn't know what He was talking about. So it was in this century, in this generation. The "*Day of vengeance of our God*" was declared by a prophet of God upon this earth, and the 'religious people' failed to see it. He did also "*comfort all that mourn*," for he said there was a way of deliverance: "*Come out of her my people and be ye separate.*"

The Prophet returned to Phoenix the next day (January 25, 1965), and preached this Revelation he had been given by the Spirit of God. That evening his message was entitled "*This day this Scripture is fulfilled*". A few days later he came back to Tucson, walked up into the mountains near Finger Rock, and an amber-colored cloud, shaped like a great umbrella descended from the Heavens and 'three' times lowered itself over the mountain while Brother Branham was praying up near the peak. School children were even let out of school to watch this phenomenon.

As Moses came down off the mountain, so this Prophet came down with a special permission in his heart from God to be preached to his church in Jeffersonville, Indiana - the Mystery of Marriage and Divorce.

The truth was revealed with special instructions (like Paul in his day) for those whose lives had been entangled in times past through ignorance of the Truth. The recorded or printed sermon on *Marriage and Divorce* may be obtained from the Voice of God Recordings - their address is located in the William Branham Home page.

When Brother Branham was a boy, he saw a vision of the Lord Jesus Christ in a field near his home. A school auditorium was later built on that same site. In February of 1965, before preaching the message "*Marriage and Divorce*", he

preached in this school auditorium a detailed sermon entitled "*This day this Scripture is fulfilled*". (The crowd was so large that he had to stand sideways to an audience in the auditorium and sideways to one in the gymnasium). The place where he stood to preach (on the platform) was at about the same height and location where he had seen the Lord Jesus in a vision. There he stood in February, 1965, in the same position he had seen Jesus years before and preached the message "*This day this Scripture Is Fulfilled*". He declared that God had sent the Spirit upon him and that he had preached deliverance to the blind; he had brought freedom and liberty to those who were in captivity; he had given a message of hope and mercy and Grace to the poor in spirit, and he had proclaimed "*The Day of Vengeance of our God*" upon this earth. *This day this Scripture is fulfilled.*

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