DEWITT TABERNACLE TEACHING SERIES

NOTE: Please study this sermon in connection with our previous sermons on THE BOOK OF REVELATION. The study is a continued series of sermons. This sermon takes up where the September 2007 sermon ends.

Just what did it mean to our precious Brother, when he came face to face with his own Theophany? Can we see that if there had been any doubts in his mind concerning his Eternal destination, that seeing himself in a Supernatural Body would have erased these doubts forever? I do not say the doubts were there. but we can know that this was God's own confirmation to His Prophet that he was an eternal being. What would it mean to you and me, if we should suddenly meet a supernatural angel that bore the image of our own physical body? We do understand that all Bride members have a Theophany, and we take that by faith, but what if God would show our other body to us? Can we understand why Br. Branham said, "Oh, you don't know what this has meant to me?"

As we finish our reading of the second chapter of Revelation, we see the angelic body of Brother William Branham giving to John the Revelator, a Message to be written down for all seven of the Church Age Messengers, as they would appear on Earth in their respective ages. You and I are now living in the time when all seven of these Messengers have appeared on Earth and preached their Messages. This includes the Seventh Messenger, the Prophet, William Branham, whose work it was to bring out all the mysteries that had previously been hidden under Seven Seals God's

CONTINUATION OF "THE BOOK OF REVELATION AS REVEALED TO THE PROPHET WILLIAM BRANHAM" (NO. 4)

By C.W. Wood

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method of doing this was to send the Theophany Body of each Church Age Messenger, one day at a time, to minister to Brother Branham in the little room at Jeffersonville. After each visit, he would preach what had been revealed to him by the Angel that day.

These Angels that appeared to the Prophet in the room were the same ones who had come down with the Lord Jesus on Sunset Mountain. Their voices to the Prophet in the room were the Seven Thunders uttering their voices. In all truth, it was God, Himself, making love to His Bride by sharing the deep secrets of the universe with her. Sad to say, all will not believe His voice that came through the Prophet. Not only is the Lord, Himself. grieved by their refusal, but His Bride shares His grief. How oft would we burn the midnight oil to share what has been revealed, but many will not hear. Matt. 13:15, "For this peoples heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their hearts, and should be converted, and I should heal them." What a powerful and glorious truth to know that any person who desires to know our Lord Jesus may come to Him and yes, be His chosen Bride! This, dear Friends, is the Gospel in all its purity and simplicity. Praise His Holy Name!

In studying about the Seven Messengers who were to receive the Seven Messages given to John the Revelator, our Prophet, William Branham was given the revelation of who these seven men were. Through the study of past Church history, God revealed to Br. Branham who the man was for each Church Age. It was the one who most closely followed God in that particular Age, and who was the most used of God. After the Messenger for the First Church Age was established, the Apostle Paul, then in each age afterwards it was the man whose ministry most closely followed Paul's. By this method, the names of the seven were revealed to Br. Branham as follows:

The Second Church Age - Irenaeus.

The Third Church Age -Martin.
The Fourth Church Age Columba.

The Fifth Church Age - Martin Luther.

The Sixth Church Age - John Wesley.

And last, The Seventh Church Age - Our Prophet, William Branham.

The First Messenger, Paul, was a Major Prophet, as well as the Last

Messenger, <u>Br. William Branham</u>. Those in between were *Reformers*, but greatly used of God.

In studying Rev. 2 and Rev. 3, we see another very needful Revelation. In the Message that was given to each Angel Messenger for the people of his age, we notice that the promises made to those of each Age were to the OVERCOMERS. This being true, it behooves us to know what our God considers to be an overcomer! Perhaps some are overcomers who do not realize it and need to be encouraged.

An overcomer is not one whose faith has raised him to a level where he no longer experiences failures. Neither is it one who has been able to keep God's Holy Law Standard perfectly! Only One did that, the Lord Jesus Christ, who was our Perfect Sacrifice. Overcomers are not people who never feel discouraged. They feel the fiery darts of the enemy the same as others, but they resist the lies of Satan with, "It is written." An overcomer is one who has the Holy Ghost in him who causes him to stand back up after each failure, receiving forgiveness, and continuing on the path of duty. An overcomer is one who understands that he has been chosen of God to suffer blow after blow in his flesh body, so as to end up crucified with his Lord, even as the Apostle Paul.

As Paul was assigned a Devil to buffet him, so has all Bride members been assigned one. Overcomers understand that it was God who assigned him and not Lucifer! Therefore, they know that all things work together for their good, and they rule Satan out of their lives, as far as him being able to hinder them in any way. They know that a life that is, by faith, turned over to their God, cannot be disrupted by the enemy. They have had a revelation that our God is using the enemy to *perfect*

His Bride. An over-comer knows that Satan is no longer a free-moral agent, having lost his power to choose when he was put out of Heaven. We know that Satan can only move as he is ordered by our Lord. This knowledge removes all fear of him from their hearts. They need have no fear at all as long as they maintain their obedience to the Lord. Even when they fail, all that is required is repentance, receiving forgiveness by faith, and then moving forward again.

And it is to this group of people in every age that God made His promises. Not a perfect people in their flesh, but a people with a perfect attitude of heart toward their Lord. God looketh on the heart and judges us by what is there. The Prophet declared that God watches the heart, even as the Scripture says.

In Revelation 4, John the Revelator saw, "A door opened in Heaven, and the first Voice he heard was as it were of a Trumpet talking with me, which said, "Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter." As he looked, John saw a Throne set in Heaven, and One sat on the Throne." It was the Lord Himself that John saw. Verse 4, "And round about the Throne was four and twenty seats, and upon the seats I saw four and twenty Elders sitting, clothed in white rainment, and they had on their heads crowns of gold."

We will pause here to point out a very interesting Revelation. When John saw these Twenty-four Elders, he was actually seeing himself in his Theophany Body! The twenty-four persons that he saw were the twelve Old Testament Patriarchs and the twelve New Testament Apostles, therefore, when he looked in Heaven, he was seeing himself as one of the twenty-four persons. We bring this out to show that it was not

unscriptural when our Prophet, William Branham, saw himself on Sunset Mountain! The Seventh Angel, the one who came to him and picked him up, was his own Theophany Body. Brother Branham told us that at Rapture Time, our guardian angel, our Theophany Body, will come down and pick us up. The two bodies will merge together and form the third body, which will be the Glorified Body, the one we will spend Eternity in.

In Rev. 4:5, there is another Revelation that needs our attention. "... and there were Seven Lamps of fire burning before the Throne, which are the seven Spirits of God." Bible scholars know that our God is not a seven-spirited God. He is One Spirit, One Person who operates in three offices. Eph. 4:4-5, "There is one body and one spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling. One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all and in all." Many scriptures teach One God, One Person in the God-head. So, who are these Seven-Spirits before the Throne of God? Only living creatures have spirits. They are typed in the Old Testament by the Seven Lamps on the Candlestick (Ex. 37:17-23).

I pray that by now we understand that the Seven Angels that came down on Sunset Mountain with the Lord Jesus Christ were Theophany Bodies of the Seven Church Age Messengers. Now I would like to show that the Seven Spirits before the Throne (Rev. 1:4) and the Seven Lights on the candlesticks (Rev. 1:12) and the Seven Stars (Rev. 1:6) and the Seven Church Age Messengers are all the same! In Rev. 4:5, the Seven Lamps of Fire were burning BEFORE the Throne, or that is to say in front of the Throne. But Christ, who is God, sat on the Throne. So we have eight

Persons in all, One <u>on</u> the Throne and seven others *before* the Throne.

OUOTE: THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST, PAGE 667, "Now, "The Voice of the Throne." Notice in this Throne, "before the Throne was seven stars," the Voice of the stars. "Voices," you see. There was more in Revelation 4 here, or 5, we find out, "And out of the Throne proceeded lightning, thunders, and voices," Not one voice: "voices," plural. What is it? God speaking to the church, reflecting Himself through the seven Spirits. When the true anointed of God speaks, it's the Voice of God! To reject It is to remove the candlestick. See? "Voices," the Voice of the Seven Church Ages (over here in the corner), the voices speaking with thunder and lightning." (End auote)

QUOTE: THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST, PAGE 672, "Thrones. lightnings....What? "Seven Lamps," or lamps, or seven stars, called "seven Spirits," meaning the mani....seven manifestations of the Holy Spirit of the Seven Church Ages at the Seven Seats of Mercy for the people. Here they are: seven seats, seven churches, seven stars, seven manifestations, seven Spirits, Seven Lamps. Oh, my, how God is so perfect" (End quote)

Saying the Seven Lamps and the Seven Spirits or Seven Messengers are one and the same!

Notice in this statement, the Prophet said, "What is it? God speaking to the Church, reflecting Himself through the Seven Spirits. The Seven Spirits were the seven Theophany Bodies of the Seven Church Age Messengers. Brother Branham said, "When the true anointed of God speaks, it's the Voice of God." Then he said, "It's the Voice of the Seven Church Ages." (The voices of the Seven Church Age Messengers)

QUOTE: THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST, PAGE 668, "Now, "Voices," the voices of the seven trumpets, there was voices of the seven stars, seven messengers. But now watch here: (He is going to show us that the center stem of the lamp stand was also a Messenger.)

"...and Seven Lamps.. before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God."

"Seven Lamps." Let's draw a little bit here, the Throne, the holy place, the congregation. And right here was (one, two, three, four, five, six, seven) seven stars, Seven Lamps, seven messengers, seven Spirits; not altogether meaning that God is in seven Spirits, but "seven manifestations of the same Holy Spirit."

Where's the Holy Spirit? Here at the Throne, shining out in each church age. This church age is reflecting back this a-way, the voices of God, Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever. See, seven, there was "voices" "And Seven Lamps on fire," seven Spirits, "which are the seven Spirits of God." (End quote)

Notice how the Prophet ties the Seven Stars, and the Seven Lamps, and the Seven Messengers, and the Seven Spirits all together. Notice that there were Seven Lamps that represented the Seven Church Age Messengers. In other words, the Seven Candlesticks represented Seven Messengers, not just Six Messengers and Christ as the center stem! No! There were Seven Messengers and then Christ on the Throne. We have eight persons represented here. Seven Messengers in the lampstand, with the center stem also being a Messenger, a major prophet, and then Christ is on the Throne. It's a matter of simple arithmetic – seven plus one equals eight!

I said we would tie the Seven Spirits together with the Seven Candlesticks, and we know that the Seven Spirits were the Seven Church Age Messengers, but more than that, we will also tie the Seven Stars mentioned in Rev. 1:16, together with the candlesticks and the Seven Spirits. They are all the same. Now, the Revelation that this writer believes he is seeing is that the main stem of the candlestick is not Jesus Christ as we have previously thought, but rather it represents the major Prophet, Br. William Branham. Before you trash this sermon, please let me explain. I have no thought of trying to take away from Jesus Christ, nor of making Br. Branham deity. Please give me credit for knowing better than that.

It does not take any great mindshaking Revelation to see that the seven lighted candlesticks represent the Seven Church Age Messengers. The Prophet clearly taught this truth, and we can read in the Word itself, that the Seven Stars are the angels of the Seven Churches (Rev. 1:20)! If it be true that the Seven Stars, the Seven Spirits, and the Seven Church Age Messengers are all the same, then to say that Jesus is the center stem of the lamp stand would only leave six church age messengers, but we know that there were seven.

In Rev. 25:37, we read, "And thou shalt make the Seven Lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it."

Please notice here in the Scripture that they were to "light the Seven Lamps!" Now if Jesus was the center stem of the lamp stand, then He did not need to be lighted. He was already "The Light of the World!" But truth is, there were Seven Lamps that needed to be lit, and they represent the Seven

Church Age Messengers, not just six of them!

Let's read Ex. 37:17-23, "And he made the candlestick [of] pure gold: [of] beaten work made he the candlestick; his shaft, and his branch, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, were of the same:

- 18 And six branches going out of the sides thereof; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side thereof, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side thereof:
- 19 Three bowls made after the fashion of almonds in one branch, a knop and a flower; and three bowls made like almonds in another branch, a knop and a flower: so throughout the six branches going out of the candlestick.
- 20 And in the candlestick [were] four bowls made like almonds, his knops, and his flowers:
- 21 And a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches going out of it.
- 22 Their knops and their branches were of the same: all of it [was] one beaten work [of] pure gold.
- 23 And he made his Seven Lamps, and his snuffers, and his snuffers, and his snuffdishes, [of] pure gold."

Notice in these verses, the Scripture mentions <u>six branches</u>, three out of each side of the lamp, and those <u>six needed to be lit</u>, but so did the center one need to be lit.

Six plus one makes Seven Lamps of fire. There had to be seven fires burning on the lamp stand to be a proper type of the Seven Church Age Messengers. Now, let me quote a Scripture that tells us that the Seven Lamps of fire, burning before the Throne, were the Seven Spirits of God. And we already know that the Seven Spirits of God represented the Seven Church Age Messengers.

Rev. 4:5, "And out of the throne preceded lightnings, and thunderings and voices: and there were Seven Lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the Seven Spirits of God (or the Seven Church Age Messengers)." Can we see it? If the Seven Lamps of fire were the seven Spirits of God (which we know were the Seven Church Age Messengers, then Jesus was not one of the seven! He was much higher than the Messengers He sent. He was already the Light of the World!

One last Scripture to show that if Jesus was the center stem of the lamp stand, then He would not have needed to be lit, but the Scripture says all seven of the lamps needed to be lit.

Num. 8:1-3, "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,

- 2 Speak unto Aaron, and say unto him, When thou lightest the lamps, the Seven Lamps shall give light over against the candlestick.
- 3 And Aaron did so; he lighted the lamps thereof over against the candlestick, as the Lord commanded Moses."

We will repeat the statement of the Prophet on page 668 of THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST. It is very important to the teaching on the Lamp-stand. He says the Seven Lamps of fire are the same as the Seven Church Age Messengers

QUOTE: THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST, PAGE 668, "Seven Lamps." Let's draw a little bit here, the Throne, the holy place, the congregation. And right *here* was (one, two, three, four, five, six, seven) seven stars, Seven Lamps, seven messengers, seven Spirits; not altogether meaning that God is in seven Spirits, but "seven manifestations of the same Holy Spirit."

Where's the Holy Spirit? Here at the Throne, shining out in each church age. *This* church age is reflecting back this a-way, the voices of God, Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever. See, seven, there was "voices." And Seven Lamps on fire," seven Spirits, "which are the seven Spirits of God." (End quote)

The Seven Spirits of God are the Seven Lamps of Fire or the Seven Church Age Messengers

Why preach this Revelation when we know it will be very controversial among Message Believers? Are we trying to stir up strife? No! Our motive is to show how great in God's mind is His Prophet William Branham! It is to cause us to pay close attention to his message, knowing he was the main stem of the lamp stand who would tie all the loose ends together, as he received the revelation from God! As the Prophet once said, "Study hard before you reject the teaching." Amen!

VISIT OUR WEB SITE (COURTESY OF BR. J.T. HISE): www.dewitttabernacle.org.

OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS:

DEWITT-TABERNACLE@centurytel.net

OUR MAILING ADDRESS: 103 WEST 6TH ST. – DEWITT, AR

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