

*We will start our sermon with a key statement from Br. Branham. In it, he tells us where we came from!*

**QUOTE: UNFAILING REALITIES OF THE LIVING GOD, 1960, PAGE 30,** *“Let me say one more thing. Creeds does not satisfy a hungry heart. Creeds won’t satisfy. If a man is hungry for God, you tell him, say, “Say the Apostle’s Creed, join the church. Put your name on here, be sprinkled or immersed, or whatever you want to, that will never satisfy a hungry soul. Cause, they were predestinated, of God to search for Life. They was once the angels, they was once an angel who did not fall. Two-thirds (Br. Branham misquoted the Bible verse. It actually says one-third) of the angels of Heaven fell (; that’s these evil spirits working amongst people, very religious. You know the Bible says that. You was just not all always right here. You were once somewhere else.*

*Remember, sin didn’t begin on Earth. Sin begin in Heaven, when Lucifer taken and made it. He said, “I want a denomination, make a great big thing,” went on the North Country and set up a bigger thing than Michael had. And he was kicked out of Heaven.*

*And those angels back there, them spirits. Well, that’s the reason, “When this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting.” See? And that’s the reason, “Our name was put on the Lamb’s Book of Life before the foundation of the world.” “All the Father has given Me, will come to Me.”(End of quote)*

*This sermon was first published in 1995, and because of its importance, it is being republished. May God open our eyes to see!* **Br. C.W. Wood**

God’s prophet, William Branham, taught the complete secret of our Christian lives: where we came from, our complete journey through life and death, and where we go back to when we die. The Church hasn’t known these things since Paul’s day and after

## “THE END FROM THE BEGINNING” (Where We Came from and Where We are Going)

By C.W. Wood

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the Dark Ages, but now they are made known again to the last day Bride. One of the greatest mysteries on Earth has to do with “Who we are and where we came from.” The Bride of Jesus Christ is in spiritual union with God. They are a part of Him. This truth is set forth in the Scriptures over and over. **“At that day you shall know that I am in My Father, and you in me, and I in you.”** (John 14:20) How plainly did the Holy Ghost say that Jesus, and us, and the Father, are all one. This is not just a saying; it is an actual fact of God’s Holy Word, as we will show by the Scriptures and by the Prophet’s Message. There is a definite relationship between the Elect Bride and God Almighty. This truth, in its full revelation, is indeed a great mystery.

The relationship is that of a father to his children and children to their father. Eph. 5:30-32 says it this way, **“For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the Church.”** We are actually members of His Body, we came out from His Body, and the Scripture says so. 1 Cor. 6-17, **“For he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.”** One spirit with God Himself; born-again people are one in spirit with God. The flesh is not one with Him, but the Holy Ghost Spirit, inside the flesh, is one with Him.

### GOD HAS A BODY

The Bible and the Prophet teach that God was not only a spirit, but that He also had a body that He used when He chose to appear to men. We need to see this Image, or Body, in Scripture,

because the Bible says we were first made in His Image. Before God put us here in flesh bodies, He had already created us in another body like unto His own glorious Body. Gen. 1:27, **“So God created man in His own Image, in the Image of God created He them.”** Then after God had created man (Adam and all other predestinated seed)—in a body like His own, there was still no man to till the soil. Gen. 2:5, **“...and there was no man to till the ground.”** So, we have the creation of man first in a Body like God’s own Body, and this first creation had no need to plow the ground. The Elect’s first created body was not a flesh body!

**QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 339-340,** “When God made man He made him a Theophany...when God made man in His image, in His likeness there was no man yet to till the soil, and God had done made them male and female. That’s right, no man to till the soil.” (End of quote)

We said we wanted to see God’s Theophany Body in Scripture, because we were first created in a body like His own Body. God was not only a Spirit, but He had a spiritual body in which He appeared to men. Let’s look at this spiritual Body of God in the Bible. Before God came down and was made flesh in the womb of Mary, and before the Holy Ghost came to live in the hearts of men, the Bible teaches that God came down in some kind of a body and walked and talked with men. Our Prophet said that the Body that God appeared to Abraham in was a Theophany.

**QUOTE: IF GOD BE WITH US, PAGE 10,** “It was God, it was a

Theophany. A man in the form of God, like appeared to Abraham back in the wilderness, and He looked like a man. (End of quote) Gen. 3:8 tells us that in Eden, before Adam sinned, God walked and talked with them. He must have been in His Theophany Body.

In Gen. 5:24 we read, "**And Enoch walked with God.**" He received plans for the great Pyramid, which project remains a mystery until today. In Gen. 6:9, Noah walked with God and received a detailed blue-print for the Ark. In Gen. 18:1, God walked up to Abraham's tent door. He ate bread and meat and drank milk.

God came to these men in a body that looked like a man. "**And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh to his friend.**" (Ex. 33:11) In Ex. 33:23 Moses saw the hinder part of God and it looked like a man. In Gen. 14:18, Melchizedek came to Abraham and served him communion, and Brother Branham said this man was God.

### THE BRIDE HAS A BODY LIKE GOD

God in a Theophany body. The great point is this, God is not only a Spirit, but He has an Image, a Body that He uses when it pleases Him, and the Bible says we were first made in His own likeness and in His own Image. (Gen. 1:26-27)

The definition of "image" is "a likeness or a copy of the original." This being true, then all Elect were first created in the same kind of body that God uses when He appears unto men. God has a Theophany Body, and so do all Elect have a Theophany Body.

Let's read this in the Word. II Cor. 5:1, "**For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved we have a building of God, a house (body) not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.**" This house in the heavens is a Spoken Word Body, we are Spoken Word Seed.

Let's let the Prophet confirm this. QUOTE: GOD'S ONLY PROVIDED WAY OF WORSHIP. PAGE 14, "...and we've got to have everything in three's to make perfection. And there

is one body here, then that body there, which is the Celestial (heavenly) then the glorified body in the Resurrection. That makes it complete. It's not a myth, it's not just an idea, it's not just a spirit, it is a man or woman like you are, just exactly. (End of quote)

### Bride's Theophany – Their Guardian Angel

He said that there is a part of us in Heaven now, in that other dimension, in a Theophany Body. Brother Branham indicated that our other body is actually our Guardian Angel. We will quote Matt 18:10, and then give Brother Branham's statement concerning this Scripture. Jesus said, "**Take heed that you despise not one of these little ones, for I say unto you that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father which is in heaven.**"

QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE, 560, "If you will notice in Mat. 18:10, He said their angels do always behold My Father's face. In other words, their angelic bodies that they will go to if they die." (End of quote) we read this in II Cor. 5:1, "**If our earthly house be dissolved we have one waiting....**"

### THERE ARE TWO OF US

The Prophet taught that a part of our supernatural being (Theophany) was placed in flesh, but that we are not just altogether flesh, a part of us remained in the Theophany.

QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 340, "Notice now, when man was separated from the Theophany and put in flesh, he wasn't just altogether there (in flesh). Part of his being was still a Theophany..." (End of quote)

QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 341, "We are both natural and supernatural." (End of quote)

The Prophet saying there are two of us. Let's read this in Scripture. I Cor. 15:44, "**There is a natural body and there is (now) a spiritual body.**" So, Brother Branham is teaching that God created Adam first in a Theophany, and not just Adam but all predestinated people, then God took part of Adam, and us, and placed us in a clay body.

Does the Scripture teach this? Heb. 2:10-14, "**For it became Him, for whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the Captain of their salvation perfect thru sufferings.**" God was going to put His Son's in flesh bodies, then bring them to glory after they overcame.

Heb. 2:11, "**For both He that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one. For which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren.**"

### WE CAME FROM A HIGHER BEING

Now notice Heb. 2:14, it tells us that the children, who were once in Heaven with Father, in a Theophany, were made to partake of flesh and blood. "**Forasmuch then as the children are partakes of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same...**"

The children of God, who had been in Heaven with God, had a part of themselves put on Earth in a clay body to be tested and tried. So the children, who were first in Heaven with God, were made to be partakers of flesh and blood.

QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 20-23, "He made the man and the woman before they was ever formed out of the dust of the earth. And then God made man not in His own Image. This body (of flesh) is not in the Image of God, this body is in the Image of beasts. Jesus told His Disciples that He knew them before the foundation of the world, before the world was ever formed." (End of quote)

Here Brother Branham makes reference to John 15:26-27, "...and you shall also bear witness because you have been with Me from the beginning." In referring to this Scripture, again Brother Branham said, QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 344, "...That's the way we are here, we came from a higher being. (A Theophany) In the beginning we were in the Image of God. The veil of darkness keeps us from knowing it now, but Jesus told His Disciples He was with them before

the foundation of the world, see! We were. **“...and if this earthly tabernacle be dissolved we have one already waiting.”** Then we move into this Theophany, what we once lived in.” (End of quote)

In this house of flesh there lives a part of our Theophany Body, and that Theophany Body of ours is pure sons and daughters of God, created without hands, crated by God’s spoken word.

### DID WE BYPASS OUR THEOPHANY?

Some teach that we bypassed our Theophany and that we haven’t lived in it yet. No doubt they base their teaching on a statement Brother Branham made in “Who is this Melchizedek” where he said, “See, we have by-passed that (heavenly body) to come straight from God. The attribute (we are His attribute)...to be flesh, to be tempted and tested by sin, like Adam was. But when testing time is over, then we are taken up to this body that was prepared for us before the foundation of the world.” (End of quote)

But when we put this statement with the one in the C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 344, where he said, “We move into the Theophany we once lived in” then we see that he only meant that we bypassed our Theophany in that we did not stay in it. A careful study of the Prophet’s Message can leave no doubt about his doctrine concerning our first creation in a spiritual body, before we ever appeared on Earth in flesh.

QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 342, “Well my dear sainted Brother, my dear sainted Sister, before the foundation of the world, when God created you in His Image...He made you a Theophany just like Himself. When He said, “Let us” to the creatures He made, let us make man in our own Image, in our likeness, a Theophany. (End of quote)

QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 23, “Man was first made in the Image of God, then he was made in the Image of beast and he fell.” (End of quote)

QUOTE: WHO IS THIS MELCHISEDEC, PAGE 17, “If we had come that (in that Theophany) – there

would have been no temptation, we would have known all things.” (End of quote)

### Guardian Angels

Brother Branham also indicated that the Theophany bodies of the Bride are one and the same with their guardian angels. They are actually supernatural angels that are encamped round about those that fear Him.

QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 1155, “Now there is an angel (of the Lord) but these angels of the Lord that are encamped about those that fear Him (implying they are different). Now this is pretty deep. It isn’t promised that sinners have angels, did you know that? It’s so perfect; it will prove predestination to you.” (End of quote)

Here he said the predestinated have angels, or other bodies (Theophanies) – and that their angels are different from the Angel of the Lord. The predestinated people of God have angels, which are their Theophany bodies, and they encamp around their clay bodies to constantly guard them.

Heb. 1:13-14 confirms this, **“But to which of the angels said He at any time, sit on my Right Hand until I make thine enemies thy footstool. Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?”**

Brother Branham confirms this again in the C.O.D. BOOK PAGE 1156 as follows. A person asks the question, “Explain each person’s angel who abides with them from birth?” Answer – “That’s it; it is the spiritual body of the people.” (Saying it is their angel).

As we gather the evidence which the Prophet taught and take it to the Word, we see that we were first in Heaven with our Lord, created in a body like His own. Then it came time for the part of His plan to be fulfilled that placed us on Earth in flesh. We were happy and eternally satisfied where we were, and it was not our thought to live in flesh. But, we were made to do so by our Creator, for reasons of His own. Rom. 8:20, **“For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason (or for the reasons) of Him who has subjected**

**the same in hope.”** Then because God subjected His Sons to life in a flesh body, He came and lived in one also. Heb. 2:14, **“For as much then as the children are partakes of flesh and blood, He also Himself took part of the same.”** He was born of a virgin into a flesh body, so He could live a sin-free life and redeem us by the sacrifice of that precious life. He knew Adam would fall (and we also) but He had no intention of leaving us in our fallen state. His plan from the beginning was to save us from vanity, and put us back in the body that we once lived in. our flesh is a veil for now, that keeps us from remembering where we came from, and also keeps us from seeing our Theophany that is never far from us.

QUOTE: HEBREW BOOK, PAGE 263, “The veil is the flesh. The veil is what keeps us from seeing God face to face in this Church. The veil is what keeps us from seeing the angels at their position this morning, standing by the seats. The angels of the Lord are encamped around about them who fear Him. We are in the presence of God all the time. The Word says, **“I will not leave you nor forsake you.”** By our faith we know He is watching us. He is here now.” (God in the form of the people’s Theophany) (End of quote)

We are speaking about Identification. Who are we? We are the clay (flesh) part of a supernatural being that was created by God before the world was. No wonder the Scripture says, **“We are one with Him.”** (John 17:11). No wonder it says **“we are joint heirs”** (Rom. 8:17) and **“Flesh of His flesh and bone of His bone.”** (Eph. 5:30) No wonder the Bible says, **“He is the vine and we are the branches.”** (John 15:5) It is also no wonder that the text says, **“We are accepted in the Beloved.”** (Eph. 1:6) How correct Jesus was when He said, **“I am in you and you are in Me.”** (John 14:20)

We are children of God, having come out of Him, just as earthly children have come out of their natural parents. Earthly parents are only a type of the Bride coming out of the Heavenly Father, in a spiritual sense.

## A PROPHET VISITS JOHN ON PATMOS

If we can accept this Word thus far, that all Bride existed in a supernatural body before the world was, than let us go a step further. We would have to believe that our prophet is Bride, and that he had a Theophany body 2000 years ago, when John the Revelator was on the Isle of Patmos to receive the Book of Revelation. Rev. 1:1 tells us that an angel gave the revelations to John. In years past we have supposed that this was a Heavenly angel. This supposing was because we did not have full revelation on other Scripture pertaining to this mysterious subject. When we read Rev. 19:9-10, we see that John tried to worship the angel that was showing him all the revelations, but He was corrected by the angel who said, **"I am thy fellow servant and of thy brethren, worship God."** But John was so overcome by the presence of this supernatural being that he tried the second time to worship Him, and was told in Rev. 22:9, **"See thou do it not....for I am of thy brethren the prophets."**

There it is, the angel who gave John the Book of Revelations was a prophet. In teaching on this, Brother Branham said in, QUOTE: REVELATION OF Jesus Christ, PAGE 25, "And it was sent and signified by His angel unto John. We do not know who the angel was. The Bible doesn't say who the angel was, but we know it was a prophet, then we find out later when John started to worship the angel, the angel said, **"See thou do it not," Rev. 22:9**, and he said, **"for I am of thy fellow servants the prophets."**

CONT. QUOTE: "It might have been Elijah; it might have been one of the prophets. John was an Apostle, but this prophet was sent. Look at the nature of all the rest of the Epistles. That proves it wasn't John (who wrote Revelations) because it has no nature like John. John was a writer, but this is the spirit of a prophet." (End of quote)

The Bible says that the Word of the Lord must come through a prophet (Amos 3:9). Even John on Patmos had to receive the revealed Word from a

God-sent Prophet. When we consider who the End-time Prophet was, who was to tie all the loose ends together, and reveal all the mysteries, we can know that it was to happen when the Angel of Rev. 10:7 began to sound (preach). Can we believe that this Prophet that came to John on Patmos was William Branham, in his Theophany Body, 2000 years before he ever appeared on Earth in flesh? Brother Branham saw his own Theophany on Sunset Mountain when the Seven Angels came down. We know from his teaching that these angels were the Seven Church Age Messengers, come down in their Theophany Bodies to reveal the Seven Thunders. We also know that Brother Branham was one of these seven. It seems very clear to this writer that Brother Branham was telling us, in some statements he made, who this Seventh Angel was.

QUOTE: SEVENTH SEAL BOOK, PAGE 560, "And did you notice that one angel? I said in there he was a strange angel. He looked more to me than any of the rest of them. He was brighter, he looked more to me than any of the rest of them. It picked me up, lifted me up. Do you remember that?" (End of quote)

QUOTE: SEVENTH SEAL BOOK, PAGE 565, "Remember, the Seventh Messenger was the noted one to me. The Seventh Angel, it seemed more to me than any."

QUOTE: SEVENTH SEAL BOOK, PAGE 578, "Another thing I want you to notice, what took place. And if you are listening to the tape "What Time is it Sirs" you will notice that one angel was very notable to me. The rest of them just seemed ordinarily, but this angel was a noted angel." (End of quote)

And so, the Seventh Angel that came down on Sunset Mountain was actually the Theophany Body of William Branham, who was also standing there in his flesh body. We are saying that William Branham, standing in his flesh body, saw William Branham in his Theophany body. If this is true, then it would have to fit the Scriptures.

In Rev. 4:4, we read, **"And round about the Throne were four and twenty seats, and upon the seats I saw four and twenty Elders sitting, clothed in white raiment, and they had on their heads crowns of gold."**

We know that twelve of these Elders were the twelve Old Testament Patriarchs, and twelve were the New Testament Apostles. Therefore, when John the Revelator looked and saw twenty-four Elders, he was looking at his own Theophany Body as one of the twenty-four. And so, as we study the End-Time Message, we see where we came from, who we are, and where we go back to when we die.

QUOTE: WHO IS THIS MELCHIZEDEK? PAGE 22, "Notice again, Melchizedek went to meet Abraham before he got back home. What a beautiful type we have here, Melchizedek meeting Abraham before he got back home, after the battle. We meet Jesus in the air before we get home! That's right! II Thessalonians tells us that, for we meet Him in the air. A beautiful type of Rebecca meeting Isaac in the field, in the cool of the day. We meet him in the air, II Thess. tells us so, **"For we which are alive and remain shall not prevent, or hinder, those which are asleep, for the trumpet of God shall sound, the dead in Christ shall rise first, and we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them, to meet the Lord in the air."** Perfect! All these types."

CONTINUE QUOTE: "Therefore the Theophany, if you have died and entered into that Theophany, what happens? The Theophany comes to Earth to pick up the redeemed body. And if you're here in the air (alive to meet Him in the air) you take the body to meet the Theophany, there you are, and (we are) caught up to meet the Lord in the air....Now we see here plainly the complete secret of our lives in journey, and death, and where we go after we die. Also, predestination is in plain view here." (End of quote)