

PERSONAL NOTE:

Dear Faithful Readers,

It's time again to send you a personal greeting and to remind myself, and you, that it's through your faithful support that we continue to put out these monthly sermons. Many of you go beyond the call of duty to help us keep writing and printing. I know you everyone by name and so does the Lord. We are now in our 19th year of trying to publish one sermon a month to be mailed to the Bride around the world. We would not dare to say that we understand everything that the Prophet taught perfectly, only that we have tried to keep an open mind, so that if we get something wrong, our Lord can correct us. May He deliver us at all times from a know-it-all spirit! Br. Branham spoke of three Exodus's. Number one was when Moses brought the Israelites out of Egypt. Number two was when Christ brought the Church out from under Judaism and the letter of the Law. Number three was when the Holy Ghost separated the Bride from the Church Natural. This writer believes that we are now seeing what could be called the fourth Exodus, as God is separating His Bride from some of the Message believing people. The Prophet said the road to the Rapture would continue to get more and more narrow all the way to the Rapture! It is not the work of any man to do this separating; only God, Himself through His Word, can be safely trusted to do this. We might pull up some wheat thinking it was a weed! Therefore, we cling to the written Word, for it is a life or death matter. And our faith is that when we do get wrong, a mer-

“FREE MORAL AGENCY” ELECTION AND PREDESTINATION

By C.W. Wood

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ciful God will shine His Light into a mind that will remain open. Balance in the Scriptures is the key to revelation. All Word must be made to fit together. We should never claim a revelation unless all the Word can be made to jive with it. Most all false doctrine comes from separating certain scriptures from other Scripture. The Prophet said a true revelation will fit the Word from Genesis to Revelation. Enough said. This note is to tell you that we love each one of you and thank you, and pray for you every day. We truly hope to see you soon.

Br. C.W. Wood

This sermon is about Election and Predestination! We have titled it Free Moral Agency because our God-given right and ability to choose our own destiny has, as its foundation our free moral agency! In talking with and writing with some of my good Brothers, I see a need to share my own thoughts concerning Election, for what ever good they may be! I do respect their beliefs, and give them the right to them. At the same time, I respectfully ask for the right to preach it the way I see it. Then when our hearts are right before God, He will bring us to His Light on the subject.

Now, since this sermon is meant for the Bride of Christ (They are

the only ones who will receive it), we will be giving not only Scripture for our belief, but also the statements of a God-sent Prophet, whose Message the Bride believes!

There is some differing of opinions in the Bride People, concerning Election, but I want to say that this difference, of itself, does not disqualify any of us from being Bride! So, rest assured that we are not trying to put anyone out of the circle. We will follow Br. Branham's advice and only draw a bigger circle!

Our subject is so vast that we can only scratch the surface of it in one short sermon, but we have other sermons on it. Libraries contain volumes of books on Election and Predestination, and I have by no means studied even a small percent of what is written, but I have for many years studied what a God-sent Prophet taught on the subject. It is his revelations that I wish to share with the Bride! We will first look to the Scriptures to see that God did not create anything or anyone that was not good in the beginning! In Gen. 1:10,12, 18, 21, and 25, God pronounced what He was creating good! Then He created man in His own Image (Gen. 1:27) and in Gen. 1:31, He said, **“Behold, it is all very good.”**

We take this statement of God to mean man also! All men were created good, but on down the

road, some of them became evil. Even Lucifer himself, who later was called "The Evil One and The Devil" was created perfect, and later was lifted up because of his own beauty and became evil!

In Ezk. 28:1-15, the Bible speaks of his perfection and then his fall from it.

Ezk 28:14-18, "Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

15 Thou was perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.

17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

18 Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffic; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee."

This Word of God should stop all speculation about how we were all created! If the Devil himself was created perfect, then we can know that all men were created perfect, and then some of them fell! These scriptures say that Lucifer defiled himself. God did not create him that way.

The point that we wish to make with our readers is that God did not create anyone, in the beginning, without a free will to choose their own destiny. God did not create any robots that had no will, or choice, of their own! None of us were puppets who were to be controlled by strings from above!

It is Holy Ghost enlightened horse-sense to understand that God could not receive any glory at all from robots or puppets that He, Himself, controlled! He wanted a people for His Bride who could and would, of their own free will, go with Him as His Bride!

You may say to me that Rebecca, in Gen. 24, who married Isaac, was chosen of God to be his Bride. And, this is the truth, but remember, dear Friend, that Rebecca had to say, "Yes, I will go to Isaac!" The servant did not take her against her will. In the final wind up, she had to say yes, even though she had been chosen by God.

This type then balances out the teaching of Election. God chooses His Bride, but then the Bride must say yes. And by foreknowledge He knew who was who! (Rom. 8:29) Rebecca chose her own destiny, which is what we all must do. And in order to do so, we had to all be created with the ability to choose! Then, being made responsible for our own destiny, God saw to it that we would have to choose either good or evil, life or death! (Deut. 30: 15-20)

God could not create us so we had to sin and still be God! Prophet called this the great revelation, and it is. Many don't see it!

QUOTE: CHRIST IS THE MYSTERY OF GOD REVEALED, PAGE 26, "Now. Oh, the great revelation now! Now, to restore back His kinship. To bring back... Now, He had to let them get lost; you understand it? He had to let them

sin, put them on free. He could not make them sin and remain God and then punish them for something He made them do, but when He put man on partnership with Him, then let man act as a free-moral-agent... See? The same thing that He's got you on today. See? See? You act any way you want to; you're a free-moral-agent.

So therefore, if He put the first like that, He has to put the second like that. He has to put everyone like that—or He acted wrong in the first place See? And everybody is on that same basis." (End of quote)

QUOTE: PAUL A PRISONER, PAGE 7, "Now, we're all born a free-moral-agent to make any decisions we wish to. God justly does that, because He must put every man on the same basis, or He put the wrong man on—He put the first man on the wrong basis that He put on free-moral-agent.

See, we're just exactly tonight like Adam and Eve. There's no difference. Right or wrong sets before either one of us. Life and death—we can make our choice. It's up to you to make it. See? That's the way Adam and Eve did. You see, and they made the wrong choice.

And now by that—put the whole race—the human race under death, the penalty of death, and then God came down in a form of a man and took that death and paid the penalty of death that its subject that desired to be free could go free. Now if He took us without the same way that He did Adam and Eve—just pulled up through something and said I'll save you whether you want to be saved or not. Then He put Adams and Eve on the wrong basis, but each one of us has to choose this

day between death and life. We get to do it.” (End of quote)

Now, we want to show that free moral agency, or the right and the ability to choose started in Heaven! In Gen. 1:27, we are told that, **“God created man in His own Image, in the Image of God created He Him, male and female created He them.”**

Our Prophet said that our first creation was in a body that he called a Theophany, and He also said that God has a Theophany, like He appeared to Abraham in, and ate a meal with him. This is the Scripture, as found in II Cor. 5:1-4. The Bride has a body in the Heavens, like God’s own theophany body. 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. This is a key statement that unlocks some deep mysteries for the Bride.

QUOTE: “UNFAILING REALITIES OF THE LIVING GOD 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 Apostles’ 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 (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 ways 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.”**

Scripture for this above quote is Rev. 12:4. It is speaking of the Great Red Dragon, the Devil.

Rev. 12:4, **“And his tail drew the third part of the stars of Heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.”** These stars were angels that were created good, but fell and followed Lucifer.

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)

Notice the Prophet’s teaching here! He said, “We were not just a thought in

God’s mind, but we were a man or a woman like we are here! While we were yet in Heaven, in our theophany bodies, God allowed us to be presented with a choice! This is because He could receive no glory for Himself if He had created us as robots or puppets! But we used our own free-will (free-moral-agency) to choose to stay with our Creator, and this while we were still in Heaven in our Theophany.

He allowed the rebellious angel, Lucifer, to preach this message to God’s created angels that He had called “very good”! (Gen. 1:31)

You might ask why the scripture says, **“God created evil for the day of evil”** (Ps. 16:4). We have set forth the overall teaching of Scripture that shows that our God did not create any-one evil in the beginning! Then what does the Scripture in Pr. 16:4 mean that says God created evil? Remember, we must keep a balance in the Scriptures! So, what do we do when Scripture seems to contrast Scripture? That’s when it takes a revelation from God that shows us how to blend the two together! In this case the Scripture in Genesis says that all God created was, **“good, very good”**! But, in Pr. 16:4, it says God created evil! As always the revelation shows us how to blend the two sets of Scripture together. God only created evil in this sense, that He knew who would turn out to be evil, before He ever created them. He created them anyway, knowing how He would make them fit into His great overall plan! Not that He created them evil, only that He knew they would be!

Now, we will look at Rom. 9, and ask the Lord to help us understand it. The key to understanding Rom. 9 is found in verse 11, **“For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of Him that calleth.”** Notice! God was going to make a difference between the two sons of Isaac? And the difference

was not made because of anything they had done on Earth, because they had not even been born yet! But, they would be treated different because they had been elected to different positions! Now! Let's see what this election, or this choice by God, was based on!

Look at Rom. 8:29-30, "**For whom He did foreknow he also did predestinate to be conformed to the Image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.**"

Verse 30, "**Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called, and whom He called, them He also justified, and whom He justified them He also glorified.**"

So, we read in Scripture that Election was based on foreknowledge! Knowledge that God had about all people before He created any of us! He knew the end before we had our created bodies. Then He created us in our theophany bodies, knowing who would stay with Him in Heaven and who would follow a rebellious angel named Lucifer!

We will close with some statements of the Prophet, to back up what we have said! He clearly taught that God did not, just out of His own mind and because He was God and could do anything He wanted, send some men to Hell and some to Heaven. The Prophet taught that He had a reason for some being saved and some being lost!

QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 225-226, "For there are certain man

crept in unaware, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation....(How?)....turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness.

Ordained of old! Not that God set back on the throne, and said, "I'll save this man, I'll lose that man." That wasn't it! God died, and when Jesus died, the atonement covered the entire Earth for every person. But God, by foreknowledge. Not that He will. He's not willing that any should perish. He wanted everybody to be saved. That was His—that was His Eternal purpose. But if He was God, He knew who would and who would not be saved. If He didn't know, then He wasn't infinite God. So the Bible teaches that." (End of quote) Here the Prophet asked, "How were they ordained to condemnation?" Then he answered with the Scripture that says they turned down the Grace of God not that He chose them to be lost!

QUOTE: C.O.D. BOOK, PAGE 226, "Do you know what the word infinite means? Look at—look in the dictionary and find out what the word infinite means. Why, He knowed every flea that would ever be on the earth, every fly, every gnat, every germ. He knew it before they ever come into existence, or He wasn't God. Certainly He knew it. All right.

Then, in there, God could not—not say, "I'll take you, and send you to Hell; and I'll take you, and send you to Heaven. God wanted you both to go to Heaven. But, by foreknowledge, He

knew that one would be a shyster, and the other one would be a gentlemen and a Christian. See? Therefore He had to send Jesus to die, to save that man that He foreknew that wanted to be saved. Do you get it?"

To sum up Rom. 9, we see that down here on Earth, man had nothing at all to do with his Salvation. It was pure Grace here on Earth. But in Heaven, before we were put in flesh, we had to make a choice. It was set before us and we had to decide to either follow Lucifer, or stay with our Creator, God!

Can't we see that God would have warned those angels in Heaven against following Lucifer? We can know He warned them, the same as He warned Adam and Eve here on Earth, not to eat of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil."

And so, because some of the angels in Heaven stayed with their Creator, they were redeemable when He put them here on Earth in flesh! We could say it like this, we chose Him up there, and with that foreknowledge He put our names on the Book of Life never to be removed!

And He chose us here, to be saved out of our sinful flesh. Amen!

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