

Holiness Unto The Lord

A Matter Of Life Or Death

By Rev. George Leon Pike Sr.

Ministered at Love's Temple in Monroe, GA USA on September 23, 1981

EDITOR'S NOTE: We ask our readers to acknowledge that many illustrative statements within this discourse are not intended to represent verbatim quotations from the Holy Bible, but they are retained to preserve the anointing and originality of its delivery. Except for minor deletions, additions, and corrections, this is a transcription from an actual preaching service. These writings are published and distributed free of charge. For additional copies, write to the address below, stating how many copies you can wisely use.

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Introduction

Most likely, all of us have heard folks use the familiar expression, “It’s a matter of life and death!” Of course, we all realize that these terms are used specifically to express from one to another the urgency of their message.

Undoubtedly, there are very few people who really understand the real purpose of life, and neither do they comprehend the origin of death and its effect on mankind, nor its ultimate defeat. However, within the confines of these pages, Brother George L. Pike is sharing with you the unlocked mysteries of life and death, which have, for centuries, confounded all mankind. You will appreciate the anointed simplicity of expression that so exemplifies his writings.

We are personally aware of countless days and weeks of continual solitude, prayer, and communion with God that our author has diligently sought while on the evangelistic field, living by faith in God. His love for God’s Word is so fervent that he has read the Bible through numbers of times; in fact, he has stayed on his knees until he had read the entire New Testament through. Surely, such devotion and drive in consecration must culminate in inspirational writings such as these, which, we feel, represent the ultimate in divine expression of the truths which are embraced and veiled in the Holy Scriptures.

Brother George Pike has been preaching and teaching the Revelation of Jesus Christ for about thirty years, both across the United States and across the world. In fact, grateful people of many nations, kindreds, and tongues still testify continually of the profound effect on their lives that this ministry of revelation has made toward a full assurance of faith in Christ, and a more thorough understanding concerning the translation of the saints.

Read this book prayerfully, with an open heart, exploring the depths of its contents, and we promise you that your life will be changed gloriously, and your understanding will take on a new perspective in enlightenment.

A Matter Of Life Or Death

Proverbs, chapter twenty-eight says that the wicked flee when no man pursueth, but the righteous are as bold as a lion. You know that a man has really got something from God, because, if he's really right with God, he's as bold as a lion. You can't shake him or move him. You can't do anything to him. He's as bold as a lion. No matter what you say, he's not guilty of it. Therefore, he does not flinch in his spirit, his mind, or anything else because he knows that he's right with God, but you take a person that isn't right with God, or a guilty person that knows that they have committed a crime, though the police might not be within a mile of them, they have a guilty complex, and they are always running in their spirit. It's the same way with the wicked; the people that don't live right, that don't line up with God. If you don't line up with the mind of God and the ways of God, then the devil is right after you, just as hard as he can go, and you are always running. You're always torn up because you're under condemnation.

The wicked flee when nobody's after them. A guilty complex causes him to run, and he'll run until he runs his life away. You don't faze the righteous because they know that they have done no wrong; therefore, they don't have a guilty complex, and though you threaten them, it doesn't bother them because they know that you are lying. They know in their heart and they know what they have done.

So, it's a wonderful thing to be a Christian. There are some other thoughts here before we get to what we'd like to talk about. The Bible says that a continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike. As coals are to the burning coals and wood to a fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife. The words of a tale bearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly. A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back. A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pitchers of silver.

There are some wonderful things that are said in the Scriptures, and I know that you don't realize that this is the rapture taking place, and I know that no matter how much I tell you it is, you still are not going to realize it until your eyes come open and you see it for yourself. If you ever see it for yourself, nobody will ever have to try to convince you anymore, because there is no way you can deny it then, but if you don't understand, if you don't see, then you just don't see. The Bible teaches that a person cannot receive anything save it be given him of God, and I'm not scolding you or trying to upbraid you. I feel sorry for you. If a person doesn't understand, they just don't understand.

Now, it isn't because they cannot understand, in the sense that God gives them opportunity, but it is in the sense that they will not apply themselves. By foreknowledge, God saw from the foundation of the world that they would not apply themselves, though given the opportunity. Therefore, by predestination, they were cut off and cannot see and cannot come into the knowledge of God. So, I feel sorry for them. When you hear these things, don't just say that you've heard them before. You'd better listen real close, because this is the only life there is, and if you want eternal life, then the Word is eternal life, and you'd better take heed how that you hear it, and you'd better listen real close, because it's going to pass by you. A great man by the name of William Branham said that it'll go right through you and you won't get it. He said that this last move will go right through the church, and they'll never get it. And that's true. Only the elect will get it.

Folks, this is a matter of life and death. If you had something that you knew was a matter of life and death, you'd pay attention to it. You say that you pay attention, and I know that you come to church. I know you listen, but take my word, many of you are not paying attention. You are not getting it. You're not getting it at all. When it's over, it will be over. There won't be any going back. There won't be any seconds. When it's over, it will be over. I ask you to listen and to pay attention. I ask you to try. If you say you can't, then it is because you are not one of the predestinated. It's because you didn't want to. You didn't love God enough to make yourself really get down to business with God; therefore, you missed it in the foreknowledge. God saw that you would be that kind of person, that you would be gullible for the things of the world; haughty, not submissive, that you would not have a submissive spirit.

God doesn't look on you as a human being. He looks on you as a spirit, and from the foundation of the world He knew that you would be this kind of spirit, that your mind would be on the lust of the flesh, and on gossip, backbiting, passions, making money, or that you would be gullible toward convenience, self will, and the things of this world. Not as a human being, but as a spirit. You are a spirit in the sight of God. All people are as spirits. In heaven, (that means in the Spirit), in the mind of God, they are spirits. God doesn't see you as a human being. He says you will give an account to Him. Your spirit will give an account to God for every deed that it did while it tabernacled in this little human body.

So, you are a spirit, and God sees you as a spirit, whether you be a spirit of selfishness, a spirit of gluttony, a spirit of hatred, a spirit of lust, a spirit of malice, or a spirit of kindness, a spirit of meekness, a spirit of longsuffering, a spirit of gentleness, or whatever it might be. God sees you as a spirit. You are a spirit.

At death, the spirit goes back to God who gave it. When you've finished your mission in this world, all of a sudden, you depart the little house. You move out, and you go back to where you came from. Everything came from God. It goes back to God. Nobody can see it when it leaves the little tabernacle. Nobody sees it. It just moves out. All of a sudden, the little tabernacle is cold and still. It won't function anymore when the life, or the spirit, or the inner man, departs, in just a few hours, rigor mortis sets in and your joints lock up. If they put you in a casket and they don't get you soon enough, then they have to break your neck to make you fit the little pillow. They lay you on a marble slab to wash you down with the hose. They have a little pillow that looks like a dog bone that they lay your head on so you will freeze up in that position, so that when they put you in the casket, they can put a little pillow under your head. I know it doesn't sound very good, but the truth is the truth. The best way to understand is to know, and when they pick you up, you are so stiff, that sometimes they can pick you up by your heels and head and move you like a board and lay you over in the box. That's exciting, isn't it? But not to me. That's exciting to the spirit of death when it gets its prey, but that's not exciting to human beings. Though that will probably be the most comfortable place you will ever be in, still, it's not exciting, is it? But yet, that's where you are heading.

You may ask, why did I have to say all that? It is to let you know that this is a matter of life and death. If you don't get this, then you'll get that. If you could just go on your way, like people would like to do, and like devils and demons would like to do, and you never had to

worry, just eat, eat, eat, and eat and never gain weight, just eat and drink, then you would never quit! If you could just make money and make money, and spend and ride and never get tired, you would never quit. The devils and demons that drive you would never stop, but God has got certain things that become a bridle of control, so He can control and help you. One of these is that if you eat too much, you are going to get fat. If you get fat, you are going to get a heart condition and die. You are going to have all kinds of problems. Another one is that if you go too much and just ride and ride, you are going to get tired. He's got all kinds of things that will help you.

It's like when an infection gets into your body: a fever comes. Though we try to do away with the fever and we fight the fever and we get alarmed with the fever, yet the fever is nothing but, as we would say, the smoke alarm going off to let you know there's trouble. It's a warning, and to do away with the fever doesn't help the situation. You might keep it down to keep from damaging the brain, but really, the fever should be left there until you do away with the cause, because the cause, the infection, or whatever, is the problem. It works the same way in the Spirit. God has certain alarms to help you. You "fly off the handle" as somebody says, and get temperamental. Then you say that you're going to get rid of the temper. You'll never get rid of that temper, because that's just an alarm that's been set off by the devil you've got. You've got to get rid of the cause. Somebody might say, "Well, I just can't keep my mind straight. I just lust, and I'm not going to get rid of this." But that hungering thirst of lustful passions is just an alarm, that's all. You're not going to get rid of that until you get rid of the devil you've got. Do you understand what I'm saying? You've got to get rid of the cause. When you get rid of the cause, then you won't have anymore problems.

Somebody might say, "I've just got to lose some of this weight. I've just got to get rid of it. I'm going to jog some." But you're not going to get rid of that weight until you get rid of that devil of gluttony, that devil that likes to eat ice cream and crackers and drink cokes. Remember, man is made a little lower than the angels, which means it doesn't require as much inspiration for him as it does for an angel. An angel is on a higher plane of living, which means he requires more inspiration, because he's like a giant to a man. Therefore, when he comes into your body, he overcharges your body. If you didn't have a devil of gluttony, then you would just eat normally, and you would be a normal weight. But you get that devil of gluttony, especially in the day we are living in. As in the days of Noah, eating and drinking. That is your trouble. That devil has to have twice as much to satisfy him, so you become a giant.

It's the same way with lust. You can't be contented with one wife. You've got to have two wives, and then three wives, and on and on, because devils have to have twice the inspiration. So then, working in human bodies, they overcharge the passions, and soon you end up an insane patient. You end up mentally ill, because you have broken your nerve system down by violating the order of reproduction. You've torn it all down and wrecked your mind and nerves. You've wrecked your health. You've got some bad disease or something has set in on you.

Some people are doing one thing and some people are doing another. This is the problem. You're not going to get rid of that until you get rid of the devil. When you get the devil out of your life, you won't want to suck on a weed or chew cud. You won't want to run around after dope or drink a bottle of beer. When you get rid of the devil, the beer will just go down the drain. The cud will be left behind. It's the same way with baseball players. Baseball players are filled with devils. Football players are filled with devils. Lots of professional men in the professional world are filled with devils. Doctors, dentists, millionaires, and showmen have devils in them showing themselves off, and that devil is a parasite living their life, and they are giving their soul so that the human body can have a little glamour and a few dollars.

First, remember this: you will get up in the morning, and you'll be feeling fine. Then, in a little while, you'll feel sad. You'd like to commit suicide and you'd love to give it all up as a bad cause. Then you start feeling sorry for yourself, and you feel like an outcast and that nobody cares for you, and you're down in the dumps, as the world says. Now, what caused that? It was the devil. Devils and demons that are cut off from God are like floating clouds, floating through the air. Satan is the prince of those powers and you walk right into the fog. All of a sudden, you walk right into one of them and the first thing you know, that cloud has overshadowed your life and your mind, and like the chill of an early morning, you feel it all the way through you. The first thing you know, you are completely possessed by it, and you can't shake it loose. You just feel that everything is wrong. You don't feel that you can do anything. You're just in a terrible fix.

It's the same way with a spirit of lust. You're sober minded, and then, all of a sudden, it moves over you, and you are so lustful that you just can't contain yourself or your passions. You walked into that fog. It might be hatred. It might be bitterness. It might be murder, or it might be covetousness to want to make a million dollars, or to have a big business, or it might be a spirit that you walked into that wants to be a celebrity who wants to be famous and noticed, that wants to do something outstanding so that people will take notice to it. I could go on and on.

But, on the other hand, there are the other kind of clouds. You may walk into one that will make you happy, or make you joyful, or make you think about Jesus and make life seem worth living. You may walk into one that makes you feel loving and kind all over, or make you feel good and you'll just want to share and want to give, or want to labor that you might have to give, to do something to make money to be able to help the poor or the needy. You might walk into one that will make you feel so humble, like you are nothing, and your mind keeps thinking, "God is so great, and I'm just nothing."

Whereas, on the other hand, you might walk into one that makes you feel self-dependent, that you know everything and that you've got all the answers, that you're just as good as anybody else, that you've lived a good life and that you've overcome and there is nothing wrong with you, which is of the devil. You may walk into one like that and be vainly puffed up. You may walk into one that's charitable, and you'll feel sweet, tender, kind, loving, willing to help, willing to aid, willing to submit, willing to do anything; just a charitable spirit, willing to let people walk on you, just to please Jesus.

Well, on and on we could go because there are hundreds of thousands of spirits, legions of them. Sometimes a person may have five, ten, or fifteen spirits. One may have a spirit that wants to chew on cud and smoke, like the wrestler that came here. He had all kinds of

devils. He had a devil that wanted to wrestle with men. He had a devil that wanted to chew, and a devil that wanted to smoke cigars. He had a devil that wanted to frolic and a devil of passions. He was just bound with devils. He had all kinds of devils. Do you remember Mary Magdalene, and how many devils were in that one woman?

Some of you have got devils of temper, devils of deceit, devils of gossip, devils of back biting, devils of lust, devils of jealousy, devils of hatred, malice. All kinds of devils. But, the Bible teaches that the Lord sent His Word and cast out the devil. By His Word He cast out the unclean spirits. Now, I'm saying all this for a purpose. A person with discernment can discern devils. You can walk up close to a person that's got discernment and he'll catch your spirit, and in a little while, he'll discern what kind of devil you've got and how many you've got, if you stay around a while.

Notice this in the Scriptures: "Know ye not that as long as a woman's husband is alive that she is bound to the laws of her husband as long as he liveth." It says that if she be married to another, she shall be called an adulteress. A lot of people say, "Well, I married another, but I went and got forgiveness from God." No you didn't! It doesn't read like that. It says that as long as the husband liveth, if she be married to another she shall be called an adulteress. It doesn't matter how many times she goes and asks forgiveness. That doesn't have anything to do with it. The Word of God cannot be altered. It said, but if her husband dies, she doesn't have to ask forgiveness, she's free. She can go and be married to another. Now, why is that? One reason is this: if you are married to a person, you are one flesh. You are no longer twain, but you are one flesh. You are no longer twain, but you are one. Paul said this is the mystery concerning Jesus and the church. You are flesh of His flesh and bone of His bone. You are no longer twain, you are one when you are married. So, as long as that husband lives, you are his flesh and you are his bones, and until he dies you remain the flesh and bone of that man, and to go to another person is to be a harlot.

Now, let's look at it. He uses this illustration in connection with the church. Here you are, married to the law by your first birth. There's no way to get away from it. You are married to death, because the law brings the knowledge of sin and it brings death. We could say many things about it, but you are married to death. There is no way to get away from it. It's not because the law is evil, nor because the law is death, but because Lucifer is in your flesh from your first birth. I want to take time to break this down to where you can feed on it a while. How did he get in your flesh? Through your father Adam. Eve is the mother of all living. Adam is the father of all living in this sense. It is a proof that he is, because the Bible said that in Adam all die. All die in Adam. That means that nobody could die outside of Adam. Death must come through Adam. So then, when you are born into this world, you take on the blood life of Adam, in that blood life is death. How did death get in? It got in through the weakness of Eve, into Adam. The devil (the beast) enticed Eve. She, likewise, enticed Adam, and when the spirit entered into his blood stream, into his heart, it overpowered Adam's spirit. Adam, to that point, had never had a chance to develop a mind like you and I have, because to develop a mind like you and I have, you have to go through the process of life, of do's and don'ts, good and bad, hot and cold. He never had a chance to do that.

So then, the spirit entered into him, just like an innocent child. It became a mind. God knew this great mind of Lucifer was a god, because he was an angel and angels don't die. In heaven, you are equal to the angels. You cannot die; that is, when you get to be a quickening Spirit. So then, this god, or this angel Lucifer, which is a mind, is referred to as the tree of knowledge. Lucifer is referred to as the tree of knowledge. A little later down the trail you find Jesus hanging on a tree so that He can be referred to as the tree of life.

So, the mind of Lucifer went into Adam and it intermingled, or became interwoven with Adam's spirit, which is the life or the mind, and this life or mind fills all of the blood stream and your blood cells. Then, when reproduction took place, you were automatically born of that life and of that death that was in the life. What is death? Death is a knowledge. Death is a mind. If that isn't true, then why did Adam and Eve die when they got the knowledge of the tree of knowledge? Why did they die? And if Lucifer is not a god, why did Jesus say that now they've become as one of us, as a god, to know good and evil? Lucifer already knew because he had been cast out into the darkness. He had been made ruler of the darkness, which means the depraved side of life; that which is not of God. As a matter of fact, he was the beginning of that side of life. He was the beginning of darkness. He was the father of a lie. It all started with him. There was no such thing until he came.

But what is death? Death is a knowledge. Death is thoughts. It is thoughts that gender unbelief, that separate the soul or the spirit from its Creator. God created man. He breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul, and anything that will separate that soul or that breath of life from the great eternal Spirit is death. Death is a mind. Death is a knowledge. Death is thoughts.

What is life? Life is a mind. Life is a thought. Life is a spirit. What is the spirit of life? The Spirit of Christ. What is the mind of life, the thoughts of life? The mind of Christ. This is why Paul said to be ye therefore transformed, changing your thoughts from thought to thought, from glory to glory, from faith to faith, from thinking to thinking, from believing to believing, and as each thought is revealed, that is, as the nucleus is split, out comes the power of the nucleus, which is the inspiration which strikes your blood genetics through your innermost spiritual being, and changes you into an eternal body, a celestial state of being. This is what caused Moses' face to shine. This is what caused Brother Branham's face to shine. This is what caused Stephen's face to shine. His angelic being was so illuminated inwardly that it began to show through the veil. This is what Paul speaks of as the manifestation of the sons of God. This is what the rapture is. The rapture is not your body going up, like you see in Thessalonians, where you'll be caught away. You'll be caught away and you'll go up there. That's not what the Bible is trying to tell you. Your innermost being is to be caught away from this human body of lust, captivity, ego, ambition, and desire; caught away from this and moved into the body of Jesus Christ.

You are to be divorced from the first man Adam, which is under the control of the law. Let him die at Calvary. Bury him in the grave, and then you are to marry the second man Adam, He that is resurrected from the dead. The first man Adam denotes the tree of knowledge, going back to the law of Moses of the do's and don'ts, and sin gets its strength by that knowledge, and from that knowledge comes death. So then, if there was no knowledge of the law, there would be no death, because there would be no condemnation, and there would be

no unbelief. Unbelief comes from condemnation, and the condemnation comes from knowing your guilt, and knowing your guilt comes from what the law has told you concerning your sinful manner, your contrary way of life to God the eternal Spirit.

I teach the shadows, the types, and all of those things, walking through the valley of the shadow, in the time markers, in the time elements and the stars, the moon, and the sun, the trees and all of these things for one reason: within that type and that shadow there is a knowledge, there is an inspiration, and there is a revelation. God, who is a Spirit, has expressed Himself through the creation. The Bible teaches that the heavens express, or make known, God's handiwork. Everything is a type of something in the spiritual world. So then, all of the invisible mind of God, the things of God, the thoughts of God (since everything consists within His mind), all of those invisible things are made known to us by the act of creation.

All of the invisible things from the creation of the world, or the beginning of the creation, are clearly understood to our human understanding, or made known to it by the things which do appear. That is, if you can see the thing, discern it, know what it represents, know what it is the type of, then you'll find the mind of God. But you can never do that. You might illustrate and liken something unto something and think you've got a revelation, but you don't have a revelation. With your mind, you can never tell what anything means. It's impossible. But if the mind of Christ comes into you, and if it becomes interwoven with your mind, it will take everything in creation, everything that is in existence and break it down, piece by piece, and put it together, day after day, as you seek, search, and desire. It will put it together as a puzzle until you see the glorious mind of Almighty God. When you see that mind, it means that you have been completely transformed to where your mind is no more a mind of things, and of do's and don'ts, but your mind has become a mind of the invisible, unveiled, wonderful knowledge of the Almighty God.

Therefore, since your mind has become so, it means that your body cannot remain in the conditional state of existence where things are, in the sense of the act of creation. It means that your body must immediately go through a supernatural change, become celestial, and be changed to the same condition of your mind. And when your body does that, it means that all of your surroundings that you once had seen as things of tangible matter can never again be that. It automatically changes as the light comes forth. All of your environment changes to the celestial state of being, or state of affairs that you are to be related to throughout eternity.

Now, God knows that we are like babies, and knows that if this great light should appear (when you say light, you refer to knowledge; God, who is the great knowledge), that if this great knowledge or the mind of Christ appeared all at one time, it would, as the world says, blow our mind. It would wreck us. Thirty years ago, if this would have come forth, it would have wrecked people. They would have thought that they were insane.

Fifty years ago, if you talked about going to the moon, it didn't take long for you to wind up in the insane asylum, but we've moved into a different age now. God has revealed science (a typical thing of the mind of Christ), little by degree, year after year, day after day, and people have finally accepted it and developed into it. They've transformed into that world and that thinking, and if you try to talk to some of them in our day about some of the primitive things in the past, it just seems weird to them. They can't grasp the fact that anybody could have done that. But back there, you might say, somebody went across the desert, and down through those great rocky mountains for hundreds of miles, and they did it with just a horse and buggy. They would say, "I just can't get a hold of that. That just blows my mind! With Indians, snakes, bears, and everything there, I just don't see how they could have done it." For days and days, they had no income, no food, no nothing, but they did it. But if those people would have looked over there and had seen the Empire State Building, and these great bridges, and these great structures that are suspended by cables, and airplanes and jets and space ships, it would have blown their mind, as the world says. They would have said that it could never be.

But God has revealed Himself to us, proportionally, step by step, thought by thought, down through the church ages, a little at a time, so that He could develop and transformate our minds, change our minds, and get us out of this world and take us into another world. He cuts off this natural appetite and takes us into a spiritual appetite. He does away with these eyes in this world, to make us blind to the things of this world. He makes us dead, dumb and deaf to the things of this world, that we might be alive over there in that world.

He that seeketh to save his life here, to have his career, his education, his money, and all these kind of things, loses that life that is to come, because he is in that mind of carnality. To be carnally minded is death, because Lucifer got in through the natural mind and he loves the things of this world. He savors the things that be of the flesh. If you are like that, then you will die, because you don't have the mind of faith and the transformed mind, which is the mind of Christ that has power over your body to take death out, to drive Lucifer out of it, and to make you an eternal creature. Christ in you is the hope of that glory.

So, when you think of this, it is a state of mind. The Bible said to not be weary and faint in your mind. Be not weary in well doing, for in due season, that is, at the time appointed, when you finish your course, after you've done all that you're supposed to do, then He said that the house will completely be built, furnished, painted, and glorified. Everything will be ready for you to move in. If this tabernacle be dissolved, the one that you have that comes from the beast, from the fall in the garden; if that tabernacle be dissolved, you've got another one. It's the tabernacle, the body of the Lord Jesus Christ, in the Spirit, eternal in the heavens. It's not made with hands.

So then, death is a state of mind. Life is a state of mind. Death is the state of mind that comes from Lucifer, the tree of knowledge. If you live like that and think like that, you will automatically believe like that. In unbelief you are cut off from the Spirit of life, and the Spirit of life cannot fellowship you because of your evil heart of wrong thinking or unbelief. As a man thinketh in his heart, so he is. But, there is that state of mind that is the mind of Christ. If that mind lives in your heart, your thinking will make you eternal because it will give you the faith of God that is in the mind of God, and it will change your body from within outwardly, from glory to glory, faith to faith. What I am saying is that it's a state of mind.

The Bible said that God has put the world in your heart; that is, they that are not born again. The world is a state of mind. They that

are worldly minded have the love of the world in them. To be worldly minded is death. If the love of the world is in you, the love of the Father isn't there, because the love of the Father is the love of celestial things. So then, God has placed the world in your heart by allowing the mind of Lucifer to be there, and when you are born again, that world is killed out. That world leaves you. Lucifer is cast out of your body. He's not in the body of Jesus Christ, therefore, the kingdom of heaven is within you.

So the worldly state of mind is taken out, and then comes the kingdom of God, the heavenly realms, or God's world, the state of the mind of Jesus Christ. In that mind is the faith. Contend for the faith that was once delivered unto the saints. They were shut up under the law at Calvary, or unto the faith that should afterwards be revealed, that is, after Calvary. It was the faith of Jesus Christ that stood the test, the faith that was in His heart and in His body. It never wavered one time. After Calvary came the promised Son, or the promise of eternal life, the promise of the Holy Spirit, and the promise of Christ within Jesus, who never wavered one time in His faith.

When you come to Calvary, and find the Calvary of your life, then that faith comes. If you receive that faith, then it goes into your heart. It's a state of mind, for in the mind of Christ is that transforming faith. Enoch was translated by faith that he should not see death, translated by faith, from within outwardly.

Now, if you don't want to die, then what I'm telling you is a matter of life and death. You don't have to die, but if you don't want to listen, then you will die. It's up to you, whatever you want. If I know what death is, and where death came from; if I know the cause of death, then why is it I could not escape it? I can escape it! Somebody might say, "Well, Brother Pike, can you?" If you know the cause of death, what death is, where it got started, and if you know how it functions, then that means that you know enough about it to know what to do to eradicate or destroy it. But in this particular instance, Jesus has already done it for you. So then, what is to be done after you learn about it? The thing to be done, He has already done it. All you've got to do is learn about it, too, and then accept it in full confidence and faith, and then it's all over.

Many of you will not get it, because you've not listened in the past. You've not really believed it. You've not cared enough to deny yourself, to change yourself, to be a new person, or to let old things pass away and let all things become new. You haven't cared that much. You had to mix a little darkness with light, a little gossip, backbiting, fault finding. You just had to tell it, had to pity yourself because of your daughter, your son, your mother, your daddy, yourself, your plans, your programs, whatever. You had to stir yourself up in the wrong way for monetary gain and the love of the world. Trying to mix just a little bit of you with Him will never work. There has got to be a complete eradication of you so that He might live, and if there is any of you left, then that means that you are going to be dwarfed.

The beauty of what God has done through creation is that He has made every man and woman a sovereignty. He has made all of them a mind, and they can live the way they want to. They can live like pigs if they want to, or they can live like a king's son and daughter. They can be any kind of thing in their world from a backbiter to a murderer. It's all within their state of mind. It's within their world. Their world consists of whatever it might be. It may be springtime in my world, with the birds singing and the sun shining. It may be beautiful. In your world it might be a dark, dismal day of a storm. The storm clouds may be there, with the storm raging and the lightning flashing, and you don't know how to get out of the storm to find a place of covert, whereas the Bible said that He would be a covert from the storm. But, like the song writer said, "Till the storm passes over." You can let Jesus hold you in the hollow of His hand till the storm passes over, and then that's all there is to it. That's all death is. It's just a storm.

Believe me, the rapture or the translation is taking place. I tell you the truth. I lie not, my conscience bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost that the translation is taking place. It's been taking place. In a little while, it's going to be over and the antichrist will be here. The tribulation will be here. Some of you will be left, all because you are waiting on a word called "rapture" that's not in the Bible. Just because your preacher said it doesn't change God's Word. Because ten preachers said it, that doesn't change God's Word. I'm telling you the truth, the way to go, and what to do. Those that believe will be translated. Those that believe not shall be damned. The Bible said he that believeth not shall be damned. Open up your hearts and minds, for when the soul is cut off, the life is gone. That is what damnation is, to be cut off from God, for the soul to be cut off from life.

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