

## The True Witness pt2

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**67** ..... And there was three down there that had had previous answer to prayer, named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They turned their backs to the image. And they said, "Be it known to thee, O king..."

I want you to notice this. God wants His witnesses to be stern; not a witness today and wishy-washy tomorrow.

**74** Then these children of Israel, these, Shadrach and Meshach and Abednego, God's witnesses...

God's never been without a witness. He's always... Now, here I want you to get this real close. **God has never, at any time, been without a witness on earth.** He's always had at least one man He could put His hands on, say, "That's **My witness.**" It's come down to one man, one time; and Job was His only witness, and Abraham in the land; but God had a witness. Somebody's going to witness for God somewhere.

**Now, after while, we want to find out what a witness really is, of this day.** All right. Notice.

**These men, as they went down there, they refused to eat the king's meat, drink his wine, and they refused to bow to his image. They were a genuine true witness of God.**

**78** Then there's sometimes a penalty goes with a witness. Sometimes when you witness for God, you have to suffer a little bit.

You remember when mother told you that you couldn't stay around home, as long as you read the Bible and carried on? Or, some of the neighbors said, or the children said, at school you was a fanatic, or something, because you was a true witness? Remember, on the job, how all the men laughed at you because you was a real witness? See? How on the streets you were made fun of, when you give a testimony? But that's a genuine sign of a real, true witness. God wants witnesses.

**Now, some people say, "I testify in church." That's good.**

**But, brother, let your Light shine in the dark places, where it's really needed, out in the hedges and the highways, in the barrooms, out, down on the street. Everywhere you're at, let your Light shine as a witness. Amen.**

Notice, then the fiery trial come on. And every man that'll witness for God will have to go through fiery trials. Isn't it strange how God leads His people? Very strange...

**82 Just as soon as Jesus was baptized, He went into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.**

Just as soon as Israel come out, under the blood, circumcised, the Holy Spirit leading them in a form of a Light, right straight up to the Red Sea, and there, cornered: mountains on one side, desert on the other; Pharaoh's army coming, and the Red Sea cutting them off. **God led them right up to that place.** Why? To get glory. Then Moses prayed; and God **told him** to step right on down towards the Red Sea, holding his stick out in front of him. And as he walked, the Red Sea moved from one side to the other, right across the Red Sea. **Why? God's path led through.**

As soon as they come out of there, right into the wilderness of sin: strange. **God's path led right through that great temptation there**, when they murmured against God. They went from there on, from one murmur to another, from one trial to another. As the old song says:

Some through the waters,  
Some through the flood,  
Some through deep trials,  
But all through the Blood.

**That's God's way of leading, leading His testimonies, His witnesses.**

**86** Now, when it come time, the test, of the fire, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, said, "Our God is able to deliver us from the fiery furnace; but nevertheless, if He doesn't, we're not bowing down." **"We're going to bow to Your witness."**

I like that. I like that old courage. Like old Buddy Robinson, he said, "Lord, give me the backbone like a saw log." That's the kind of witness to be. Courage, God likes us to be courageous.

**88** He told Joshua, **before he crossed over**, He said, "Be thou very courageous, for the Lord thy God is with thee wheresoever thou goest."

You say, "Well, if God would tell me like He did Joshua, I'd have some courage too." He's told every believer the same thing. "I'll be with you, always, even to the end of the world. I'll never leave thee nor forsake thee." Courageous, let's go take the promise then. **God gave us the promise. Let's be a real witness.**

**91** So they het the furnace, seven times hotter than it ever was het before.

**That's the way the devil does it. And, brother, he don't half way do nothing. He pushes everything he's got right into you. But thanks be to God, God got some pushing back at He does Himself.** That's right. All right. Look at Him. So he said...

Now, notice. I can see King Nebuchadnezzar set himself by the side of the big furnace, and the smoke, the skies were red.

**94** I imagine, all night long there was a prayer meeting going on You know, if you're coming to a test...

**Here it is. That's the trouble with the church today; you rely upon your own senses and ability, instead of taking it to the Lord in prayer.** That's right. Today we start to send somebody somewhere, well, you say, we get down and have a little counsel, and meet and say, "We should do this, or go here, or do that."

But the Bible, in the days before they sent out the apostles, they met together and fasted and prayed. And the Holy Spirit said, "Separate Me, Paul and Barnabas." The Holy Spirit... You notice, not man's opinion, but the Holy Spirit leading, guiding... Amen. Now, prayer meeting all night, so they had to show what they were made out of. And, **brother, every man that professes to be a Christian, sometime or other you got to show what you're made out of. The devil's going to call your hand.**

**98** When little Tommy Osborn, many of you know him, come over, I was sitting on the porch. He said, "Brother Branham," he said, "I was in the meeting. I seen that maniac fall across your feet." Said, "What can I do?"

I said, "**Now, Tommy, don't profess anything that you can't back up.** The devil's going to call your hand on it. Yes, he will, and he will do it right away." I said, "Then if you can't back it up, you know what's a coming. It'll be a reproach. **So be sure that you're right before you make your statement.**"

**100** And that's right, too, Christian. **Be sure that down in your heart God has separated you from the things of the world and made you a new creature, then go tell people you're a Christian.** Until that's happened, stay right at the altar and die till you're just as dead as you can be. All right. Die till you're so dead till you can't even... Well, that's right, dead.

**You know, I think, today, we bury too many live people.** You bury people after they're dead. Is that right? Yes, sir. Listen, brother, a dead man won't argue with you. **You can say anything to him you want to, call him all kinds of names, he won't say a word.** Why? He's dead.

And a man that's dead in Christ, you can offer him a drink, you can give him this, that, or the other, but he's dead. And he's hid in Christ, through God, sealed by the Holy Spirit. Amen. That's it. **Now, then he can't do those things, because he just can't do it. It's against his nature. He becomes a new creature.**

**123** Then notice, when all the heat was on, and the fire was burning, that king's heart become troubled. He said, "Go, open up the furnace, maybe, and see if there's any

ashes left." And when they jerked open the door, he jumped up, said "How many did you put in there?"

Said, "Three."

He said, "I see four. And the other One looks like the Son of God." **Standing by His witness, God always will stand by His witness. Amen.** You know that's the truth. God will make a difference, and will stand by those who witness for Him.

### **Revelation 3:14-19**

*And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write:*

*These things saith the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the Creation of God;*

***I know thy works, that thou are neither cold nor hot: I would thou were cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot I will spue thee out of My mouth.***

*Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:*

***I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.***

*As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.*

### **LAODICEAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.9**

#### **351-1 But, there is a gold of God. I Peter 1:7.**

"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth."

The gold of God is a Christ-like character produced in the fiery furnace of affliction.

#### **That is the right kind of gold.**

**351-2** But what kind of gold does the church have today? It has but the worldly gold that will perish. It is rich. It is complacent. **It has made affluence the major criterion of spirituality.** The evidence of God's blessing and the correctness of doctrine, etc. is now **based upon** how many rich folks are involved in it.

**351-3** "You had better come before it is too late," saith the Lord, "and buy of Me gold tried in the fire and then you will be truly rich." Are we getting it? Listen to me, "Naked (physically) we came into the world, **but naked (spiritually) we will NOT leave it.**" **Oh no, we are going to take something with us. What that something is, is ALL we can take with us, nothing less and nothing more.** So we had better be real careful now to

see that we take something that will make us right before God. **So, then, what will we take with us? We will take our CHARACTER, brother, that is what we will take with us. Now what kind of character will you take with you? Will it be like HIS Whose character was molded by suffering in the fiery furnace of affliction,** or will it be the softness of this character-less Laodicean people? It is up to each one of us, for in that day every man will bear his own burden.

## **LAODICEAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.9**

### **331-4 Revelation 3:14,**

*"These things saith the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the Creation of God."*

**331-5** My, isn't that the most wonderful description of the attributes of our lovely Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ? These words just make me want to shout. They bring such a spirit of reality into my heart. Just reading them without even waiting for a thorough revelation of the Spirit upon them thrills me.

**332-1** Jesus is giving us this description of Himself **in relation to the last age.** The days of grace are winding up. He has looked from the first century right through to the twentieth, and told us all things concerning these ages. **Before He reveals the characteristics of the last age to us,** He gives us one final look at His own gracious and supreme Deity. **This is the capstone revelation of Himself.**

**332-2** Thus saith the "AMEN". Jesus is the Amen of God. Jesus is the "So Let It Be" of God. Amen stands for finality. It stands for approval. It stands for prevailing promise. It stands for unchanging promise. It stands for the seal of God.

**332-3** I want you to watch this carefully now and see something really sweet and beautiful. I said **this is His end-time revelation of Himself. When the day of grace closes,** then the millennium comes very shortly thereafter, doesn't it?

Well, read with me **Isaiah 65:16-19.**

*"That he who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth; and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from Mine eyes.*

*For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered nor come into mind.*

*But be ye glad and rejoice forever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.*

*And I will rejoice in Jerusalem and joy in My people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying."*

This is about New Jerusalem. This is the millennium. **But as we go into the millennium, hear what He says about being a certain kind of God**, Verse 16,

"That he who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth."  
Yes, that is true, but the real translation is not "God of truth". It is "God of the AMEN". So we read it, *"shall bless himself in the God of the AMEN, and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of the AMEN; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from My eyes. For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create, for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in My people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her; nor the voice of crying,"* Hallelujah. Here is Jehovah of the Old Testament, "the God of the Amen". Here is Jesus of the New Testament, "the God of the Amen". Hear, Oh Israel, the Lord thy God is ONE God. There it is again, the Jehovah of the Old Testament is the Jesus of the New. "Hear, Oh, Israel the Lord thy God is ONE God." **The New Testament does not reveal ANOTHER God, it is a further revelation of the ONE AND SAME GOD. Christ did not come down to make Himself known. He did not come to reveal the Son. He came to reveal and make known the Father.** He never talked about two Gods; He talked about ONE God. **And now in this last age, we have come back to the capstone revelation, the most important revelation of Godhead in the whole Bible, that is, JESUS IS GOD, HE AND THE FATHER ARE ONE: THERE IS ONE GOD, AND HIS NAME IS THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

**333-1** He is the God of the Amen. He never changes. What He does never changes. **He says it, and it stands fast. He does it, and it is done forever.** None can take from what He says or add to it. **So let it be. Amen. So let it be.** Aren't you glad that you serve that kind of a God? **You can know exactly where you are with Him at any time and all the time. He is the AMEN God and won't change.**

**333-2** "These things saith the AMEN."

I like that. It means that whatever He said is final. It means that whatever He said to the first age and to the second and to all ages about His own true church and about the false vine is exactly right and it won't change. **It means that what He started out with in Genesis, He will finish in Revelation. He has to for He is the Amen, SO LET IT BE.** Now we can see again why the devil hates the Books of Genesis and Revelation. He hates the truth. He knows the truth will prevail. He knows what his end will be. How he fights that. But we are on the winning side. We (I mean the believers of His Word, only) are on the Amen side.