

As We Drink, We Grow

“Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” (John 4:13-14).

Christ died for you, and you are transplanted from the world into Christ (*I Cor. 1:30*). **And everything you have need of is right in you, by the baptism of the Holy Ghost** (*Col. 2:9-10; I Cor. 3:21-23*). Now the only thing you have to do is **just start drinking from That**.

And as the tree drinks, it begins to push out its leaves, its bud, pushes out its fruit each year. The fruit is not in the ground; the fruit is in the plant, **and every plant has to drink from his fountain**. As the rain comes down, gives that plant, life, to drink from. **And, as it drinks, it grows**. And it's growing up until it comes to the full bud, just like the Church has, to bloom out in this age. **And, as we drink, we grow**. But if the plant refuses to drink, then the plant cannot grow. And if you will just believe it now, individually! [1]

A little tree no more than one half inch high, did you know every peach that'll ever be in that tree is in it then? If it isn't, where does it come from? It's planted in the ground, **and it has to grow, and it has to drink**. And it drinks from the water of the earth, and in there brings in the vitamins. **And it drinks over its allotted portion. So the more it drinks, the farther it pushes out. It pushes out limbs**, then it pushes out leaves, then it pushes out blossoms, then it pushes out peaches.

Well, that's the way a Christian is. **When we are planted in Christ Jesus, the inexhaustible Fountain of Life, everything we have need of is in us then** (*Col. 2:3*). We just keep drinking and pushing out, drinking and pushing out. **If we have need of more of God, just keep drinking and pushing out. If we need healing, just drink and push out**. That's all. [2]

Right if it can ever settle in your heart, you in the wheelchair, you in the cots, you out there with heart trouble, cancer, you in radio land, in

hospitals, wherever you may be, **if you can receive God's Word in your heart** (*Rom. 10:8-10*), **and water it with praises and thanks to God for giving It to you, it'll grow into a tree of whatever the seed represents.** Healing, salvation, whatever it's for, that tree will blossom.

But you've got to drink. You've got to water it, feed it, and let it grow. **And more you trust in God...** If you're in a wheelchair, and in the hospital, and you're so paralyzed you can't even move but one finger, **just keep moving that one finger to the glory of God. Tomorrow you'll move your hand.** The next day you'll move your arm. And you'll be moving on pretty soon if **you'll just keep watering it, pushing out, growing,** getting bigger and bigger. Take God's Word. It's a Seed. Certainly, It's a Seed.

God gave Abraham a promise as we've been studying. **And Abraham let that seed get into his heart, the promise, and kept watering it with praises and thanksgiving to God for the child, and waited twenty-five years** (*Rom. 4:16-25*). **But the tree came forth just the same, because he watered it with faith.** [3]

You know, when you're young, they claim you have **growing pains when you're growing.** You know what I mean. It means you're getting bigger, a little. You know, you take your arms will hurt. And your legs will hurt when you're growing, kids. I had it. I was getting bigger all the time.

Sometimes we have growing pains when we get to be men and women when we're born in the Kingdom of God, Christ. (*Eph. 2:19-22*). But the thing about that, **it hurts;** the thing about This, It just makes you joyful and happy. It's growing pains. You're going out, getting bigger. **You can look over things.**

Not you just got wider shoulders; that don't mean nothing about it. **But you're wider in here.** In here, here's where you're supposed to spread out, get bigger, **in your heart on the inside. When Christ comes into the heart,** then He comes into the mouth, then He comes into the eyes, and He comes into the mind.

He comes into the mouth. He makes you talk different. You don't talk like you used to. Christ got in your mouth. Done grewed now from your heart, your love you had for Him, **till you can bridle your tongue. Brother, that's a great thing.**

Then the next thing you know, **it grows into your eyes.** The next thing you know, you find out, that old lustful things you used to look at, you'll turn your head. **You're growing** (*Eph. 4:15-16; Eph. 5:3-5*).

Then the first thing you know, you still turn your head, but you're thinking. See? After while, **it grows into your mind**; you don't even think about it no more. Then you're just a great big boy then (*I John 2:12-14*). **You're coming into a full matured man living for the Lord.** So then you are in Christ then, a new creature (*II Cor. 5:17*).

We must contend with the weak (*Acts 20:35; I Thess. 5:14*), until they **are fully matured in Christ Jesus.** Then they're good soldiers. Then they've got on the full armor (*Eph. 6:10-18*). Talk about them, don't hurt them. Laugh at them, make fun of them, **they don't pay attention to it.** They got one thing; they're just so big, my, **just so full of glory** (*John 17:22-23*). The only thing they have to drop is this old robe of flesh, and **just go right on to glory.**

Somebody say, "You know, somebody said you were a hypocrite, Mrs. Jones?"

"Did? Well, God bless them."

"Do you know a certain-certain things is going on at that church, oughtn't to be going?"

"Well, I'll pray for it." See? Big.

Oh, if you're little, then you say, "Oh, it is? Let me get in. Which side must I join?" See? **There's where you get in trouble. That's where you can't mature.**

But when you get big enough, large enough, swelled out, not only swelled out but grown out, **Christ growing in you** (*Gal. 4:19*), growing out malice, taking it out of you, pushing it out... **As God comes in**, just pushes out. You say, "Oh, how little, how juvenile it is, **how much kids it is to argue and fuss.**" (*I Cor. 3:1-7*). But first thing you know, **that just grows on over top of it. Ain't got no more room for it.** "Oh, I used to hate to see this and hate that. But you know, **I just got so I just don't pay any attention to it no more.**" **You're growing.** Yes, sir. [4]

There's three people of you. The outside is the body. You got five senses, that you contact your earthly home with that. The inside is a spirit. There's five senses there, love and conscience, and so forth, [5] you contact the spirit world with that. [6] **But the inside of that is the soul.**

Remember, "The rain falls on the just and the unjust." (*Matt. 5:43-47*). **The same rain that'll make a grain of wheat grow makes a cocklebur grow too.** See? What is it? **At the inside of that seed is a nature, and that nature display, displays itself.** It can stand in the same field, right there with the weed. The weed and the wheat stand together, rejoice just as

much. Its head is down. It's starving for a drink. **When a rain comes, the cocklebur can shout just as loud as the wheat can.** "But by their fruits you shall know them." (*Matt. 7:15-20*). [5]

I was standing here one time with Brother John. He showed a tree with oranges, lemons, tangerines, tangelos and grapefruits, all growing on an orange tree. I said, "But, Brother John, I want to ask you something. When they come forth now, and put forth their buds again," I said, "is it all going to be oranges?" He said, "No, each one of the little branches that's cut off and put in this tree. If it's a lemon branch, it'll bear lemons." I said, "**But what if the original tree puts forth another limb?**" He said, "It bears oranges." That's right.

So, brother, we can bounce ourself in by organization. That's all we got. **We bear organizational fruits.** We bear organizational evidence. But if you've come forth in the Vine, and it puts you forth, **a new creature in Christ, you'll bear the life of Christ** (*Col. 3:1-4*). So help me, you will. Right. **You'll have the same experience they had in the beginning.** Amen. I know it's the truth. [7]

First, you must be born again (*I Peter 1:23*). **And then when you're born again, you have faith** (*II Cor. 4:13*), **you believe the Word.** Until you're born again, you'll argue against It. If you're just religiously inclined, and you got a little human knowledge that you should do right, you'll never be able to agree upon the Word of God. You'll never do it. **You've got to be born again. And, born again, it produces faith.** All right. Then, after you get faith, then you're just in position of growing.

Now, a lot of people go up to the altar, and pray, and say, "Lord, forgive me." **And a great experience of sanctification come upon them.** Then you have a great time, get up to the altar, shouting. You go back, say, "Bless God, I got it." **No, you just started to a place where you can grow.** You ain't done nothing yet. See? **The only thing you done is just laid the foundation.**

Now you're going to build a house, and you pour the foundation, say, "Boy, I got her." See? You got the foundation to build your house on. Now you got to build a house. A house, this foundation is first. **What is the foundation of Christianity? Faith in the Word of God.** That's your foundation. **Then you begin to grow. Then you start, you begin to add to this foundation** (*II Peter 1:3-11*).

And the spiritual man, growing, needs something to eat on. That's the Word of God. I believe every Word of It. [8]

If the Message is right, get in It. If It isn't, get out of It and find where is right. Sure. If God be God, serve Him. But you can't serve God and mammon at the same time (*Matt. 6:24*). Let's serve God. Be convinced, and then you'll be concerned. Then the church will really go to growing, 'cause you'll go out and get everybody you can to bring them in.

But as long as you just go round, say, "Well, that's the preacher's job." It isn't the preacher's job. **It's everybody's job.** Right. **Every born-again Christian has that same Spirit in them.** Preacher might be gifted, but that's just a gift of the Holy Ghost, not the Holy Ghost; the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Preachers are called. Prophets, and teachers, and evangelists, and pastors, and so forth, **they receive the Holy Ghost, and then a gift to do these things with it (*Eph. 4:11-16*).**

But God doesn't have any little bitty children or great big children. They're all children, to Him. That's exactly right. And your rightly position is setting right now in Heavenly places in Christ Jesus, with every power (*Eph. 2:1-7; Eph. 3:20-21*). [9]

Now, **if we are those attributes of God**, we cannot live by creeds. We cannot live by denominationalism. **We must live by the Word, because the Bride is a part of the Bridegroom**, like any wife is a part of her husband. **Therefore, we must be that Word Bride.** And what is that Word Bride? **The manifestation of this hour, the Bride**, not a creed or a denomination; but a living oracle of God, a living attribute of God, displaying to the world the attributes of God, **in the formation of the Bride that's to be expressed in this hour that we're now living.**

Martin Luther could not express the attributes that we express, because that that was in the beginning, the resurrection, like the corn of wheat that went into the earth.

The Church is growing. Each age, it's lotted in the Scripture here. **So, God, through the Holy Spirit, reveals His Word, by manifesting It and vindicating It, Himself**, showing that It's His Word being brought to pass in the day that It's promised.

You see, the whole program, the whole Church, is built upon Divine revelation. Jesus said in Saint Matthew 16:13-18, *"Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father which is in Heaven has revealed this to you."* **What was it? A revelation of Who He was. "And upon this Rock, I'll build My Church, and the gates of hell can't prevail against It."**

The revelation of Jesus Christ in this hour; not what He was in another hour! **What He was now, the Bible expresses. It's growing in the Bride, to the full stature.** Therefore, if the corn of wheat, of Christ, had to fall in the ground (*John 12:24-26*), so did the Bride have to fall in the ground, through the dark ages. Any grain that goes in the ground must die, or it can't produce itself, reproduce itself. And the great Church that He established on the Day of Pentecost, by the sending of the Holy Ghost, had to suffer martyrdom and go into the dirt, into the earth in the dark age, to bring forth again in the age of Luther, **and come on out to the full stature of the Bride of Jesus Christ for this last day.** See? There's no way...

Therefore, the Bride, in the Rapture, will come forth. And there is all pre-planned by God, all backed up. From the beginning, He knowed every man, every place, who would set, all about it. **It's all pre-planned.** God knew it would be here (*Rom. 8:28-29*). He made it that way, so that when we get there... **He's gone to prepare a place for us** (*John 14:1-3*). And when we get there, it'll all be prepared just like this hour is prepared. Yes. His great foreknowledge tells Him all these things, by foreknowledge (*Psalms 139:1-18*).

He's omnipresent because He's omniscient; omniscient because He's omnipresent. **Therefore, by His foreknowledge...** Now, He can't be just like the wind over the earth, **because He is a Being.** He just isn't a myth. He's a Being. **He dwells. He even dwells in a house. He dwells in a place called Heaven.** And therefore, being omnipresent; being omniscient, knowing all things, then He is omnipresent because **He knows all things.**

You, now, **you grew from your birth,** when you was born and presented into this world. God knew that you were going to be here in this earth, and **you grew from birth to maturity.** Things that seemed so strange to you, in your young womanhood, young boyhood, as children, now seems very real. You couldn't understand it when you were a child. But now, as you become adult, you begin to understand and find out that everything was just set just right. And, you, it really means something to you now.

So is it in your spiritual birth. You do things that you don't understand, when you're a little baby, come to the altar. You give your life to Christ. You do such strange things. You wonder why you did it. **But after while, when you mature, as matured Christians, then you understand it.** See? There's something picks up. You see why you had to do it. **Your spiritual birth!** Your natural birth types your spiritual.

How it fitted to you, in this life, as you grew, everything fitted right in, because you were made for that. Wasn't it a strange thing, the night that you staggered into the mission, **the tent meeting**, or the little church somewhere on the corner, and something the preacher preached on, a certain subject, and you just fell right at the altar? See? **God knew that, before the foundation of the world.** It seemed strange to you, why you did it then. **But now you understand; you knew what happened. It's so fitting to you in this life, and will be also in the Life that is to come.** This world and its life seems to advance as you mature. Everything seems to go right with you. [5]

You say, "But, Brother Branham, what about my mother and dad, what about my people, what about my denomination, what will they do? They'll cast me out." **If you can't look ahead, look up. Don't try to look ahead,** anyhow, put your hand in His. **Let Him lead you. Look up, don't look ahead.** You say, "Why, why others make fun of me about my long hair, and me taking off shorts, and about me leaving the church." **Suffering for His Name's sake is growing pains of His grace.** Yeah. Suffering for His Word is growing pains of His grace. Yes, sir! Just remember, it's the grace of God has been given to you (*Phil. 1:29-30*). [10]

I used to remember, as a little boy sitting out on the creek bank, and I'd sit there and look around at nighttime. Pop and mom, they're gone on now to their rest. And them days they were sinners, there was no Christianity in our homes at all. And, oh, my, drinking, and parties, and carrying on; it made me sick, I'd take my lantern and my dog and go to the woods, to stay all night. In the wintertime I'd hunt till the party was over, maybe daylight in the morning. Come home, wouldn't be over, I've laid on top of a shed and sleep, waiting for daylight to break.

Then I'd think of how that times, then being out there in the summertime, get my sticks and put them down for a little windbreak, where if it rained; lay there and have the poles sticking in the water, fishing; my old coon dog laying there. I'd say, "Looky here. You know, last winter I camped right here one night, I built a fire right here when I was waiting for my old dog here to tree, and I had a fire here. It was froze five inches deep in the ground. But, little flower, where did you come from?" See? "Well, and where'd you come from? Who come out here and planted you? And what hothouse did they bring you out of? Or what about it, where'd you come from?" See? That little flower, I'd say, "Why, it was froze, and everything, and I built a fire on top here. Besides the freezing

element, there was a heat element laying here on a big old log where I burned you. And yet here you are, and you're alive. Where'd you come from?"

What was it? There was another William Branham. See? A little spot of Eternal Life down there, from the genes of God, the Word of God that was placed in there. Each one of you can think of similar things. See, It was working.

Then look up to the trees, and I think, "Leaf, I seen you fall off last year, and why are you back there again? Where'd you come from? What brought you here?" See, **It was that Eternal Life working in the body.**

Now, then one day as I walked on, that Voice talking, "Don't never smoke, drink, so forth." And the young fellows and all got older. See, **there was Something moving.**

But yet all at once I looked up, and I said, "I'm not the son of Charles and Ella Branham. There's Something calling." Like my little eagle, "I'm not a chicken. There's Something up yonder, somewhere. O Great Jehovah, Whoever You are, open up! I want to come home. There's Something in me, calling."

Then I was born again. That little Life was laying there, the life of water was poured upon It, then It begin to grow. Now, that old life was forgiven, put in the sea of God's forgetfulness, to never be remembered against me no more (*Isaiah 43:25; Isaiah 1:18; Heb. 8:12*). See? **Now we stand justified, as though we never had sinned, in the Presence of God** (*I Cor. 6:9-11; Rom. 8:1-2*). [11]

Reference:

[1] "One In A Million" (65-0424), par. 84-87

[2] "Jesus Christ The Same Yesterday, Today and Forever" (61-0118), par. E22

[3] "Show Us The Father and It Will Satisfy Us" (59-0419E), par. E36

[4] "Divine Healing" (54-1219M), par. 167-177

[5] "Things That Are To Be" (65-1205), par. 101-102, 11, 33-40

[6] "Leadership" (65-1207), par. 163-165

[7] "The Unchangeable God Working in an Unexpected Way" (62-0120), par. 160-164

[8] "The Stature of a Perfect Man" (62-1014M), par. 131-134, 156

[9] "Convinced Then Concerned" (62-0118), par. 209-212

[10] "Shalom" (64-0112), par. 216

[11] "Communion" (65-1212), par. 47-53

Spiritual Building-Stone No. 57 (new 2017) from the Revealed Word of this hour, compiled by: Gerd Rodewald, Friedenstr. 69, D-75328 Schömburg, Germany
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There's coming one with a Message that's straight on the Bible, and quick work will circle the earth. The seeds will go in newspapers, reading material, until every predestinated Seed of God has heard It.

[Bro. Branham in „Conduct-Order-Doctrine“, page 724]