

Called According To God's Purpose

Romans 8:28-30, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Let us listen what God's prophet has said about it:

If you got Eternal Life (John 5:24), there's only one form; that's God's own life, and you are an expressed attribute. See? If you're not, you're not going to be there anyhow. *"No man can come to Me except My Father's drew him" (John 6:44).*

The Holy Ghost is eternal. **Then you are in eternity where you were all the time, but you've just recognized what happened. See, you were made for an eternal purpose,** because you was--the manifestation of an attribute that was in God that thought of you and expressed you, and He made an earth to take you out of, and to make you a human being; and sin come along and perverted His way. You come anyhow, but you were lost with the world, **so He come and redeemed you, the expressed attribute,** and also redeems this earth by the same way. Then His purpose rolls on. See? Oh, hallelujah. Oh, that does me so much good. Think of just what lays ahead.

God in the beginning, when He thought of you, and thought of others, like that, **thought of Himself of being tangible.** That was His thoughts, so He expressed His thoughts by Word. He said, "Let there be. Let there be"; and there was. [1]

God sets a time and has a purpose for everything that He does. There's nothing happens just accidentally to those who love the Lord and are called according to His calling. See, **we are predestinated (Eph. 1:3-7).** And everything works just right for that; because He cannot lie, and He said that was so, that everything has its time, its season, and it has its way; **and God is behind every move.** And sometimes you think that everything's going wrong. It's up to us. Those things are put upon us, trials and wonderings; **it's testing to see how we will react on an action.** [2]

For, He makes everything work together for the good to them that love Him (*Rom. 8:28-30*). [3]

Everything is for a purpose. You've gathered here for a purpose. I eat for a purpose, you cooked for a purpose. Now, everything's for a purpose. This

church is erected for a purpose. **There's nothing without a purpose and a cause.**

Let's take the simple drop of ink and look at it. What is it? A drop of ink. Where did it come from? Let's say it's black ink. Now, that ink is for a purpose. It can write my pardon out of a penitentiary. It can write my pardon from a death cell. It can write John 3:16 and save my soul by believing it. Is that right? Or it can sign my death warrant. See? It can condemn me at the judgment bar. It's for a purpose. Is that right? **Everything is made for a purpose** (*Prov. 16:4*). [4]

When you realize, "What are we doing here? Where did we come from? Or what business we got being here?" We weren't put here just by chance; **we were put here for a purpose; and we must serve that purpose.** But still we're back on the basis of free moral agency where we can serve it or reject it, just like Adam did in the beginning. [5] **You have to will to do God's will.** [6]

Sometime ago I read a story of one of the greatest Presidents I think the nation ever had: Abraham Lincoln. Not because that he come from Kentucky, but because he was a great man. He was deprived of an education, **but yet was something in his heart, some purpose.**

I like a man of vision. I like people that's got something they're fighting for, just not just lay around, "Well, ever what comes along will be all right." Oh, be up and at it! And Lincoln never let his education stand in the way; he had something to do. **I think every Christian ought to be that way, find your purpose and go do it.**

Have a purpose in life, something you're going to do. God has placed you here; do something about it, every member of every church. [7] You got a purpose - **a target to hit** (*Eph. 2:10*). [8]

You might not be nothing but a housewife. Well, you say, "Brother Branham, I never done a thing in my life. I'm not a preacher." Well, maybe God brought you here to raise a family of children; out of that family of children may come another family of children, that'll be a preacher that'll send a million souls to Christ. You had to be here. **You're here for a purpose.** Did you know that? [9]

We unworthy creatures, deserving of hell, but His grace holds us through it. Looky how many lost and blind, how many sinners was there in the world the hour I got saved! **God saved me for a purpose, and I'm determined by His will to do that purpose. I don't care what anything else goes, I want to do it.**

And in the hour when I see all the churches, their great glamour, and rich and have need of nothing, they say; and see them miserable, wretched, blind

(*Rev. 3:15-19*), and patting you on the shoulders, want you to compromise with them, **I was born for a purpose; that's to condemn that thing (worldliness, religious systems, organisations, denominations); and to call out!** This I do. [10]

Listen! I want to tell you something. He had a purpose in saving me; **He had a purpose in saving you** (*II Tim. 1:9-10*). And I am determined, by His will, to do it; not to add to It or take away from It (*Rev. 22:18-19*). I'm determined just to remain with this Gospel as long as I live, by the help of God.

Remember! Here's grace (*Romans 3:23-26; Eph. 2:8-9*). There were millions dying in sin when He saved me. Who was I that He should save? **He had a purpose in saving me, and I'm determined to carry out that purpose.** I'm driving towards that one thing: **Jesus Christ and the uniting of the Body of Jesus Christ.** That's what my purpose is. I don't care; it may be my end may be pretty soon now. But whatever it is, I'm still anchored. Never changed it (*Heb. 6:18-20*).

One person said to me, "Billy, in all this trouble did you keep your religion?" I said, "No, sir, it kept me." See? **My anchor held.** That's right. I never kept it; **it kept me.** I can't keep it; there's no way for me to do it, but it (grace) keeps me. Yes sir.

He had a purpose in saving me. There were millions in sin when I come to Him, but He saved me. He had a purpose in doing so. Christ's death was an Absolute to the fear of it. Christ's death settled the question (*Heb. 2:9-18*). [11]

God is a God of reality. Don't just take a creed. Don't just take a sensation. Take a reality. **Take a real God, something that God is, a God of reality that gives you assurance.** It gives you hope. It gives you faith. It gives you the Spirit. It gives you signs. It gives you wonders. It does in you just like it did in Christ. **Because that was His purpose of coming: to bring God to man, and made God and man one.** [12]

I have been a missionary, and seeing the different gods and the philosophers; and that's all any of it is, outside of Christianity, it's only a philosophy, how that they believe this, that, or the other. But the great Creator Who made the creation! There has to be a Creator if there is a creation (*Col. 1:16-17*). And if there is a creation, it was made by a Creator (*Romans 1:18-20*). **And any man's work reflects himself.** He's a good carpenter, he does good work, he builds. And if he's a good mechanic, he does good work. **Your work only reflects you. And God's creation reflects God.** And God made everything for a purpose. And **everything that serves God's purpose, when**

it dies, it has a resurrection. Tell me one thing. And I brought in many things, like the flowers and the trees.

And if a man served God's purpose, there is a resurrection just as sure as anything. Only thing you have to do, is, **God's just waiting on time,** just like He is now.

The great leaves that just have fallen off the tree. Where the red, green, blue, brown, all different colors across the great breast of the earth, where God's nature laid dead beneath it, God just planted out His bouquet. But He knows when He plants the bouquet, there's a resurrection in spring! The world has to just to come around its orbit until it gets back right with the sun again, and it will rise in funeral flowers (*Job 14:7-12*).

Never say, "This is the end," no more than the leaves, brown on the tree, says it's the end. Only thing it has to do, **is for the time cycle of God to float around, until the time of the coming of the Son of God.** And every living creature that ever died in Christ will come forth again. In His Presence, remembering Him. Oh, **when I come to the end of my road, I want to die in His Presence,** remembering Him, that He is the resurrection and Life (*John 11:25-26*). He is that One. [13]

If everything serves God's purpose, it's got a resurrection. But it can only rise if it serves God's purpose. If a flower lives and is not germitized, it will not rise again. If you plant corn and it is not germitized, it will not rise again. **Anything that doesn't serve God's purpose has no resurrection.** But you can't keep anything in the ground that serves God's purpose. [14]

It brings forth the botany life, because the Sun controls that. You cannot hide it. It must come up. And there is the Son of God that's controlling human life, Eternal Life. And **if we are serving God's purpose as sons and daughters of God, being germitized by the Holy Spirit, born again of the Spirit of God** (*John 3:3-8*), then when the time has shaped up for the Son of God to come (the first resurrection), you could not hide that godly eternal life. All nature speaks for it. [15]

Jesus brought God to human lives. **God was made human.** When Jesus was born, God became man, that He might become fellowship with man and in man, **to achieve one purpose;** that is, **to bring to man what God is;** not what a church is, but what God is. Jesus came that He might present God to man. And man didn't want it (*John 1:1-18*).

And when He come, they had creeded their churches and things until they failed to see the reality of what He come for; **to bring God in man, to make God in man, to unite them together again.** [12] **That's God's purpose, for us to unify together and be one.** [16]

Now, what was God's purpose in sending the Holy Spirit? (*John 14:16-26*). **God's purpose we find here, in sending the Holy Spirit, was one purpose: that God, Himself, might dwell in His church and continue His plans through the church, that God was in Christ continuing His plans through Christ, out of Christ into the church, continuing His work through the church.** ^[17] And now God is in us. Jesus said in John 14:20, "*In that day you'll know that I'm in the Father, (the Father in Me,) and I in you, and you in Me.*" God in us... What was the purpose? **To carry out His plan.**

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Now, here it is, The Father was God over you. We've been since Adam, God the Father was over Moses and the children of Israel in a **Pillar of Fire** (*Exod. 14:24*), then God with us, **in Christ** (*Isaiah 7:14*), walked with us, talked with us, eat with us, slept with us. **God over us, God with us--and now, God in us.** All God was, come into Christ (*II Cor. 5:19*); all Christ was, come into the church. What is it? **God working in you.** Anywhere in the world, if He'd want to call on you, you're right there--**working in you to do His good will. How we ought to thank God for that!** God the Holy Spirit is sent for the purpose of God living in His church, **moving through each age, working out His Divine will.**

"He came to His own and His own received Him not. But as many as did receive Him, to them gave He the power to become sons of God, to them that believed on His Name" (*John 1:11-13*). Oh, how we should love Him and worship Him! **The purpose of God, wanting to become in fellowship...** ^[17]

The greatest fellowship that man could ever have is fellowship with Christ. I love to meet men. Men, we all love to fellowship with all one another, sometimes go out and have a bite to eat. The neighbour women talked across the fence, coming around having little parties where they meet together, fellowship.

But the greatest fellowship that any mortal can know is when he's in the blessed Presence of Almighty God. No fellowship could take its place.

At one time man had perfect fellowship with God. That was God's purpose. That's the reason it's a **crave in your heart**, is a longing for something, **a contact.** ^[19]

God followed His own laws. Then God, in order to redeem the lost church, the lost world, the lost creation... God, who is infinite in Spirit, to redeem the lost human race, **God Himself become kinfolks, a Man, a Son** that He created in the womb of Mary (*John 1:1-18; Phil. 2:5-11*). And then, He made an ensign or a testimony. **Outside the gates of Jerusalem He was lifted up between the heavens and earth, and died, and redeemed everything! And in bleeding, He sanctified a church that He Himself might live**

in, and fellowship, and commune with, that lost spot of fellowship from the garden of Eden where God came down every evening, church time. Did you notice, God came down in the cool of the day, the setting of the sun. There's something about when it starts to get night: people think of church and of God, Christians. You see the sun setting; you realize that your sun is setting.

And in the cool of the evening He'd come down and commune with them. And there He lost that fellowship, **because sin would not let Him do it.** And then, He was made flesh and dwelt among us in order that He could come back again to man, **and live in man,** and restore man to a state of communion with Him again, **and give him back his God given rights.** That's what He did.

That's the purpose of the Holy Ghost--It's the Father again, God the Father, dwelling in you, working out His plans to finish His plan of redemption, working through you, making you a co-worker with Him, giving you a place, giving you a part for your fallen lost brother and sister, giving you His Spirit and His love to go hunt the lost as He did in the garden of Eden. "Adam, Adam, where art thou!" That's what the Holy Spirit does to a man or a woman. **When It strikes into their heart and takes Its abode, there's a thirst and a hungering for lost souls!** (*Prov. 11:30; Prov. 24:11-12*). That's what's the matter with the meetings today; **there's not enough Spirit touch in it. Go for the souls of the lost and the dying.** It's more to make a name, or a church, or a building, or a denomination, **instead of a soul winning program.** How pitiful.

God poured Himself into Christ. Christ poured Himself into the church (*Col. 2:9-10*). *"At that day you will know that I am in the Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you (John 14:18-20).* **At that day you'll know it, for the whole thing is one plan of redemption."** Coming down, that God coming back to live in, and dwell with, **and commune to His people as He did at the beginning.** Now, then, as soon as He gets His church in **speaking conditions, gets His church to a place that He can flow Himself through,** and love, and persuade, and fellowship, then there'll come a Eden. He will take His church back to where It left Him at, **back to an Eden again,** there where It fell. Now, that's where It made Its first start of fall; there's where It'll be taken right back with every clean state of redemption, bringing them straight back to that place again. [17]

Notice, **God has had a threefold purpose in this great mystery secret.** God, in His great mystery secret that He had before the world began, He's got a threefold purpose in it. What is that threefold purpose? Now, I believe by the help of God, Who's present, and He'll show it to us. Now, if He had this threefold purpose, we want to find out what is this threefold purpose.

The first thing was that God wanted to reveal Himself to the people.

But what He wanted to do, He loved Fatherhood, for He was a Father. And the only way that He could express it was to become a Son of man. That's the reason Jesus kept saying, "The Son of man." (*Matt. 8:20; 9:6; 12:8,32,40*). See, they didn't know what He was talking about, many of them. But now you get it? **He wanted to express Himself. That was one of His great threefold purposes, was to express Himself, identify Himself with human beings, to reveal Himself in Christ** (*II Cor. 5:19; Col. 2:9-10*).

Secondly: to have the preeminence in His body of believers, that is, His Bride, that He might live in people.

When I see God's great purpose: **First to reveal himself in Christ, the Fullness of the Godhead bodily, and then to bring that Fullness of Godhead bodily into a people that He could have the preeminences, the oversight, the leading.**

And ***thirdly, to restore the Kingdom to its rightly position*** that fell by sin by the first Adam, back to where He walked in the cool of the evening with His people, talked with them, fellowshiped with them. [20]

"... that the purpose of God according to election might stand..."
(*Rom. 9:9-11*).

If we were put here for a purpose, then there is nothing can destroy us until God's purpose is fulfilled. Nothing can harm us until that purpose that God has put us here for has been made manifest. God's purpose can never be defeated. There is nothing can defeat it. So how happy ought we to be today, **resting upon that beautiful revelation of the Word of the living God**, that there is neither things present nor things that can come; **there's no sickness, no sorrow, no death, no perils, nor nothing can separate us from the purpose of the living God** (*Romans 8:35-39*).

The Prophet spoke about an experience that he had:

And I was so tired, just seem like my heart would just quit beating. And while I was setting there, all of a sudden I could hear everyone talking, but seemed like I was out in space. I thought, "Have I had a heart attack?" And I'm just leaving from this barber chair. I thought, "Wonder if that's what's taken place?" I felt my hands. They's numbed, and my heart seemed like it was quit beating. And I thought, "Oh, but there is... The Gospel's got to be preached. And **there is no power that can take me until God's purpose is fulfilled.**" There is nothing that can hurt me, not a thing, until God's purpose is fulfilled. And **when that is fulfilled, I want to go with His purpose.**

When He's finished, then I am also. **When He's finished with me, I'm finished with life. When He's finished with you, you are finished also.** So what difference does it make? God holds it all in His hand.

Whether we are young or old, we do not know **when God's purpose will be fulfilled and finished.** God takes little babies sometimes to show that He can guide their little soul. **Everything He does is for a purpose** (*Romans 8:28-30*). He said, not even a sparrow can fall from the heaven without Him knowing it. Everything goes for His purpose just at the hour and at the time. **It's all in His Divine plan. Nothing can destroy.**

It just goes to show that **nothing can defeat His purpose. Not even death can defeat His purpose.** Abraham was as good as dead, and Sarah's womb had been dead for forty or fifty years. **But nothing can defeat God's purpose** (*Rom. 4:16-22*). Her body was old; it was wrinkled. The milk veins were dried up. Her heart was so weak, it could not have went through labor. **But God let us know there that His purpose will not be defeated.**

Then no matter how much sickness comes, how kind of a death we die, how much poverty we go through, God's purpose cannot be defeated. He will raise us up again. *"Because I live, ye shall live also"* (*John 14:19*). That's our hope. [21]

Reference:

- [1] "The Future Home" (64-0802), par. 237-238, 242
- [2] "The Reproach For The Cause of the Word" (62-1223), par. 81
- [3] "Shalom" (64-0112), par. 230 / 182
- [4] "God Hiding Himself In Simplicity" (63-0317M), par. 391-392
- [5] "God's Gifts Always Find Their Places" (63-1222), par. 77
- [6] "Revelation Chapter 4 Pt. 3" (61-0108), par. 225
- [7] "Doors In Door" (65-0206), par. 86-88
- [8] "Taking Sides With Jesus" (62-0601), par. 98
- [9] "Adoption, Part IV" (60-0522E), par. 212
- [10] "Feast Of The Trumpets" (64-0719M), par. 186-187
- [11] "The Absolute" (62-1230M), par. 332-336
- [12] "The Unfailing Realities Of The Living God" (60-0626), par. 241 / par.73,82
- [13] "Remembering The Lord" (62-1209), par. 35-39
- [14] "Countdown" (64-0209), par. 28
- [15] "I Am The Resurrection and Life" (63-1118), par. 37
- [16] "The Unity Of One God In The One Church" (58-1221E), par. 33
- [17] "What Was The Holy Ghost Given For" (59-1217), par. 19 / 23-24 / 29-32
- [18] "Questions & Answers On The Holy Ghost" (59-1219), par. 45
- [19] "Fellowship Through Reconciliation" (55-0605), par. E15
- [20] "Christ Is The Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par. 140-144, 146, 156
- [21] "I Know My Redeemer Liveth" (58-0406S), par. E12-13, E22-29

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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]