

Light on the Conflicts of Life

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Turn to John 9: *And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he annointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. The neighbors therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight. Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not. They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see. Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes: He said, He is a prophet. But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? How then doth he now see? His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself. These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him. Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner. He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see. Then said they to him again, What did he to thee? How opened he thine eyes? He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? Will ye also be his disciples? Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spake unto Moses; as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is. The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvelous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. Now we know that God heareth not sinners; but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. If this man were not of God, he could do nothing. They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him. And Jesus said, For judgment, I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, are we blind also? Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.*

The title of my message is, "Light on the Conflicts of Life." Jesus declared in chapter 8, as He was in the temple, that He was the Light of the world. He came out of that temple and said: *I am the light of the world . . .* signifying the darkness inside and out, apart from the illumination of the Spirit

of God. He came to dispel darkness. There is a lot of darkness mentioned in the Scripture. There is mental darkness. In John 1:5, the Scripture relates and speaks concerning the Lord Jesus Christ: *And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.* Out there, there is a mental darkness. It is so dark that somebody has to tell them that the lights are shining. John the Baptist went before the Lord to tell the people that the Light was there, indicating the fact of their mental darkness. The whole world is filled with that darkness.

There is moral darkness. John 3:18-19: *He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.* There are folks who live in the darkness and love the darkness. Jesus dispelled the moral darkness from the woman that was taken in adultery. He did that in John 8.

There is judicial darkness. Turn to John 12. I wish you and I could understand, but you cannot hear the Word of God without something happening to you. Now, it does something to you. When we hear the Word, our attitude toward the Word of God will come back to us. This is God talking. How would you act if God was talking to you? This is God talking! My attitude toward the Word of God and what I do when the Word of God is being taught is an attitude, not toward the speakers but an attitude toward God. I repeat again, you cannot just take it or leave it. There are some folks who are judicially blinded. They will never see again. John 12:35-40: *Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.* (There are people God hides from. They have Light, but they do not want Light. They do not appreciate Light, and God the Son, who is the Light of the world, hides from them.) *But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? Therefore they could not believe . . .* (They would not believe; therefore, they could not believe. That is in the Bible. I will read a little further.) *Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.* They would not believe in verse 37; they could not believe in verse 39; and they shall not believe in verse 40. That is judicial blindness. There are some folks who are judicially blinded by God, and they will never see spiritual things again. Why? They did not want the Light. They rejected the Light. They did not appreciate the Light, and God said, "If you do not want the Light, then I will turn the lights off." It is a simple story. If I do not use my arm, I will lose my arm. If I do not use my eyes, I will lose my eyes. If I do not use my brain to think with, I will lose the ability to think. You use, and you get more. If you do not use, you lose it.

There is moral darkness. There is mental darkness. There is judicial darkness. Then, there is eternal darkness. There is no light in hell. You will never see anybody if you go to hell. Jude 13: . . . *to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.* There is no light in darkness. This man that he dealt with in John 9 had physical darkness. He could not see. Jesus healed that man, and from there, it became a spring board to give spiritual truth out of the healing of that man.

Let us look at some lessons that come to us from the conflicts with life. **NUMBER ONE, THERE IS A CONFLICT WITH TIME.** John 9:4: *I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.* While it is today, there is opportunity to minister. There is opportunity now to serve. There is opportunity now to do something for the Lord. There is opportunity now to believe on Christ. There is opportunity now to get saved. There is opportunity now to confess Him publicly. There is opportunity now to follow Him in believer's baptism. There is opportunity now to unite with this church. There is opportunity now to do something for God. Now. A lot of folks who sit in churches today will have their funeral day after tomorrow. They are thinking

about the rich man — *And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years . . .* God never promised any individual any day but today. Yesterday is gone. He does not promise you tomorrow. All that we have is the here and now. There is a conflict with time. What will I do with my time? Get saved! Why? When Paul preached to Felix, it was not time for him to get saved. He had a little more sin that he wanted to do, and he said: . . . *when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.* “You do not have to look me up. Do not come looking for me. I will send for you when I have a more convenient season.” The convenient season never came because that was the day of opportunity. There is an opportunity now to be saved. There is an opportunity now for spiritual privileges. What do you think about privileges to serve God that could be yours? Are they important, or can you take them or leave them? Turn to the book of Genesis. This is a frightening chapter. Dad, you are the high priest of your home. You have an opportunity to call that home to prayer. You have an opportunity to open the Word of God and say, “We are going to serve God like Joshua: . . . *but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*” *You have that opportunity. You have an opportunity to lead a life and set an example for your family. It is your opportunity. It is your responsibility, but that responsibility is a wonderful privilege that God has given you. There was a man by the name of Esau. Esau was the firstborn. He had the privilege of getting a double portion of his father’s blessings, because he had the birthright. With the birthright, it made him in the line of the Messiah. With the birthright, it put him as a high priest in his particular clan. Esau loved to hunt. He was a sportsman. He probably had boats and trailers and fishing tackle and bows and arrows and everything in the world that had to do with the outside world. He was a likeable fellow. He was a forgiving fellow, and you would like him far more than you would like his brother Jacob. But, wait a minute. Jacob had a desire for spiritual privileges, although he was not a likeable character. Esau despised spiritual privileges. He went out hunting one day and came in. Jacob liked to cook, and Esau like to hunt. Esau comes in, and Jacob is in the kitchen cooking some great northern beans or pinto beans. Man! The smell of those beans and the bacon . . . — I know they are Jews, but the law had not been given yet. — He comes in and smells that. He says, “Boy, I am hungry. I have been out in the air hunting. I am really hungry.” Hunting really gives you an appetite. He said, “Hey, how about some of that red pottage?” Evidently, it was red. That must have been red beans — kidney beans. Jacob saw his chance. “I tell you what I will do. Sell me your birthright. I will swap a plate of beans for your birthright.” Watch how quickly he took him up on his offer. He did not give it a second thought. That was his attitude. Esau said: *Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me?* “It will not do me any good down the road. I am hungry now.” You live today and only pass by one time. “I want mine now, and I cannot wait.” That is about your purity. You had better keep it. It is about your health. It is about your reputation. Jacob said, “Okay, raise your right hand and swear to me.” Esau swore unto him and sold his birthright. He sold it for a plate of beans. He had an opportunity to be the high priest of his clan. “I do not want that responsibility. It does not appeal to me.” He sold his father’s inheritance for a plate of beans. He sold the place and position in his family to be a man of God. “Privileges — I do not want that.” *Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.* Look at Hebrews 12. If you despise your birthright and spiritual privileges, one day you will come and cry and beg and plead, but the tears of old age will not undo the foolish choices of youth. He had an opportunity. Look at it. This is a man trying to get saved. He is trying to get the blessing. *Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing . . .* He comes into his dad, “Do you not have one blessing for me? Oh, dad, do you not have a blessing for me?” His father said, “I gave it to your brother. Your brother wanted it, and you did not.” He would have inherited his blessing. He was rejected, for he found no place of repentance. He could not find it, although he sought it carefully with tears. He found no way in the world to get his dad to change his mind about that which had been transferred and given to somebody else. Your tears of old age will not undo the foolish, impulsive things of youth. There are people who have sold their spiritual privileges for one night on the town. They sold their spiritual privileges for a*

girl. The most important thing in all of life, their spiritual privileges, is sold for one mess of pottage. What a value! I ask you a question. The opportunity to teach Sunday school, the opportunity to be bus drivers, the opportunity to work on buses, the opportunity to sing in the choir, the opportunity to take up the offerings, and the opportunity to go soul winning — what do you think about that? What do you think about those things? “Well, I do not have time. I would rather play on a ball team.” That is your value system. Your value system is wrong. It is an attitude of disdain, and you have an opportunity today for spiritual privileges to serve on eternal issues. Opportunities — they pass by. Every time the bus director says, “I need bus workers,” they pass by. Every time we need somebody to teach classes, they pass by, and they pass by, and they pass by. Somebody else will take what you could have done a better job with and do it, and God will use him and honor him and bless him. There are conflicts with time. Sometimes we miss opportunities. Senior citizens, let me talk with you. I love you. I am part of you — just about, not quite. I do not know what age senior citizens start, but I am not there yet. The older we get, the more we resist change. You ought to say Amen to that. Just do not change that. We changed out Sunday school the whole summer long. Why? So we could grow. We were locked in where we could not grow. We had been on a plateau for ten years. Not one of our classes was growing. We had one that was growing, but it was growing because it was draining off other classes. None of them were growing. We are now in a position for growth unlimited. Sometimes, we do not change that. Over in Winter Haven, there is a church where I used to be a member. This will be going on the radio, so I will not put the name of that church in. I was a member of that church, and that church had an opportunity to sell out. They were locked in behind a cemetery. The church was in an out-of-the-way place, and they had an opportunity to sell and move out on Cyprus Gardens Road where millions of people go by. Everybody wanted to move except for the old folks. The church did not move, and they are still behind the cemetery where a handful goes by. Somebody else built out on Cyprus Gardens Road. That church is known around the world simply by its location. What an opportunity that was missed! Here is an opportunity, but we do not want opportunities. We want to be comfortable. That church missed its vision and opportunity. God puts opportunities before us. God help us if we put comfort before opportunity to serve the Lord.

NUMBER TWO, THERE ARE CONFLICTS WITH OBEDIENCE. Turn to John 9. God uses people that obey. The hardest thing in the world to teach a human being is obedience. There is nothing greater. If parents do not start early on that, then it is impossible. John 9:6: *When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.* How simple can it get? Go wash. He went his way, he washed, and he came seeing. In 2 Kings, there was a man who had leprosy named Naaman. He carried captive a little Jewish maid, and she said, “Oh, I wish he was with the prophet down in Jerusalem. He would heal him.” He made a deal with the king, and they sent all sorts of messages down to the king. The king said, “Are you trying to start a war? I cannot heal the man.” Elisha said, “Send him to me.” He goes down with gifts in his chariot, and he comes to the outside of the door of Elisha the prophet. The prophet sends a little maid, a little messenger, out to this man, who is a general, to tell him to dunk in Jordan seven times, and he will be clean. It made him upset. It humiliated him. He was a general. Jordan was a dirty river. What a cure for leprosy! “Just go dunk in Jordan seven times?!” He went away in anger. His associate said, “General, if he would have asked you to do something hard, you would have done it. Now, how about you come this way and just do what he said?” He turned and went down one time. “No, the man of God said seven times.” He went down twice. “Well, it did not work.” “Yes, but the man of God said seven times.” He went down three times. “I told you. It does not work.” He went down four times. “I told you, sir, the man said seven times.” Then, he went down seven times and came up with his flesh as new as a newborn baby. How did that all happen? Obedience. “Go wash.” He went, and he washed. “The needs of life,” said man, “are not being met.” Would you listen to this? *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things* (food, clothing,

and shelter) *shall be added unto you*. That is just a simple declaration of a sovereign God that says to seek Him first. That works because I know it works. I read it in the Bible, and it is so because it is in the Bible and because I have proved it. It works. Obedience works. This blind man obeyed, and he went. I read in Malachi 3:10: *Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it*. Now that works. I did not say, “Well, I will try him one Sunday.” It will not work. He said, “Prove me. Prove me.” Isaiah 1:17, writing to the church of Israel: *Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow*. Verse 19: *If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land*: The main thing about the Christian life is obedience. *Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice . . .* Saul said, “I am going to sacrifice.” God said to utterly slay. Saul said, “No, I am going to save some of them to worship the Lord.” Slay utterly. Slay utterly. There are conflicts with obedience.

NUMBER THREE, THERE ARE CONFLICTS WITH RELIGION. I want to tell you something now. When the Bible uses religion, it is used every time in a bad sense, except once in James 1:27: *Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world*. That is the only time it is used in a good sense. Religion crucified our Lord. Religion is man in charge instead of God in charge. There are conflicts with religion. Let us look at how it all started in John 9. It started out that he had his eyes opened, and his neighbors noticed a difference. Verse 8: *The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?* This tells me that if you get saved, somebody ought to be able to tell the difference. My family knows the difference. My buddies that I went to high school with know the difference. *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new*. Can you say, “I got saved,” and go back to the job, and nobody ever know the difference? Can you get saved and go to high school, and nobody every know the difference? God intended that when you get saved, you are to let your light shine, and they should know the difference by observing you. There is conflict with religion. The neighbor may notice a difference, and that will furnish you with an opportunity to give your personal testimony. They will ask you, “Well, what in the world happened?” Then tell them what happened. We are so afraid of going out and knocking on doors. We are so afraid somebody will ask us a question that we cannot answer. We scan the cards to make sure nobody gets us in an embarrassing circumstance. Nobody can get you in an embarrassing circumstance if you got saved and you know it. All you have to do is tell what you know. That is what a witness is. . . . *ye shall be witnesses unto me . . .* I do not have to study. I do not have to cram. I just know what happened to me. They cannot shake you if you know what happened. If you know what happened, tell it. This man had not been to school. He was blind, but he was giving his testimony to the neighbors next door. The change aroused the curiosity of the neighbors. The curious crowd contacted the religious crowd. Are you saved? Listen carefully. The cults will leave you alone until you get saved. Then they come like buzzards and crows to confuse you and attack you and shake you in order to get you into the matter – what is that word? – *proselyte*. The old fossil finally woke up. I knew it was some kind of fossil. They want to make a proselyte out of you. They begin to ask questions. What do they do? They ask the questions that shake his confidence. “Oh, who did that?” He told them who did that. Then, they said this man is not of God because he keepeth not the Sabbath Day. That is not from God. That is not from the Scriptures. “He did not do it in the right way.” They will open Scriptures to show you that he did not. They come after you. The reason they get most of their converts from the fundamentalists is because fundamentalists will not read. We let the liberals do the reading, but we fundamentalists do not want to study. We do not like to study. We do not like to read. Read anyhow. Ignorance is terrible, especially when you are ignorant by choice. Read. Read. The curious club and the religious crowd came to shake his confidence. Then concerning his salvation in verse 15, how did he go about it? “God would not do anything for you, and you really did not get saved.” They were attacking his salvation and trying to

discredit the One Who came to him. They tried to discredit Jesus. Why do people hate Jesus? John said they hated Him without a cause. The most beautiful man, the most beautiful, wonderful Person in the universe, gave eyes to the blind, ears to the deaf, legs to the lame, life to the dead, provision for the poor, and you name it. Jesus did that. He healed, helped, and gave happiness. There was no fault in Him, but they hated Him. John said they hated Him without a cause. When you are dealing with the liberals, you are dealing with hate. You are not dealing with theology. Why do they hate Jesus? Why do they set out to undermine the miracles? Why do they try to discredit the resurrection? Why do they disdain the blood of the Lamb? They want to go to Heaven by their works. Why do they hate Him? The moment that you hate anybody, the moment you get resentment in your heart against an individual, you lose your ability to think clearly, and you lose your ability to reason. You cannot be reasoned with. They could not see compassion in Him. They could not see love in Him. They could not see a thing in the world because they felt wrong about Him. If you feel wrong about somebody, you will never, never have any relation with them until you get what caused the feeling toward them taken care of. What you feel about a person is what you see in a person. All they ever saw in Jesus Christ was a threat to their offices. He exposed them. Wherever he went, they were there. They sought to discredit Jesus. In verses 28 and 29, they ridiculed him, and they reviled him. They will get onto you about going to church. "You fanatics!" they will say. "Well I am a Christian. I go to church one hour a week, and that is enough." Yes sir, you just told on yourself. "I cannot stand God but one hour a week." You just stop to think. "You know that girl. I am going to marry her, but I just cannot take but one hour a week dating her." Now, you are just a fanatic. You are over at that girl's house every night, you fanatic. "I just date one hour a week, and I love her." Much as you love her, you are lying. People tell you, "I am saved, but I am not a fanatic." Why not just say, "I am saved, but I do not like it"? What do you think is going to make you happy in Heaven? If Jesus does not make you happy here, He is surely not going to make you happy over there. What does it take to make you happy? "Well, an hour makes me as happy as I want to be." What is that? They are trying to shake his confidence and discredit his Lord and embarrass him. Then they discovered something else. This thing brought in peer pressure and with it fear of man. His mom and dad would not come to his rescue. They did not want to get out of the in crowd. "Hey, son, you will get us where we will get kicked out of the city, the Kiwanas Club, the sewing club, and this and that. You are embarrassing us. You have to tone down just a little bit, son. You are putting us on the spot." That is up to date. I will ask you a question. If your son or daughter went all out for Jesus, would you be totally embarrassed? Many parents would be. They start giving up a whole lot of things and start going to some places. Then you say, "I do not know what has happened to my daughter." But, if they went to the dogs, you would be saying, "I wonder what happened to my daughter. Please be praying for my daughter." Wait a minute now. Why not just rejoice when they go overboard trying to serve the Lord? By the way, you cannot go overboard too much. This is the peer pressure. Moms and dads say, "We will get kicked out of the synagogue." Well, get kicked out of the synagogue! It is a joy getting kicked out of some things. Have you ever been kicked out of anything? There is a joy. If some of you in your lodge would stand up and testify for the Lord Jesus Christ, you would not be around very long. Now, do not get uneasy. Here is the peer pressure. We talk about kids' peer pressure. It is great among kids and just as great among adults and fundamentalism. Now, I am a fundamentalist. I am going to associate with who I want to associate with. If some other fundamentalist does not like it, that is his problem, not mine. That is his problem. He has a restricted area. "You do that, and we will close off on you." Well, just close the door; I will feel better. There is a conflict with the religious crowd.

Let us get off of conflict. Let us go to the comfort of increasing light. When you obey the Lord, there is more light and light and light. Proverbs 4:18: *But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.* Obey light, and you get more light. Disobey light, and you have less light. You walk in darkness. *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.* Look at the increasing light in this man. Who was he? He said he was a man. Verse 17 says He

was a prophet. Verse 33 says He was a man of God. Verse 35 says He was the Son of God. What did he do? He obeyed Light, and that Light shown bright. This is a man. Then a little later on, He warned the man that He was a prophet. Later on, He was more than a prophet; He has to be a God. More than that, he was the Son of God. What a comfort it is to have increasing light on the pathway as we obey the Lord.

There is also the comfort of assurance. Look at verse 25. They tried to shake him. Give God the praise. John 9:25: *He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.* Now, you cannot argue with that. You cannot tell a healed blind man that he cannot see. You can try. If you have been saved, you ought to know and be able to say, "Well, I cannot answer your question." You say, "What about that?" "I cannot answer that, but I know this. Once I was blind, but now I see. That I know. Once I was lost, but now I am saved. That I know." You can deal with any cultist. You can deal with a scholar. You can deal with any smart aleck professor. You do not have to answer all the questions, but this one answer will give you confidence wherever you go. . . . *one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.* That is assurance. Everybody ought to know that they are saved. If Jesus did something for you, you ought to be able to know it. You can know it by the Word of God. You can know it by your experience. Your experience can be cloudy because of the fact that you cannot put your finger on the place when you got saved. I got saved in the spring of 1942. I cannot tell you the time I got saved, but I know I see! I know this. You can take the Word of God for it. 1 John 5:11: *And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.* It is not in church. It is not in baptism. It is not in creeds. It is not in ordinances. It is not in money. It is not in deeds. This life is in His Son. *He that hath the Son hath life . . .* If you have got Jesus, you have got life. If you do not have Jesus and if you join the church, get baptized, tithe regularly, have a family altar, do not cuss, do not smoke, do not chew, and do not run around, you do not have life. 1 John 5:12-13: *He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.* I know because I trusted Christ as my personal Savior. I have no other plea, no other hope, no other refuge but Jesus. I know I am saved because the Bible says so. That will last forever. New converts, watch out for the people who try to shake you. Watch out for the folks and cults that come along and say, "Does your preacher receive a salary?" They will take a passage of Scripture in 1 Corinthians to try to make you believe that you should not pay preachers. Paul later apologized for that statement to that church. He would not let a church pay him because the wicked, godless shepherds were there. "Okay, if they are serving the Lord, I will not take any salary. Let these cults not take any salary." He shut them up. They shut their mouths. There are places when nobody can give them anything. Why? It is for a testimony reason. The Bible teaches . . . *that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.* You say, "But we do not do that. We do not have any preacher that we pay." That appeals to a lot of people. "Man alive, we hear about giving down at my church, and I am tired of that." You get hooked up into a damnable cult because of the fact that money is more important to you than truth. They will come and discredit the ministry and then discredit the message. "There is no hell." They will turn to the Word of God and take verses of Scripture that tell you you can get out of hell. Those verses are not there. They make them say that. Beware of them. Continue your testimony. Where is the place to give your testimony? A lot of people say, "I am saved. Could I come to your church and give my testimony?" The place to give your testimony is out yonder. It is out there. This is a place for preaching. This is a place for feeding the flock. Out there where lost men rub shoulders is where you give your testimony. You give your testimony back home. By the ungodly crowd, give it there. That is the place to give your testimony. Do not stop giving it.

There is also comfort of rejection. In verse 34, they kicked him out. Verse 35-38: *Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. And he said, Lord, I believe.*

And he worshipped him. He moved from receiving physical sight. Then, he had his spiritual Light. When they kicked him out, Jesus took him in. There is no sweeter thing than that. You get kicked out, and Jesus says, "That is all right. I will go with you. I will go with you." He stood with Paul in jail. He stood with Paul at the chopping block when Paul said, "All men forsook me; nevertheless, the Lord stood by me." Child of God, when you get kicked out and shoved aside for your service with the Lord Jesus Christ, Jesus will stand with you. He will be more precious and real to you than ever before. Jesus said: *I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.* Now, let us just quit right there.