

REVELATION (PART II)

*Matthew 16:13-20, „...And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven....”
(Verse 17)*

Let's listen further what God's Prophet said about „revelation”:

The importance of revelation by the Spirit to a true believer can never be over emphasized. Revelation means more to you than perhaps you realize. Now I am not talking about this Book of Revelation and you. I am talking about all revelation. **It is tremendously important to the church.** Do you remember in Matthew 16 where Jesus asked the disciples this question,

*“Whom do men say that I the Son of Man am? And they said, Some say that Thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona; **for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but My Father Which is in heaven.** And I say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and **upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”***

The Roman Catholics say that the church is built upon Peter. Now that is really carnal. How could God build the church upon a man so unstable that he denied the Lord Jesus and cursed while doing it? (*Matt. 26:69-75*). **God can't build His church upon any man born in sin.** And it wasn't some rock lying there as though God had hallowed the ground at that spot. And it isn't as the Protestants say, that the church is built upon Jesus. **It was the revelation.** Read it the way it is written: **“Flesh and blood hath not revealed it, but My father hath revealed it, and upon this rock (revelation) I will build My church:”** (*Matt. 16:17*), **the church is built on Revelation, on the “Thus Saith the Lord”.**

How did Abel know what to do in order to offer a proper sacrifice to God? (*Gen. 4:3-8*). **By faith he received the revelation of the blood. Cain didn't get such a revelation (even though he had a commandment) so he couldn't offer the right sacrifice. It was a revelation from God that made the difference and gave Abel eternal life.** Now you might take what the pastor says, or what the seminary teaches, and though it might be taught to you with eloquence, **until God reveals to you that Jesus is the Christ, and that it is**

the blood that cleanses you, and that God is your Saviour, you will never have eternal life. It is the Spiritual revelation that does it.

Now I said that this Book of Revelation is the revelation of Jesus and what He is doing in the churches for those seven ages. It is a revelation because the disciples, themselves, didn't know these recorded truths. It had not been previously revealed to them. You remember that they came to Jesus in the Book of Acts and asked Him, "Are You at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" And He said, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons." (*Acts 1:6-8*). Those men were still thinking of Jesus having an earthly kingdom. **But it was a spiritual kingdom that He was going to build.** Even He could not tell them about His place in it, for the Father had not revealed it unto Him. **But now after His death and resurrection, and at this particular time in His mediatorial ministry, He is able to set forth here in this revelation of Himself to John what His glory and presence in the church would mean and do.**

In this revelation He tells us what the end of the devil is. He tells how He is going to deal with the devil and cast him into the lake of fire. He reveals the end of the wicked ones who follow Satan. And Satan hates that (*Rev. 20:7-15*).

Have you ever noticed how Satan hates two books of the Bible more than all others? Through liberal theologians and pseudo-scientists **he is always attacking the Book of Genesis and the Book of Revelation. In both of these books we find Satan's origin, his awful ways and his destruction** (*Gen. 3:1-7.14-15*). That is why he attacks them. He hates to be exposed, and in those books he is exposed for exactly what he is. Jesus said about Satan, "He has no part in Me and I have no part in him." The devil would like to prove that different; but he cannot, **so he does all he can to destroy confidence in the Word. But when the church disbelieves Satan and believes the Spirit's revelation of the Word, the gates of hell cannot prevail against her.**

Let me just put in a word here from my own ministry, if you don't mind. You all know that this gift in my life is supernatural. It is a gift whereby the Holy Spirit is able to discern diseases, and the thoughts of men's hearts, and other hidden things **that only God could know and then reveal to me.** I wish you could stand with me and see the faces of people when Satan knows he is going to be exposed. Now, it isn't the people that I am talking about. **It is that Satan has got a hold in their lives through sin, indifference, and disease.** But you should see their faces. Satan knows he is going to be exposed, and the most peculiar changes come over the peoples' countenances. Satan is afraid. He knows that the Spirit of God is about to let the people know of his works. That is why he hates these meetings so much. **When names are called and diseases revealed, Satan hates it.** Now what is this? It is not mind reading, it

is not telepathy, nor is it witchcraft. **It is a revelation by the Holy Ghost.** That is the only way I can know it. Of course the carnal mind will call it anything but the Holy Ghost.

Let me show you another reason why Satan hates this Book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ in the church. He knows that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever, and He changes not. He knows that a whole lot more than do ninety percent of the theologians. He knows that since God is immutable in His nature, then He is just as immutable in His ways. Thus Satan knows assuredly **that the original church at Pentecost with the power of God (Mark 16 in action) is the True Church** that Jesus claims as His own (*Acts 2:1-13*). All else is false. It has to be.

Now remember this. **Christ in the True Church is a continuation of the Book of Acts.** But the Book of Revelation shows how that the antichrist spirit would come into the church and defile it, **making it lukewarm, formal and powerless.** It exposes Satan, revealing his works (attempted destruction of God's people and the discrediting of God's word) right down to the time he is cast into the lake of fire. **He fights that.** He cannot stand it. **He knows that if the people get the true revelation of the true church and what she is, what she stands for and that she can do the greater works, she will be an invincible army (*John 14:12*).** **If they get a true revelation of the two spirits within the framework of the Christian church, and by God's Spirit discern and withstand the antichrist spirit, Satan will be powerless before her.** He will be as definitely thwarted today as when Christ withstood his every effort to gain power over Him in the desert (*Matt. 4:1-11*). **Yes, Satan hates revelation. But we love it. With true revelation in our lives, the gates of hell cannot prevail against us, but we will prevail over them.**

You will recall that I mentioned at the beginning of this message that this Book we are studying is the actual revelation of Jesus, Himself, in the church and His work in the future ages. **Then I mentioned that it takes the Holy Spirit to give us revelation or we will fail to get it (*John 16:13*).** Bringing these **two thoughts together you will see that it won't take just ordinary study and thinking to make this Book real. It is going to take the operation of the Holy Ghost. That means this Book can't be revealed to anyone but a special class of people. It will take one with prophetic insight. It will require the ability to hear from God. It will require supernatural instruction, not just a student comparing verse with verse, though that is good. But a mystery requires the teaching of the Spirit or it never becomes clear. How we need to hear from God and lay ourselves open and become yielded to the Spirit to hear and know.**

As I have already said, this Book (Revelation) is the consummation of the Scriptures. It is even placed exactly right in the canon of Scripture; at the end. Now you can know why it says that anyone who reads or even hears it is

blessed. **It is the revelation of God that will give you authority over the devil.** And you can see why they who would add or take from it would be cursed (*Rev. 22:18-19*). It would have to be so, for who can add or take away **from the perfect revelation of God and overcome the enemy?** It is that simple. **There is nothing of such prevailing power as the revelation of the Word.** [1]

Brother Branham continues: I remember standing yonder some thirty years ago, when this church wasn't built yet, was a little tent meeting setting here on the corner, my first meeting. **I was preaching this same Gospel, same thing, the unsearchable riches of Christ,** water baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ, believing every Word to be the truth, baptism of the Holy Ghost, Divine healing, the powers of God, just like I preach It now, **never varied one inch from any of It. God's revealed more of It to me, so as He reveals It, I just keep bringing It on. He never takes away from what has been; He just keeps adding more on to It.** [2]

But all this mystery (*Rev. 10:1-7*) **is revealed only as He promised to His Bride.** Hell is against this truth of the revelation of this mystery. **But the Bride is standing on it. That's Her stand.**

Why do you hunger, Church? Why do you thirst? **It's the Father trying to reveal this hidden secret (*I Cor. 2:6-10*) to you, but you let so many things get it out of you.** You let your job, you let your wife, you let your husband, you let your children, you let the cares of the world, you let the--some pastor, you let somebody else get that out of you, when you know that way down in your heart you're a-thirsting, hungry. **It's God trying to reveal it to you, the revelation.** The last day is here. [3]

Reference:

[1] "Church Age Book", pg. 13-16

[2] „Adoption Part I“, par. 117-118

[3] „Christ Is The Mystery Of God Revealed“, pg. 72-73

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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", pg. 724]