(The Seventh Commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery")
Sunday October 29, 2000

The Marriage Covenant #7

(The Si6th Commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery")

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Let us remain standing while we read from the Word of God.

EXODUS 20:14 *Thou shalt not commit adultery.*

Let us pray. Dear Father, we come before your great Presence this morning in thanksgiving for your wonderful Word of reconciliation which you have personally brought to us through your Divine Presence Among us. We thank you for Your Message, For the Shout, and for vindicating that Message by Your Presence among us. Help us to receive all that you have for us, and help us in our hearts to draw closer to thee through the study of Thy Word, for we ask these things in the precious name of your obedient Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

This morning we will take our text from **EXODUS 20:14** Thou shalt not commit adultery. This will be number 6 in our Marriage Covenant series and we shall deal with the seventh Commandment, Thou Shalt Not commit adultery.

Now, the first thing I would like to say this morning is to remind you that we have found the Ten Commandments which God gave to man are not ten laws which God has thrown at man to keep him in line. And these are not ten laws that God demands from man to test man's desire to be righteous, nor are they Ten Commandments that if obeyed will make man Holy. What the Ten

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Commandments were given for are ten laws for establishing and maintaining a relationship between God and man. Ten laws of relationship. As as such I have felt led to look at these laws in light of the Marriage Covenant. And thus we have found the first law which states you shall have no other is perfectly appropriate for the Marriage Covenant, to establish it and to maintain it.

The Second Law of the Marriage Covenant is likewise as important, namely Thou shalt not take thy Mate in vain. Don't allow your marriage to become a useless order, but keep it alive and vibrant, which leads to the Third Law of the Marriage Covenant namely To Spend Time Together doing Nothing, but remembering each other. The Fourth we found is To Honor One another and the fifth was to never do anything that can kill the marriage. Remember, there are more ways to kill than just killing the body.

Jesus said in, MATTHEW 5:21 ¶ Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: 22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

William Branham illustrated this point of Jesus by saying, in the message, HEBREWS CHAPTER 7 PT 2 CHURCH ORDER 57-0922 348-346 Jesus turned right back around, said, "It is said of them of old times, 'Thou shalt not kill,' but I say who's ever angry with his

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brother without a cause, has killed already. It is said of them of old times, '... And you people with these saw-blade tempers, that's always spouting off in the mouth at somebody, can't put up, and things like that. Be careful. You're guilty if you speak a word against your brother that's not right, not just. Go around and tear down... You don't have to stick a knife in a man's back to kill him; you can break his character and kill him, kill his influence. Speak against your pastor here, say something bad about him, you just might as well have shot him; told something that wasn't right about him, well, it'll kill his influence with the people and things like that, and you're guilty of it. What Jesus said

Therefore we have learned that the Ten Commandments that God gave to man, are ten rules to help him have a closer relationship with God and they are also ten important rules to govern the marriage covenant as well.

Now, this morning we are looking at rule number seven, *Thou shalt not commit adultery*.

There is no better way to Kill a relationship than to commit adultery against that relationship. That is why God has an order, and when He said, Thou shalt not kill, immediately He also said Thou shalt not commit adultery, and The way in which God dealt with adultery in the Old Testament was very simple. The person caught in adultery was put to death. Eye for eye, tooth for tooth. Then if the penalty was death, it is because adultery is a form of killing itself. Remember, there is more than one ay to kill. You don't need to kill the body to kill, you can kill the relationship, you can kill the soul. Jesus said,

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don't fear him that can kill the body, but him that can kill both body and soul.

LEVITICUS 20:10 ¶ And the man that committeth adultery with [another] man's wife, [even he] that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.

Now, we have it. You commit adultery, there is one answer to that and it is death. Therefore, don't you ever do it. You do everything you can to keep and preserve your marriage relationship.

But why do people commit adultery? That is the real question we are looking at. Why do people kill there relationship and commit adultery? That is what we really want to examine this morning.

I believe there is one reason why people commit adultery, and that is because they are not being fulfilled in their own marriage relationship. And because they are either too stupid to know what to do in their own relationship to build it up or they are too lazy to work at it. Either way it comes to a lack of understanding.

PROVERBS 6:32 Whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he [that] doeth it destroyeth his own soul. 33 A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. 34 For jealousy [is] the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. 35 He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts.

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This scripture tells us that the person whoever it might be that commits adultery does it because they lack understanding. First of all they lack the ability to bring satisfaction to their own marriage, and secondly they lack understanding about adultery and the destructive effects it will have upon their own soul.

God's Word tells us here that the one who adultery does so for commits lack understanding. And the one doing so destroys his own soul by placing a mark upon that soul. The Word used is "Wound" but the Hebrew word is "Nega" and it means to place a mark like in leprosy, the mark of a plague, or a plague spot, or And the Word of God goes on to describe what this mark on your soul will bring forth. It says, "and Dishonor shall he receive". Dishonor, ignominy, disgrace and a bad reputation.

Just look at how people view the current president. His legacy will be that he was an adulterer. What is John Kennedy known for? His philandering? What was Joseph Kennedy known for? His philandering. What about Ted Kennedy? His philandering. And the people make jokes and have fun at the expense of these men. Though they climbed the ranks of American politics, yet they will go down in History for their shameful behavior and inability to contain their lustful desires. But we are asking ourselves, why does a person commit adultery? And the answer God gave us is because the adulterer lacks understanding, and doesn't even realize the damage he is doing to his own soul.

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Brother Branham said in the message, **FAITH** IN THE SON OF GOD 52-0715 E-22 Here not long ago, I was preaching in a Methodist church, one night, and I thought the Lord was firing me up good. And I was just a preaching away, and I said, "You don't go to hell because you get drunk. You don't go to hell because you commit adultery. You don't go to hell because you smoke cigarettes, things like that." Some little old Methodist mother had just as much as she could stand, you know. She was setting there. And jumps up to her feet (a great nice church) and said, "Reverend Branham, I resent that. What do you go to hell for?" I said, "Because you believe not." That's right. The Bible said, "He that believeth not is condemned already." Jesus said, "He that heareth My Words, and believeth on Him that sent Me has Everlasting Life and shall not come into condemnation, but's already passed from death to Life."

EXPLAINING HEALING AND JAIRUS 54-**0216** E-13 Well, what is sin? See? Drinking whiskey is not, and smoking cigarettes, and committing adultery is not sin. That's just the attributes of sin. You do that because you're sinners. That's what you life bears. Smoke... Just like I said tonight outside, "How much this is nice, the whole thing's nice." And you're a sinner, because you believe not. "He that believeth not is condemned already." You're a sinner, because you don't believe. And when... That's what makes you do those is, because you do not believe, and yet you profess to believe. That ought to make all the holiness preachers say, "Amen." And a Calvinist is saying it. All right. But anyhow, what the--when you--your life is known by the fruit you bear. And if you just

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simply do these things, and think there's no harm in them, it's because it hasn't been right down here, yet. See? You do that because you are a unbeliever. Now, I know Baptists will disagree with that. But listen, brother, the tree's known by its fruit it bears. Jesus said, "By their fruit, ye shall know them."

A person filled with the Holy Ghost does not do those things. Oh, you say, they just fell to temptation, but they still have the Holy Ghost, I know because they were sincere when they were baptized.

They might have been sincere when they were baptized but that and they might have received a lovable spirit, but that doesn't mean they were filled with the Holy Ghost.

John said, I JOHN 3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; (He that performs sin, he that doeth sin, he that produces sin in his life) for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

You see, it begins in the heart, adultery is a condition of the heart. It begins in the heart but moves out into the flesh. And if you have not been born again, it doesn't stop at the heart, it is not resolved at the heart, but will move out into the flesh.

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OUESTIONS AND ANSWERS 54-0103M

71-77 Your very life proves what you are. What you are... As I said in the beginning, what you are somewhere else is what you reflect here. What you are, what your celestial or terrestrial body is up yonder, what your celestial body is somewhere else is what you're reflecting back here. In the spirit land, what you are, is what you are here. If you're still vulgar minded and so forth in the spirit land, you're vulgar minded here. If you still got malice, envy, and strife, you're in the spirit land with that, it reflects back here. But if your whole innermost being has become cleansed and purged, it shows that you've got a body out yonder waiting, that's been cleansed and purged, and it's reacting back in the flesh. Don't you see? See, there it is. "If this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting." See?

EXPLAINING HEALING AND JAIRUS 54-

0216 E-37 What you are here is a reflection of what you are somewhere else. "Those who He called, He justifies." Is that right? "Those who He justified, He has glorified." Already in the Presence of the Father, we have a glorified body. Whew! Wasn't that deep? All right. We'll find out whether it's right or not. "If this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting." Is that right? That's right. So right now, and what we are there, is a reflection. Here, what we are here, is a reflection of what we are somewhere else. So if your deeds are evil, you know where it comes from. You know where your other body's a waiting.

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The problem is that people stop short of being born again. They make a confession all right, but it means nothing to them. They get baptized all right but it means nothing to them. Why? Because they are ignorant of the real thing. Listen, you parents, when that child wants to be baptized, you better explain to them that this is a commitment to a way of life. When that child gets baptized, they have committed themselves to a life. The problem is we parents don't hold them to it.

If your child is old enough to make a commitment to die for Christ, then they are old enough to make a commitment to live for Him. And if they are not ready to give up the things of the world and the pulls of the flesh, then they are not ready to die to themselves. And if they are not ready to die to themselves, then they are not ready to live the life of a Son or daughter in Christ.

IMPERSONATION OF CHRISTIANITY 57-

0120M *E-41* Now, notice the order of the Scripture; it's perfect. God said first "I'll take away the old stony heart." You can't receive nothing. Then He said, "I'll give you a new spirit." Now, that ain't the Holy Spirit. There's where the mistake's been made. A lot of people, many people, rather, come to the altar to pray, and they get down there to praying and praying, they get to feeling a little better. They might get up and go on, and jump around a little while, and after awhile you find out they just bounce, bounce, bounce...?... back again. They never received the Holy Spirit. No matter how much they bounce, or how much they screamed, or how much they--oil had run out of their hands, or they

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had bloody faces, or how much they spoke in tongues, or how much they shouted, or--or what they did, that has nothing at all to do with it. That was only human emotions. They got a new spirit, and they rejoiced with it. I'm going to say something, and I want it to sink deep, and may God help. There is the--the emotional side of the so called Holy Ghost church today. They get a lot of build up of fanaticism, and run off out there, because they disregard the Word. They go only together, "Oh, we had a great meeting. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah."

E-42 Now, when you do that, and don't bear the fruit of the Spirit, then you're in the new spirit. You didn't used to do that; that's right. But God had to give you a new spirit. Why, the spirit you had, you couldn't even get along with yourself. So how are you going to get along with God? So God had to give you a new heart, not a patched up one, a new heart. That's your intellects that you think with, a new way of thinking. Then when He give you a new way of thinking, "Yes, that's right. The Bible looks to be reasonable. I used to didn't believe that. I believe it now." Now, there's your great revival. See?

E-43 They say, "Yes, sure I don't want to go to hell. I want to accept Christ." That's all right. That's good. That's just your first...?... Then He said after that, "Then I'll give you a new spirit." What's that? A new desire, "I want to do right." "Now, I know I'm a Christian, I got to... I'll smoke one more and then I'll throw it away. See? And I'll--I'll--I'll just see... I--I--I'll just stay home tonight, and you know, I'll just..." all these little just, just, that's exactly... Eve stopped just for a moment. That's all she had to do.

But now, that's the new spirit. Then notice the order of the Scripture. After you get a new heart

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and a new spirit, He said, "Then I'll put My Spirit..." See? Oh, what? That's the what the Scripture says here. That's the order, the numatics and numerical order of the Scripture: a new heart, a new spirit, and then My Spirit. E-Then God's Holy Spirit... God's new heart that He put in you, sets right in the center of you. That's your--your impulse, where you--you-your--your emotions goes out. And the new Spirit sets right in the center of the new heart. And God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit, sets right in the center of your new Spirit, and there It controls your emotions. It's just like the--the mainspring in a famous watch, and it's self-winding. You don't have to wind it everyday. God's wound it once for all. And it sets right in the middle of the--of your life--your new life. And as the mainspring, as it relieves and ticks away the watch, it controls every little organism of that watch to perfect time.

E-45 And when the Holy Spirit, not the new degree, not the new church, not the new thought, not the new emotion, not the new oil, not the new dance, not the new lips, not the new tongue, not the new this, not the new hat, but when God places His Spirit in the middle of your new spirit, then you don't have to act meek; you don't have to act like a Christian. It controls everything that's within you. It puts you in decent, makes the church act orderly, makes the gifts work perfect. And if you have to be taken from a place where you think you should be and put down somewhere else, it controls you. Not...?... "I'll never come back again. Mmm, no, sir." That shows that the mainspring is not in there.

E-46 When you blow up at every little thing that happens, causes that disposition, and when the pastor happens to hit something, that's

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in the Word, and you, "[Brother Branham makes a spitting noise--Ed.] I don't believe that," look out, old cowhide. See? Watch out. The new mainspring hasn't been set in there right yet. But it controls; it makes you believe; it makes you act in such a way till you become salty. And the whole world thirsts to be like you. That's the Holy Spirit setting in the middle of your Spirit. It's the Mainspring. It's then that the yoke that you're yoked with... "Oh, I just hate to go to church tonight. I don't... If that preacher, if he wasn't so long-winded, I'd like to hear him a few minutes. But I tell you what; the last time I went, when I went down to the card party, Susie said to me, 'Do you mean to tell me the very audacity, that you have belittled yourself to take your hair down? You mean to tell me that you're not going to wear those shorts anymore, Lydia?'" Well, you see, the thing of it is, if you just got a new spirit, it'll just kill you. That's right.

E-47 But when you got His Spirit, it makes every emotion tick just right to the Word of God. It'll tick right with the Word. You'll say, "Well, now, Susie, just a moment. The Bible said, 'It's an abomination before Him to do that. And the love of Christ has come into my heart, and I love Him too much to do it. I love Him." "John, do you mean to tell me, that you been associated with that bunch of fanatics, and you won't take a cigar because they was a new boy born in my house?" "But you see," John, "it says that we must... The Holy Spirit in my heart tells me that we should abstain from all filth of the world." See, see? Not, John. "Hallelujah, John. Glory to God, John. Pray for us, get oil on my hands. Glory to God, now I can speak in tongues, Hallelujah, I'll..."

E-48 No, no, that ain't the way the Holy Ghost behaves Itself. No, no. See? Ticks her off

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in decency. As Paul stood before Agrippa, and brought the Word, And Agrippa said, "Paul, thou almost persuadeth me to be a Christian."

And that's the problem we have in the church today, "Thou almost persuadest me", almost persuaded. The Almost Christian. What we have today is a church full of Almost Christians.

EXPLAINING HEALING AND JAIRUS 54-

0216 E-23 Many times that we judge people by their actions, and sometimes we don't judge the heart. You know, I've often thought, back here is the spirit of a man, the next is his soul, the next is his mind, and then his flesh. All right. Satan does not tempt down in here, he tempts out here in the flesh. For instance, you go down the street tomorrow, you're walking along singing Christian songs, and somebody says, "You know, she or he, is just a hypocrite (talking about you.); there's nothing..." Now, the first thing, your flesh picks that up in the ear, and it suggest to the mind, "Get even with him." Time it gets back here, he says, this back here says, "Vengeance is Mine,' saith the Lord. 'I will repay.'" See? That's it. So Satan tempts out here. You see? He doesn't get down here, because is immortal. See? It's the flesh that he tempts. Young man going down the street, young Christian boy, a young lady coming immorally dressed. The eye picks it up; the flesh suggest to the mind evil. Then time it gets to the mind, goes to the soul, the nature's good... The soul of man is the nature of the spirit, of course. And so, when the soul gets there, but the Spirit says, "Whoever looketh upon a woman to lust after has committed adultery in his heart already." The young man turns his head and

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walks away. See? That's down here is where it's got to be, not out here. It's got to be down in your heart, where it's got to come from, where--where God lives.

WORD BECAME FLESH INDIA TRIP 54-1003M 225 Then let that be pure. Let your thoughts run pure, and your expressions pure. Live pure and be pure. Now, out of your heart proceedeth evil thinking, adultery, and all these different things; if that comes out of your heart, that's what's in your heart. But if out of your heart comes righteous, peace, love, joy, oh, my, then it's coming from a resource here that's made up of that. See what I mean? It's made up of the Spirit of God here that's expressed Itself through the words, and what you say then will come to pass.

MATTHEW 5:27 ¶ *Ye have heard that it was* said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: 28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. 29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast [it] from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not [that] thy whole body should be cast into hell. 30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast [it] from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not [that] thy whole body should be cast into hell. 31 It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: 32 But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit

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adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

And remember what Jesus said, and what Branham quotes in the Brother HEBREWS CHAPTER 7 PT 2 CHURCH **ORDER 57-0922** 348-346 He said, *Jesus turned* right back around, said, "It is said of them of old times, ... Thou shalt not commit adultery,' but I say unto you, whosoever looketh upon a woman to lust after her, has committed adultery already within his heart with her." There you are. That ought to teach women how to dress, how to do what's right. If you dress wrong, and cause the man to look at you in the wrong way, you're guilty of committing adultery, just the same as you went through the act. Jesus said so.

Now the problem as we stated from the beginning is that the person who commits adultery lacks understand.

GALATIANS 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are [these]; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

II PETER 2:14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: 15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam [the son] of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

And because of their lack of understand they try to justify themselves in their actions.

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PROVERBS 30:20 Such [is] the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness.

Then how can we keep adultery from affecting our own marriage? We need to have an understanding how adultery works it's way into the marriage. In his book, "His Needs, Her Needs," William F. harley said, "If any of a spouses basic need's goes unmet, that spouse becomes vulnerable to the temptation of an affair, and they'll begin to look outside the marriage to satisfy that unmet need.

We need to be on guard against it from the very beginning. And one way is to make sure that our spouse is satisfied in their marriage. Therefore we have to keep a constant vigil.

MARK 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels. Notice Jesus tells us that the whole generation will be adulterous. And that is what is piped through the airwaves every which way you turn.

Read page 80 from "Staying Close"

There was this man and woman who had been married for a couple years and she come to find out that this man (her husband) seemed to always have eyes for other women. It began to really bother her, so one day when they were out, she caught him eyeing another woman and she became very angry. All the way home she let

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him have it. She verbally berated him with every thing she could think of and yet instead of him asking forgiveness for his weak flesh, he just became angry that she was angry. The more she barked at him the colder he became, until she finally, out of frustration said, "How would you like it if you didn't see me for a few days?" Well, by this time he was so tired of her berating him, that he turned to her and said, "I think I would like that just fine." That was Sunday. Well, Monday went by and he didn't see her, Tuesday came and went and he still didn't see her. Wednesday came and went just as the other two days and he still didn't see her. Finally on Thursday the swelling went down some and he could see her out of the corner of his left eye.

DEMONOLOGY 2 RELIGIOUS 53-0609 99

Now, then the Urim Thummim today is this Bible. If somebody has give a prophecy or a dream, and it don't compare or echo with God's Bible, it's false; don't believe it. A man come to me not long ago from India, where they were fixing to go, a fine little preacher; he said, "Brother Branham, I come over here." Said, "A woman had the Holy Ghost," and said, "she was just a sweetest, nicest woman." He said, "And she had been married four times, and was living with her fourth husband." And I said, 'Well, how could that be, Lord?" And said, "I went to Him and said, 'Oh, glory to God!' Said, 'Hallelujah, praise the Lord." Just one of that type, you know. Said, "Hallelujah. Praise the Lord." Said, "The Lord told me. Here I'm going to give you a dream." And said, "I dreamed that my wife; I seen her living in adultery. And she come back to me and said, 'Oh will you forgive me, Victor? Will you forgive me? I didn't... Why I said, 'Sure, I'll

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forgive you and take you back." He said, "Now, that's what I did." Said, "See, I forgive." I said, "Victor, your dream was mighty lovely, but the Devil give it to you." He said, "Why?" I said, "It don't compare with God's Word. She's living in adultery. Absolutely. She can't live with four men. That's right. She leaves that and goes back to her first, she's worse off than she was in the beginning. She has to live single the rest of her life." I said, "You know it. That don't compare with God's Word, so her--your dream was false." And I said, "It won't compare with This." 103 And when a prophet had a--give a prophecy, and they spoke and wanted to see if that prophecy was true, they put it before the Urim Thummim. And if the Voice of God throwed the lights on the *Urim Thummim, then it was absolute, the Truth.* And if a man gives an interpretation, gives a dream, gives something of the Bible and, or something another, and it don't compare with God's Bible, it's false. There's the Urim Thummim today. God's Word speaks, and that's direct the Voice of God, like the Urim Thummim was before the Bible was written. Amen. Hallelujah.

PAINTED FACE JEZEBEL 56-1005 E-57

You say, "I've used paint and makeup, Brother Branham. I've used the wrong kind of clothes; I know I've throwed myself before men." Listen, I said this. I want to say it again, with your heads bowed. Sister dear, you may be as pure as a lily to your husband; you may be just as pure and undefiled from those things. But did you know, at the judgment you may be called on as committing adultery? You know, Jesus said, "Whosoever looketh upon a woman to lust after her, hath committed adultery with her already in his

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heart." Well, what if you dressed yourself that way and you go out on the street, and a sinner man looks at you and lusts after you, then he's going to have to answer for adultery at the day of judgment. And you're going to be the one that's guilty. And you'll have to answer for adultery in the Presence of God. And no adulteress will ever enter heaven. You presented yourself before him to look that way. You see what I mean? Bless your heart, I don't want you to be all disappointed at judgment. I want you to go. You might be pure and clean as you can be. You may be just the loveliest type of a woman, but if you dress yourself like that and man lusts for you, and you presented yourself to men like that, and they do, you'll answer at the day of judgment as an adulterer. That's exactly right. The Bible said so. See, this Word's deep.

GOD KEEPS HIS WORD 57-0120E E-66 woman can bring forth a good daughter. But watch? What is a harlot? A prostitute. What is these ill-famed women? Is men... Is women who commit adultery and live with other men that's not their husband. And these people, these churches claim to be God's servants, and God's church, and tolerate, and do the things of the world. They commit spiritual fornication. They let their congregations paint, their women wear shorts. And they let them go on and dress like the world and never condemn it. They let the men smoke a social cigarette and take a drink of liquor. They let them have their little card parties, and play pool in the basement, and have the proms and dances in the church, and soup suppers and ever other thing, and teach their little petty theology instead of Word of the living God. You know that's the truth.