FORMING OF CHRIST: HIS NATURE AND CHARACTER WITHIN US I John Wright Follette

- ...there is no other way for us. It satisfies us and gives us assurance. It does not exempt us from the trials of living. It doesn't exempt us; it's not made for that. Salvation is not an escape mechanism. Prayer is neither that. So many Christians have allowed it to become that in them, that their whole religious experience is almost always just an escape, and they flee from reality. But it isn't! It's getting us INTO reality. And an escape out of this UNreality. For we were not made for the atmosphere that we have here in the world. We were made ANEW IN CHRIST JESUS. We are NEW CREATURES, we are not that creature back there. We are NEW CREATURES, and the atmosphere for that is what He has been creating by His Holy Spirit for us. And so He's given these lovely thoughts. We were dealing with this idea of SHADOW, getting under His wings...this mornings message. So tonite, this two lovely, old hymns are perfectly in order, perfectly in line. There was some company and they weren't here to get the wrong message, and so you won't mind if we speak a little bit about it. Have any of you any reaction from the morning message that you feel might be helpful? Or any questions relative to the theme of the morning that I could make clearer to you? When I say we'll have a little time for questions, don't start asking about the anti-christ. Ask about a thing relative to our thought, to create a thought atmosphere. We're dealing with a special line, and if you have any questions that weren't made clear this morning; have you any thing on your heart that you want to ask about? Be free to; it may help somebody else. For these two dear souls... may we talk a little bit about it again...two or three people, of course, in educational circles, we know that, there's a real thrust for repitition, repetition, repitition, repitition. And so this is our teaching ministry, and so we can go over some of the forms and finish them. Sometimes in reviewing, you get the points you didn't the other
- 2. We're dealing with this question of hiding under the wings or the shadow of God. it was provoked by some of the word which we had just the day before, where God speaks during something very unusual, or something that is special. He almost always has it in the thought that it is accomplished under the power of God as if it were overshadowed continually. We started with the question of the Jews who were expecting that material kingdom to be brought in. And they were "let down" in their expectation, because it was artificial. It was a DESIRE, and a TRUTH, out of it's place. So if you embrace some Truth and just cling to it, and it's out of it's place and has lost it's perspective, you might just as well face the defeat. It isn't that the Truth is wrong, it's because we have a wrong FOCUS on it. We were poking along on the wrong level for it's reception. I have you the illustration the other day of why God can't answer some prayers quickly. We say, "Well, why doesn't He tell me?" Because your prayer, or your question that's disturbing you is to be answered maybe on TWO TO THREE DIFFERENT LEVELS. But in your confusion you thing it's all ONE thing. It isn't. The young mother was teaching her little child about the TIME ELEMENT. How it was divided into years, and months, and days and weeks, and oh, she was just getting this over to the child to learn about time. And in his desire to learn, he was working on something and wondered, "Ma. Which comes first, Tuesday or June?" Well...do you get the point? "Which comes first, Tuesday or June?" Now, the mother can't say, "Tuesday," or she can't say, "June." Well, then why didn't she answer? Well, she COULDN'T. We ask just as foolish questions as that, because they involve many things that we're not prepared for, and God can't answer. So He's SILENT. She can't say, "June," or "Tuesday." She says, "Well, dear. I can answer if I can go back and get your LEVEL straightened out. Now, one has relation to days, one is a month, one is..." Well, that's the way the Lord is with us. So sometimes it takes quite a little while to get through. Well, we were talking about that expectation of the KINGDOM. It was RIGHT that they should look for the kingdom. But Jesus didn't come to inaugarate a material kingdom. He came to introduce a SPIRITUAL REALM, called a kingdom. Now He uses another word, He doesn't call it, "Kingdom, kingdom..." He speaks of it as a realm, which is much better. The REALM OF HEAVEN. He says, "The kingdom of heaven," and somebody think of PARADISE. Don't get paradise mixed up with it! Get your phrases and your words in the categories where they belong. Now, paradise is one thing. The kingdom of heaven is another thing. And the kingdom where...hopes to free

the Jews is another thing. Well, we have about four to five meanings at least of KINGDOM alone. But you see, in our translation, we just use one, over and over, and we don't know half the time which is which. So it's just, "kingdom." You can't get very far in the Bible with that way. You have to learn to make a distinction. Yes dear?

Woman: Are the "kingdom of heaven," and "heaven," two different things?

Follette: Well, paradise (is different) but HEAVEN, heaven is an ASPECT of the general kingdom. When He says, "The kingdom of God," or "The realm of spiritual reality," it includes every phase. It's an INCLUSIVE term. But when we say "paradise," it's an isolated aspect of the kingdom, belongs in the kingdom, but's it's only one aspect of it. So we have to learn that or get disciplined. So when the Jews were expecting a kingdom, they were right and they were wrong. They were right in expecting a kingdom because it is prophesized in the OT all the way through. But to expect it when Jesus should come, there...HE CAME AS A REDEEMER. You have a REDEEMER first, then you have your King later. Now they couldn't see that and all the time He taught and preached they were eternally dragging His Truth into THEIR PATTERN. If He said, "Kingdom," then it meant bugles, and banners, and horses, and chariots, and getting Israel back and functioning among the nations, because she had lost her national life. "If we're going to have a Messiah, then we ought to have a Messiah who will bring Israel up to par, where she belongs, among the nations." Which was a very common thing for them to believe. Of course, to them, it was a very strong national feature. And so when He talked, "Kingdom, kingdom, kingdom..., eternally in their vision, in their thoughts, it was to get this kingdom going with a Messiah. Do you remember some of those pictures where He had to correct that all the time? He did nothing but have to correct them. Well, He was a great prophet and teacher. He did come as the redeemer of the world, we know that, but long before He can come up to Calvary to bring forth a redemptive scheme, He has to do an awful lot of TEACHING, preaching. And we say always in teaching, you have your two aspects. Your teaching runs along the line of CREATIVE work, and CORRECTIVE work. And so when Jesus teaches, He teaches as a teacher expounding and bringing in fresh, new revelations of Truth, and then He'll turn right around the next day, His whole day will be spent in purely CORREC-TIVE teaching. Correcting something which is good in itself but out of it's place. Either overemphasized, or lacking in perspective. Then He'll take time to teach them. In correction.

3. Now that's like it was with the Jews. And so when He spoke of this, and they said, "Now will you restore unto us the kingdom?" It's the last question that they ever ask Him. Still that concept was working in them. It couldn't be shattered, it was a FIXATION, and you couldn't shatter it with the death on the cross or the resurrection. It didn't move them. They went through all that episode and turned right around and said, "Will You do the kingdom now? You got through with all that. NOW will You have the kingdom?" Horrible. The very last question that they ever asked Him was that. You look it up. The very last question that any disciple ever asked the Lord was just that, "Will You NOW restore it?" Well, now what I'm getting at is this. Whenever He's going to do something that's very unusual, something dramatically different from what we have or expect, it's always with the POWER OF GOD, the power of God, the power of God is OVERSHADOWING AND MOVING. The power of God. The power of God. Everytime. And so when He gives them the alternative, and he isn't able to bring in the kingdom; He didn't want to. He turned and He said, "There are times and seasons in God's hands which have nothing to do with us. Now let God manage them. There are times and seasons which I But there are still can give you..." How many remember He gave them signs of His coming? wrapped up in God seasons and doings that He doesn't feel that He wants to tell everybody everything. Isn't it nice that God can have a few secrets? I don't want a God Who has to come and tell everything there is. To be told. And He shut them up. And he says, "There are times in seasons in God becoming in purposes, which is NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW."! "BUT--"alternative. "BUT---don't be scared. The Holy Ghost will come. The POWER OF GOD will come," and He establishes the idea of the church, the Body of Christ making a witness in the world. So He says, "Now turn your attention from that." It's

good psychology. If you can't entertain, receive, even attain under this; your focus is wrong. FORGET THAT, and bring your attention around and place it where it can be fruitful." He didn't say, "Don't have any seeking. Don't have it..." He didn't say that. He CORRECTED it. He CORRECTED it. He said, "THAT is good, but that is not FOR you. IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW. Now, sit down." "BUT---that's alternative. "There IS something for you. BUT---over and against that seeming disaster and disappointment, He says, "BUT ye shall receive POWER after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you. And you shall be MADE INTO A WITNESS for Me on the earth." Well, what a terrific thing. Now listen. Do you ever find a record in the New Testament where they reverted to that thing of the kingdom, kingdom? You never see it again. They were "brainwashed." That's true. They never speak of it again. It's the impact, the powerful impact of the REVOLUTIONIZING TRUTH which is able to sweep aside an ARTIFICIAL arrangement that you're trying to plug through. The Truth will come and just jar that out of the way, and He says, "THIS is not for you," now, that's dissappointing. Whenever you have a dissappointment, my dear; a dissappointment, and I know we all have them, remember in God's pattern, and plan, and design for us, we're going to meet a lot of them. But wherever there's a dissappointment that He sees good for us to face, to interpret, He always has such a marvelous SEQUEL to it. He certainly does. He doesn't dissappoint us to tease us and torment us. He has a DIVINE SUBSTITUTE for the thing which is not suitable for us. He doesn't leave us (empty?) No. He brings in a DIVINE SUBSTITUTE which is so much greater, so much more wonderful, that when they had to give up their concept of that kingdom, that material kingdom that they were dying to have; they thought the world would stop if they didn't get it. He said, "It is not for you to know." How many can see they would feel a SINK? Just sinking down and saying, "Oh, Lord. After all these three years of plugging away?" "I had to. Now don't be discouraged. It is not for you to have this. BUT---substitute. Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Now, how many see an OVERSHADOWING OF POWER IN THE GRACE OF GOD? Do you get that? The OVERSHADOWING? The miracle will take place in the OVERSHADOWING OF GOD, which thru the SHADOW...this is this tremendous moving of God. "And ye shall BECOME..." In the Greek it's so much better. We have distorted the whole idea of that Pentecostal business. I remember years ago when I first came; I've been baptised 55 years...I came in 55 years ago, before most of you were born. And not knowing what it was, whenever God works, whenever He moves, He can't take very long before somebody has to LABEL it and CHANNEL it. Do you know it, or don't you know that? As sure as you live. I wish I didn't know anything sometimes, I be much more "comfortable." But I don't want to be a dumbell, just running around saying, "Glory, glory, glory....!" I don't want to do that. No, no no, no.

4. Come back again. He says, "When this happens, you shall BECOME unto Me." Now years ago, they had a slogan, I don't know whoever invented it; he's going to pay an awful price for it because it's WRECKED, I don't know how many lives. "The baptism of the Holy Spirit is for SERVICE!!" How many of you ever heard that? How many know, it's only a HALF-TRUTH? HARDLY a half-truth! But you see, the "action" side predominates, when the Spiritual, mysterious, wonderful impact hardly moves. It hardly moves. Because of this vibrant flaw of doing something! "They went out and they did miracles." Of course. Why not? But that is not a verb of ACTION. It is a verb suggesting BEING, or a process of BECOMING. "After that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, you shall BECOME unto Me My WITNESS in the earth." How many of you see something very different from the popular, general teaching, because when Pentecost comes, they always start them out to DO something, even if it's nothing but pass out tracts on the street or singing books in the meetings. They have to get them...do, do, do, do something anyways! Jump up and down! Anything!! DO!!! Oh, mercy! I've been all through that. It has helped to RUIN some of the very best things that God wanted. What is it, dear?

Man: He was speaking to His apostles whom He had talked to for years too.

Follette: Oh, yes, but that doesn't mean too much. I've had to deal with students; all of us have, who have been taught plenty, and won't get there yet. yes, He's taught them much. But you can see how much they were able to receive. Now do you know why

they weren't able to receive too much? How many can see the continual influence of a "coloring." Everything Hë said, how many know they were COLORING it with their pink thoughts? Everything He said, they had a new...and they coated it to their system. So when He said, "You'll receive what I'm going to give. God will pour it out. And you shall BECOME, not DO." Now you're GOING TO DO. Maybe we'll speak a little about that. The place of our activity, and the place of our ministry, and the place of our service in the whole economy. I want to talk a little bit on that tonite. But get it in it's true proportion and the place where it belongs. His FIRST thought was, "When the Holy Spirit comes upon them..." He is making a BODY. How many know they were the "charter" members? How many know they were the first CELLS of the Body? The first CELLS of the Body. And they were just little, weak, trembling spirits. How wonderful God is, that He could take that little handful, and some of them had already shown such weakness, and take a hold of them and say, "You are to BECOME." What? The NUCLEUS, the first little cell group in a mysterious, mystical Body which I will project down through the ages." And that Body has been pulsating and moving through history, through nations, past nations, that little, trembling, pulsating Body of Christ. Can you see it pushing it's way through history. How? Under the energy and power of the third member of the trinity. The Holy Spirit. That's His mission; that's His work.

- 5. So He says, "Forget all this idea that you wanted all this. Forget it. The kingdom for the Jews will come. This isn't the time. NOW, under this impact, you shall BECOME UNTO ME MY WITNESS, just the same as Israel was the witness to God in the Old Testament," and He says so. He says, "Here are My witness', My witness'" How many know Israel was a repository of Truth and light? For all nations. All nations contribute. Every nation contributes, and Israel's vocation was that she was the RELIGIONIST. In the family of God, and so He gives to Israel that lovely, glorious vision of God. The unity of God, the oneness of God, the holiness of God. And all of that holy, testifying witness that they became, became the foundation for it. He says, "I will give you that, Israel. I will give you the revelation of God, "not the polytheistic sense, because all the nations around them were polytheistic. They had many gods, many gods, many gods, gods, and gods. But He said, "Israel! GOD IS ONE." How many get it? The unity, the oneness. How many can hear Him thunder through the Old Testament? I like to see Him as a majestic God, moving down through that whole Old Testament. Majestic! "God is ONE!" Now, that's part of their testimony. And they're going to give it to the world. That's part of it. "God is One." "What kind of god?" "God is HOLY." Do you remember the other part of the witness? The HOLINESS of God over and against all of what they had. "How shall we know Him?" How many see the law of the sacrifice of the LAMB coming in? Don't you get it? How many can see that, all part of a DIVINE ARRANGEMENT, A DIVINE PATTERN? So He says, "Israel, that's for you." And Israel became unto God a living, dramatic, dynamic testimony and witness unto God."
- 6. Then we had on our chart the other day...then a little later Jesus Christ appears Who is also a WITNESS UNTO GOD, in a way that Israel can't. Because He becomes not only the ? of the redemptive scheme, but He becomes the Lamb for it. And here is Jesus, Who is unto God what He wants, a great and marvelous testimonial -- what? The whole REDEMPTIVE SCHEME coming into consummation, through Him. And we said... I never knew this until the Lord opened this to me. I had read a lot about Pentecost and I'd been through it, but none of the things that they had seemed to satisfy me very far. I'm not easily satisfied. How many of you know I'm not? I have to get in there and find what it is. God showed me this. I never found it. I've never seen a tract on it. This whole business that He should become a witness, rules the great pattern or design which starts from the beginning in Genesis and ends in Revelation. It is a THREE-FOLD witness. Israel--the first. "Ye shall be My witness." Three, four times in Isaiah He thunders it. "Ye shall be my witness," and Israel did become that. Now, JESUS comes. And He becomes the dramatic, embodiment of the whole thing, and brings forth the redemptive, glorious salvation. And the first name which is given to Him in the Book of Revelation, which is the UNFOLDING, the revelation OF this Christ; the first name is

not the Paschal Lamb. Do you know the first name? THE FAITHFUL WITNESS. The very first name that the Lord gives Him in the Book of Revelation, look at it. I didn't know it; the Lord said, "Look that up." (unable to hear)...many times He says, "Read it again. Read it in conjunction with this." First thing you know I've got something on my hands. We were talking about Jesus being the witness, so He says, "Where is He called the Witness?" The FIRST name that's given to Jesus in the holy Book of Revelation, which is the unfolding of His greatness; how many of you see something pushing it's way up through there? Sure as you live.

7. Now here's the witness that's two-fold. Now He's going away. Israel has functioned. She's had a glorious and wonderful ministry. It was for her to bring forth Christ in them, Who was unto salvation. Jesus has a marvelous witness and ministry. He demonstrates the thing, brings it to it's full. Now He says, "I want you to become MY witness in this earth. And you shall have a purpose and a design. I'm going to call you out in what we call 'time,' and you shall become unto Me My witness, not only here,..." but He tells us in the New Testament, you you remember it, He says that in the AGES TO COME through the ministry of the church, His Body, He's going to show the glory of God through ages...do you remember that? How is that going to be done? Through this WITNESS Our real ministry isn't HERE, dear. We're only here for a little time of ADJUSTMENT. We will be PROJECTED upon another line and level. And in the eons and ages yet to come, glory to God, He will glorified and exalted through every instrument which he has designed for it, which He has been patient for CENTURIES to work out. And so among them, Israel, the holy _____, Jesus Christ, the great______. "You shall be unto Me, MY witness in the earth. You will BECOME that. I can't make you that with one moving of the Spirit, but you shall BECOME that." How many know we are in the PROCESS OF BECOMING? No ONE experience ever finishes it. Much teaching is very, very foolish. They feel that if they get an experience, it does something of that kind. NO. This is what an experience will do. If you have the baptism, you have met many wonderful, startling experiences, but NO EXPERIENCE IS EVER MADE OF GOD AS A FINISHING ELEMENT IN YOUR LIFE. It is the opening, vista to the lovely REALITY. Oh, I wish our Pentecostal people could see that. That's why I'm burdened to death all the time. I'm burdened. I'm not burdened for the sinners in the world, I can't carry it. God told me, He said, "I can't burden you with two burdens. I will burden you for the Body." My burden is continually to get the Body awake and aroused to a conscienceness of her place and her vocation, and to stop doing ten thousand things that God's not interested in! It may be very RELIGIOUS, and very good, but RELIGIOUSITY is NOT Spirituality! It's not. No, it is NOT. So He says, "You shall BECOME." Now, you have the EXPERIENCE. You have the marvelous experience of the baptism. Revolutionizing. But do you know that NO EXPER-IENCE ever developes you? No. It OPENS to you potential possibilities of lovely things. Now what is your old law that I harp on as the LAW for your development? Amen! If you don't get anything on God's earth but that, get it! The method by which we grow and we are changed is under a DIVINE LAW, which is TESTING AND PROVING, and testing and proving. That developes us, not getting blessed, "Ohhhhhh, oooooohooo!!!" That won't develope you! That will BLESS you! And emotionally, it will stir you terrifically. But how many of you know, it NEVER developes you? It never developes you. What will? TESTING AND PROVING. And TESTING AND PROVING. And do we have means of help? That's where the Holy Spirit comes in. That's His vocation. That's His ministry. He said, "Now, don't be frightened. God will subject you to this, but I'm within you. Now, SIDE with Me, CHOOSE with Me, and we'll get through this." How many can see that, or can't you see that? Well, that's the lovely ministry of the Holy Spirit. That's the baptism. And they say, "Don't you believe the baptism?" I say, "Certainly, I believe in the baptism! But I can't believe in TRADITION." We have been critical of the Jews for their tradition. Don't go so far as to.....how many know we have plenty that we can __? right now? What are they? RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS. Beautiful traditions! Put a hallelujah on, sometimes say, "Glory! Glory!" But how many know, it can be a TRADITION? Purely a TRADITION. But since it isn't vulgar and bad and wicked, it is accepted. Well, it's as true as you live. You travel with me around the world, and

I've been in hundreds and dozens of places. You'll get the same reaction. I don't even talk, but I can take it. But some in here, I warn you, don't, because you'll be upset and confused. You'll say, "My dear Lord. How come it's like this?"

- 8. So here is the witness. We'll come back to our scene. This is all ? . I'll come back to this point of overshadowing. Now He says with them, "The power of the Spirit..." How many see the OVERSHADOWING? Why? Because it's a tremendous miracle that nothing else in the world can do. There's nothing in God's scheme that can produce any such thing, call it out from all the nations of the world. "Ek," out, "kleao," to call, "ekkesia," the church; the church is "the called out from the world." "Called out," what are you called out of? Out of the church? No, you're called out of the world! MAKING the church. We are the church; this is a church. In God's sight, this is a church. In the days of the early apostles, it speaks of the church which is in Cleo's house. What does He mean? The little special group of believers, THEY are the church, not a building. That's why our Quakers don't have a "church" building, they have a meeting house. They don't confuse it. They have a "meeting house," which is proper. We've got the building to be a CHURCH. Well, what a mess will we have. I don't know, if there were two thousand years more, I don't know where we will end. We've got everything so confused and so mixed up. So there is that OVERSHADOWING. Then we had "Paul's thorn." Another terrifying, terrible thing. What was the answer to it? "My grace is sufficient for thee." For when you are reduced to such absolute, utter weakness, He will spread a tabernacle...in Greek it is "tabernacle, or a tent." That's what it is in your Greek. "He will spread a tabernacle of My grace." How many see overshadowing again? Why? Because of the tremendous thing in the life of Paul that cannot be wrought out here. Now He says, "Don't be afraid. I will throw a tabernacle or a tent..." Some translations use the word "tent;" I know some of the translations use the word, "tabernacle." "A tabernacle of GRACE over you. And in that weakness, the power of God will be manifest." How many see the OVERSHADOWING again? Over and over and over. It's the OVERSHADOWING.
- 9. We've had a little buildup. This mornings lesson, it started with "Under His Wings," was our morning lesson in which I was trying to help them to see what Paul had in mind when he spoke to the ? church. ? souls had received a wonderful impact of Truth, and believed it, and God was working with them. They had been saved and filled with the Spirit, and quite established. Then the Judaizers came in. How many see they are RELIGIONISTS? Do you say they all got drunk? No, they didn't! No, no, no, no. No. I don't think any of us can be tempted to go out and get drunk. But how many know there are a thousand temptations that ------ But he can bring some subtle thing that may have appeal to our ____ ? __ . They were zealous. Zealous. Well, the word means ...not in the sense that we have, but "seeking." Zealous, zealous, that's the word; zealous. And they were zealous, zealous, zealous. They were zealous to get them; that is, they were in seeking. They wanted to get a hold of them, so he has to rebuke them. And when he does...they were boasting of the zeal...yes, "affect you," was the word they used. They will "affect you, affect you," and that's a poor word. Poor English....So, he says to them, "Don't mind that. You think that they are so zealous? And they are to be complimented for their zeal, that they would have you to do all of this to come into your redemption?" He says, "I have zeal, too." Right to these Galatians. He says, "Do you know what my zeal is? I am in travail again in prayer and intercession of the Holy Spirit, in travail, until Christ can be formed in you." How many see a miracle right away? How many see a DIVINE PROCESS? They didn't accomplish it in a moment. Now we had the thought this morning of a baby, a child being born. That doesn't happen just in a minute. How many know the whole process is involved? The whole process. And he says, "That's my burden." I feel one with Paul so many times. I say, "Paul, what a heart. What a heart you must have had for that early church." Can you see something of it, the burden for the church on his heart? Oh, Paul was wonderful. How many know we'll know a lot of people without the angel ever introducing them? I'll know

Paul if I never looked at him by his vibrating spirit. Two men who I know I'll know. How many know you'll know John without saying, "This is John." No. How many know you'll know through the Spirit? Surely. There are some things I know most profoundly by their Spiritual character, and I can't put them into English. That's right. If I tried to, I would be foreign. But you couldn't move me, nothing on God's earth could move me away from the sense of security and reality that's in that Spiritual concept. Now He says, " You think that's zeal? I have zeal too. For right now," he says, "I am travailing in prayer and intercession for you. Saved, baptised, gifted, one in the church, but I'm praying because you've never been born. I'm praying for what? That this lovely life, the life in the Spirit, under symbol of a birth in you, may mature, and Christ will be formed afresh in you." Then we become EPISTLES, read and known of all men. Do you get it? That's what he wanted. Then he showed me. I was stuck with it, because it began to frighten me when He began to open these things to me. I say, "Lord, hold me, hold me while You show me!" And I said, "How does that whole inception begin?" The SEED. Did you ever hear of a baby being born without a SEED? No. There's a SEED. And He said, "Ye are born...," how? Because of the SEED, the INCORRUPTIBLE WORD OF GOD. He calls it SEED. For a BIRTH. How many know we were BORN of that? We find it here, but what is it that gives it it's origin? The WORD. He says, "You are born of incorruptible SEED, which is the WORD OF GOD." Isn't that sweet for Him to tell me that? I said, "Thank You, Lord!" That begins that MIRACLE in you and in me.

10. Now, going on with this mornings lesson, that doesn't happen in a minute. We get the analogy with the very birth of JESUS HIMSELF. Where did it begin? How many know God planted a SEED in Mary? The analogy holds. It's very strange and beautiful. A SEED was planted. Mary became RECEPTIVE. She EMBRACED it. And then when she said, "Be it unto me, as you desire," do you remember that? Oh, that was so pretty in there. Because in Greek, it's the same word, has the same connotation, as a BOND-SERVANT. she said, "I am your BOND-SERVANT." Phillips puts it, "I am body and soul given to Thee." And Phillips is right. "I am body and soul given to Thee." Now, in order to accomplish this great feat, how many know what terrific dedication has to come? A terrifying dedication. ALL that she has, she says, "Spirit, soul, and body,..." she is a bond-servant. "It's Yours. Be it unto me as You will." What a dedication to gain in one visitation. That made me think of Paul. Do you remember what God got in Paul? Had to create in the conversion? The first thing he says when this terrific, terrific experience. God accomplished in one hour in Paul what takes some people 35 years to get, and what was it? "What will thou have me to do?" Can you see that he can't get far without the DEDICATION being very thorough? A dedication which is thorough. Now, that's the beginning, a through dedication, consecration, that He can begin. He couldn't begin forming this Christ Child in Mary, He couldn't until there had been a DEDICATION and a RECEPTIVITY. And that what He wants...oh, I covet our young people, because all the potential of the life that God wants is a possibility hidden in them. I always tell them, "Don't worry about, 'I'm going to the work, to the work.'" I say, "Let that go for ten minutes. For heavens sake, get ADJUSTED FIRST!" Isn't that right? SPIRITUAL ADJUSTMENT! That's what Jesus taught. He stopped His disciples right there one time when He was preaching and teaching, and He turned around and said, "Seek ye first SPIRITUAL ADJUSTMENT, and all these things will be added unto you. Your whole vision is out of focus. You'll concerned with the here and the now, but if you'll follow Me,... I can't get far with you." Why? "Because I am aware..," He has a perceiver, He said, I am aware right now when I'm dealing with you, that which is foremost, most concerns you are the MATERIAL, mudane things. You're thinking about 'where will I go, what will I eat, what will I wear?' All legitimate; all proper; all good!" But when they are your FOCAL POINT, how many know, you'll whole vision is blurred? So He stopped them. This is where He CORRECTS in His teaching. This is corrective teaching. He doesn't CONDEMN seeking, because the "seeking instinct," is given. In God's creative act we were made that way to function in the field that He wants us to. How could we go out and do the thing without the seeking attitude? The search and seeking. It's a part of our makeup, don't stop it because you got it on "wrong!" Just because you're going in the wrong direction, don't cut your feet off! Get your feet around to the right path!

To me that's the only way it is! But the way that people reason today; I keep away from them. I don't get to meetings. I had one meeting all last year. To be frank, I can't take most of them. I can't. They terrify me. I can't take them. They are so strange to me. Their whole philosophic content needs to be overhauled, reshaped, revamped into what God would have, and not some of these miserable traditions that hang on. Just shake them off. Shake them off.

And so, with the shaping of this little child, how did it happen? She said, "So let it be." "How can it be? I'm not married." That's what it really is, "I'm not married." ____ some of the other translations. "I'm not married." All she could see was the NATURAL, the human pattern and method. But here was something SUPERNATURAL and above nature. And she was figuring according to the natural, which is always our first fling. THAT WAS NOT SPIRITUAL WHICH WAS FIRST, BUT NATURAL. AFTERWARD THAT WHICH WAS SPIRITUAL. Now that's a LAW in this whole realm of the Spirit. You'll watch it breaking out all through the OT, all the way through to the NT. The ventures in faith, the movings under God, they always have to have a NATURAL FLING FIRST, then EXHAUST it, then God comes in and rescues the thing. Have you ever seen it? Wish I didn't know history sometimes. I could say, "Hallelujah!," but I can't. I just cry. Now, that's a LAW. You see it with Mary? Unconscience. She knows this must be a strange, mystical thing, but she supposses like that, she says, "It can't be, you see I'm not married." "Well, Mary, it doesn't matter. This is a miracle, dear. This is a miracle." "HOW shall it be?" And he sat right down and gave her a most marvelous recitation on the incarnation. The "koinosis," we call it, it Bible study. Is that what He did? That would be silly, say, "Now, sit down and I will explain to you this mystery of the incarnation." He did NOT. Well, some people can't go until they know everything. How many know we have to venture into an awful lot without knowing very much? Yes, we do. We have to accept it, trembling, and say, "Lord, I don't know what under heavens this is, but I know you're in it. And I love You, and I know You won't let me down. I know you won't. In my heart I'm settled. And I don't know how in the heavens You'll ever do it." "That's not your concern. You just follow ME and walk with ME. I'll bring it through." Isn't He good? That's the way He does with me, does He with you? I want Him to. I want you to do that. So she says, "How shall it be?" Well, he tells her HOW --- "The power of God shall OVERSHADOW you." How many get it again? The power of God shall overshadow you. How many see that same philosophy, the same teaching where God is going to do a miracle of some kind? It's always what? THE POWER OF GOD SHALL OVERSHADOW YOU. So he says to her, "The power of God will overshadow you." How many see the ? of God? And WHERE is the miracle wrought? In the daylight? Where everybody sees it? Where it becomes a great spectacle about which they all said, "Hallelujah!" No. It was a miracle, in a mystery form. Don't you know that some of our great miracles are like mysteries. Sure they are. They are not explained in natural terms at all. They are not suppossed to be. So he says, "You want to know HOW it's done? Well, YOU ABIDE. Stay put. Get under the shadow of God," but how many know, sometimes the shadow becomes really heavy? And we want to run out, and He has to say, "Stay put. I don't want to bring this out as a great, public spectacle." That's why in our Christian experience, some of the most sacred...and I can talk plainly with you, but this in on a tape and I detest it; but I'll talk plainly here. How many know the most sacred and beautiful experiences in God that you've had are UNDER THE SHADOW? Yes, they are. How many know they are not __?__? They're not told. They're not for the public. How many know, a beautiful baptism is for the public, and everybody is entertained by it? That's right. But how many know, the most sacred thing you'll ever want is (only) to God. They don't belong in public. They belong under a shadow. Well, then don't be afraid when God casts a shadow over you. He may want to work a miracle in it....all He has to do it OVERSHADOW you. He says, "When this power of God OVERSHADOWS you, I'll work a miracle." And He does. And the whole incarnation is a mystery. It's not explained in the public. The angel didn't explain it....now, don't be afraid of those things. Dare to accept them. And though it may seem astounding sometimes to you, dare to believe it. Dare to believe it. Say, "Thank You, Lord. I don't understand it a bit. But my heart is rejoicing." Have you ever had some kind of emotional reactions to things that cause you to weep? I have.

And I've often said, "Lord..." And I cry; I do. That's the way I'm made. I cry and I weep. And I say, "Lord, I feel so terrible about these things. And I'm crying. Now, Lord, don't look here. Look here. Don't look here, please. I can't help it. this is purely an emotional reaction. And I don't...look HERE. Don't look here. Here..." Don't you ever get that way? Oh, I sometimes wonder if I...no, no. The Lord sees that. "You can see it, Lord. Don't see this...see THIS." Even this day. During the quiet time (today)...and I said, "Oh, Lord..." I walked the floor and I said, "Oh, Lord...everything is all right. It's all right. This terrible thing that is upon my spirit in prayer... I can't help it if I weep. I feel so terrible in it. But don't look at it..." I said that this very day, because I've had a _ ? _ with it. So I said, "Now, here. It's all right. It's all right." How many of you know how I mean? In your spirit you are conscience of a perfect adjustment, not a disturbing thing there, and yet, in here, you feel...you feel as if you couldn't take another day of it! Another day of it! Not another day! And YET, at the same time, you feel perfectly at rest and in victory. Perfectly at rest, and so I ...say...I have crying spells. I couldn't help it. It's all right. Then I said, "No, it's all right. Everythings all right. But I can't help THIS. I'm praying, Lord, and I get this intensity of the Spirit; it's pouring through me.... I get this way. Don't look at that. That's not who I am. THIS is who I am. Lord..." And oooooh! I get near it!..."It's all right. It's all right..." And ooooh! I go right back under! How many see what a strange contradiction this is to be in a fluent set-up? Yes, we have to take it.

So, we were talking about the overshadowing of the wings and the miracle with Jesus in His actual birth. And so in bringing forth this new creation in your heart and in mine, it comes under the SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY. It's not a public matter at all. Don't you see that, or don't you see that? How many see a sweet, little sacredness about it in God? I do. Can't help it. That sweet sacredness, like a secret between your heart and God's. A thing that He's working, developing, shaping. He calls it, "Until Christ be formed in you." Now, that is a DIVINE PROCESS. Now, how will He do it? By ten thousand things faith has to do IN us, THROUGH us, to keep your objective straight. Keep them straight. Now, in connection with that, what's on my mind as I was meditating before the Lord a little while before the meeting tonight; I thought maybe it would help you to see a little more perfectly some of the teaching that I've been giving you concerning the place in our walk for our works, what we call our "works," the manifestations of God through us in our WORKS. That place in your general pattern. Will that help you a little tonight? To get straightened out? Because your WORKS, the ministry that He lays upon you, the vocation in God that occupies you, is SECONDARY, because it is the MECHANICAL means by which He is doing the miracle of Spirit in us. The transformation of you and me is a SPIRITUAL MIRACLE. Now, that can only be accomplished by the mechanism of the things He's causing to come into our path that we have to be occupied with. Always remember, the WORKER is of greater value to God than anything he'll ever DO. You know why? Because He has thousands of angels to DO things. But YOU are the only one who can render unto Him the thing that He wants. What He is doing IN YOU, in God's sight is of GREATER VALUE than all the things that you will ever DO. Because ALL MINISTRY, ALL ACITIVITY, all ministry, all outpouring, all ministry of this creature is PURELY REACTIONARY. It's REACTIONARY. It is not what it does for GOD, because He has plenty; but what does it do to YOU, and what does it do to ME? That's why He gives us these vocational missions. Not just to get something done. He's got a million angels to do it if He wants it done! But He can't get through the angelic ministry what He can through you and me. Because itsthe ministry that He's laid on us that the development of our whole Christian life and character in Him. And that whole building is a DIVINE PROCESS. It is not something that He gives to us like salvation. You can receive salvation in an evening; the baptism of the Spirit in an evening; receive a real call of God in an evening. But it will take your whole lifetime to have this strange, mystical work of transforming us, changing us, conforming us to the image of His Son. I was reading in Romans, Iwas reading, oh, that famous old eighth chapter, which is so terrific. And that's what I was reading just before I came in. And I want to read a little of it,

And then we'll go after it and get in there and find out what He's talking about. Well...I can't take the whole chapter because we'd be here till tommorrow at breakfast. I don't want to do that, but it would take all of that time. I just happened to see verse 17 is underlined. "And if CHILDREN, then HEIRS, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ." How many see, "if" in there? How many know, "if" is the conditional word? "Oh, I thought we were all going to be joint-heirs and wear a crown!" Don't cry. "Well we sing __?__ , 'and we will wear a crown!'" Well, how do you know all about that, dear? That's in a singing book. How many know there's singing book theology too? The singing book theology. He says that all this will happen, "if so be that we SUFFER WITH HIM, that we may also be GLORIFIED together." Now how many see kind of a "kick" in it right away? Somebody says, "Well I thought there was a kick in it!" Well, there is so we'll face it. It isn't the fact that just because we're saved and filled with the Spirit, and that we have some gifts and are used of the Lord; that may all be very true, and we are heirs. But now, that's another POTENTIAL word. That's purely potential. It has a qualification. We are heirs potentially. But not in it's POSSESSIVE SENSE unless we meet the conditions, which is that SUFFERING. If so, we may suffer for Him and with Him, then we come into the fulness of our heir(ship). Do you get it or don't you get it? Well now, that isn't popular teaching. How many know it isn't? Have you ever heard of a Pentecostal meeting of them getting blessed and clapping their hands on that? No. But how many know how they do? "Joy bells ringing: in my heart! Ta, ta, ta!!!" How many know they all get it going? Well sure. You know you can get it going singing the multiplication tables? If you get the right tempo! That's true as you live. I've been at meetings where they do it. That's right. That's right, if you get the right tempo. It's a horrible thing, but that's right. I'd tell you a story, a real, real story, but you'd laugh and I don't want you to laugh. It happened in the foreign field, practically killed them, but it happened. Where there were even wild crockadiles. It was terrible? But ? . Blessed to death that they were going to be crockadiles....and there we were singing and blissful...do you see how funny folks are? What strange.....horrible to me! He says, "__?__ " And somebody gets up right away and says, "There's my crown!" Well, that's all CONDITIONAL. It's conditional. We are HEIRS and even JOINT HEIRS WITH HIM, on condition. "IF" we suffer with Him. How many know what suffering will do? It will make you ONE with Him. Your suffering is the thing that's making you ONE. Well, then we embrace it on that basis. Not because we enjoy it, but because we know that it is the media that God is using. So when trouble comes to me, and suffering, I get ? . I often say, "Now don't take it away, Lord, because I'm crying....now don't You take it away. Just give me grace and strength to hold me together till You get through with it." Isn't that better? Yes, that's better. Then there's a reaction in us because there is a partaking of LIFE in Him. His life is the thing that pertained to Him to flow back again. So this is purely CONDITIONAL. FOR I reckon..," of course he can, "I reckon the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed IN US." How many know, that's LONG RANGE VISION? Isn't it? He didn't say it was immediate possession. It's way out yonder. "FOR the earnest expectation of the creature," that is all creation, really. "...waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God." Well, now we have to stop. How many remember why awhile back, ? , it came a long time ago, and whole sets of people got the baptism of the Spirit, and they were trying to conform themselves into the manifested sons of God? You never heard such a lingo as that! They were going to be, "the sons of God!" There's no telling what's in groups! Well, that's ridiculous! He's not going to get a few, little people like the 144,000, or...the Seventh Day Adventists have a little group too. They're going to have. Little (funny) stuff. That isn't it. The manifestation of the sons of God is the CONSUMMATION of Christ's concept, is the manifestation of the sons of God. And if you get the references for it, $\underline{\ ?}$...that is the great manifestation of GOD'S WORK in his BODY, that they have come to MATURITY, from babes, to youth, to sons of God. And the manifestation of the sons of God is the translation of God's people! That's what it is. It's not a little group of "funny folks!" "And then they'll get in there and because they're persecuted, they're being persecuted for Jesus' sake." No, you're

persecuted because you're foolish! You get no reward for it at all! Not a bit! How many know, that's been around for a good while? Well, then I remember 40, 45 years ago, they got the "Jesus only," thing going! How many remember when that got going? "Jesus only, Jesus only..." Well what is it? Well, if you know church history. "Jesus only," was in the very, very early church period. Then it DIED, and was smothered out, and people got their mind on something that was better than that. But do you know something? It's just like in a forest fire, a little fire; how many know, it creeps and creeps in the forest until it's up here where there's some dry leaves half a mile away. Well, that's just like these funny things that are in the Body. There are about FOUR of them that persist. "Jesus Only," and that went underground for a good while. Good while and we didn't hear it. And..."somebody got a revelation, 'Jesus Only!!" Whoosh! And it goes on long after that. Don't be caught in these silly things. Don't! It's RELIGIOUS, but don't be caught in it. Untaught, undisciplined spirits will be. Usually an undisciplined spirit is the first one that follows. They would rather follow that then be CORRECTED. It's true, I've dealt with them. I've dealt with them all these many years. It is what we call counseling, spiritual counseling. I've dealt with them and there are certain marks on them. You can detect them. And knowing some people, without telling me, I'd say, "You're a grand specimen for such a thing. Everything you've got is calling for it! Look out, now, somebodies going to get you!" I know their make-up because I know their reactions; I know how they think! Because I've handled them. I've handled them, I know them! And they are just exactly the temperment...how many know what I mean or don't you? They are made that way. Somebody comes along and, "Coo, coo, coo!!," then they're all, "Coo, coo, coo!" Yes. Because "God answered prayer!" Because "God answered prayer." Oh, I've seen it so much. I've had to dig them out. Many of them. Just like what we had on the temptation. A lot of them jumping off of the temple. Remember that? How did that happen? Because they were holding scripture, and the Devil said, "It is written, it's in the Bible." "Glory, hallelujah! I've seen it in the Bible!" "Well do you read the Bible? Well, it says right there in the Bible that He will give His angels charge over you lest You dash your foot against a stone. Jump off of the temple and PROVE to them who You are!" How many see how subtle that was? How many see he is using "good" material? BIBLE material. Real Bible material. He didn't say, "Go and get drunk and chew plugged tobacco!" didn't; that's not what he said. But some people think that the only sins that they will be caught in is some kind of a trap like that. How many know you can be caught in religiousity? You can be caught in OVERDOING PRAYER. Overdoing fasting, overdoing any They are subtle. No. They can make you feel real (good). "Yes.... of those things! Lord..." "Well, fast 42 days, dear." Then you go fast, fully, because you don't know any better. I've had to deal with people, any number, some of them, I could tell the most fantastic things, dear, because I've been in them. Thank God He never got me in them because I always smell a rat about a half a mile down the road. But I've had to deal with honest, sweet, lovely people who are caught in this sort of thing. Don't do that. So He has..the Devil comes quoting Holy Scripture. "Now You jump! And PROVE, prove to the people down here who You are! A miracle, and a real good miracle! A good miracle is what we need!" "Now, let's all pray through for a miracle!" Oh, don't! I always dread that. I always say, "Lord, keep them up there. Keep them up, keep them up, keep them up!" I always do; I always pray contrary to most of the prayers that people have. I HAVE to because that's the prayer that He lays on me. what in the world would you do with a lot of miracles? "Well, it's getting some access, that's about all. So, he says, "JUMP!" He knew better. But how many know, a lot of God's people don't know any better? "Now, do you believe in healing?" "Uh, hum." "Do you see this verse? 'And He healed them all!'" (undiscernable) "Now, believe, one, two, three! Bumble bee!

FORMING OF CHRIST: HIS NATURE AND CHARACTER WITHIN US II

John Wright Follette

- 1. How many know that old trick? Oh, it's horrible! I've seen people almost lose their mind over it! They come to me almost shattered! They say, "Well, Follette...I believed. I...I tried to...he said, 'Now, just believe!'" Now wait a minute. Let me help you. How many know there's no real faith operative in you to believe a promise until the Lord gives you that? Now, all the promises in the Word are true. All the promises in the Bible. But how many know, they will only work when they are in the will of God? That's right. And they said, "Well, it's in the Bible!" I'm not talking about the authenticity of the verse! It's good! Splendid! But it has to be APPLIED by the Lord, relative to that situation....People come in and say, "Pray about that, I have the promise." I say "Well, I have to talk to the Lord a little while about that." "Well, the Bible says! The Bible says!" I know. It says a million things. But what He says in those verses are all awfully true! But they do not PERTAIN. They always have to be prefaced with the thought and the voice and the purpose of God. Now, they are always getting "Elijah" out. And that always bothers me when they get to praying like Elijah and Mrs. Elijah, and oh, dear! And then I really want to get out and leave them. Get in meetings with that, "And Elijah was a man with like passions as we! And he PRAYED! And pulled the fire down out of heaven, and whoooo. Now, now let us all pull the fire down." How many of you ever heard them pray? "Lord, send the fire!" How many know sometimes there's no fire? How many know what an awful reaction it is for me? Terrific. Do you blame me for not getting into a lot of things? I can't. I can't take them. And so, I ask the Lord about it. I said, "Lord that was a wonderful verse. How these old prophets performed such miracles, and there were real, real miracles." Do you know what the Lord said? He said, "Now, go over those cases, and notice something. Notice something. They are always prefaced somewhere in the beginning, 'And the Word of the Lord CAME unto the prophets saying..." How many know that? "And the Lord SPOKE unto Moses saying..." Umm, hummm. How many of you get it? Do you get it? "And the Lord said unto the prophets..." Do you get that or don't you get that? Now that's always a PREFACE. Now you can believe that, and then it comes out here in the working of the miracle. How many know that miracle is in DIVINE ORDER because it's what God has already arranged for that prophet? Always. The Word of the Lord, FIRST. The FIRST thing. The Word of the Lord. Then I say, "Now you're bringing down fire. Has the Lord spoken to you that that's His purpose, that He wants to bring down some fire?" Now if He has spoken that to you, and how many know, FAITH will accomplish the thing that God wants? Yes, it does. He never conives you, because FAITH for these 55 years, and I've had miracles and miracles and miracles: I have always... I have found it out! As a dramatic fact in my own life. That NOT ONCE have any of those occurred but what has been on THE WORD OF GOD. God will say, God will speak, God was arresting me. I can't just take a promise and ____ . Every promise must be APPLIED because what may be the will of God in THAT case may not be the will of God in THIS case. I give a little illustration the other night with Paul in the prison with Silas? And they PRAYED. Why? Because it was in God's will; God put the prayer on them. They PRAYED. The prison doors were opened. John the Apostle was on the Isle of Patmos. Why not pray him off? All the kings horses and all the kings men will never will never get him off of there. why? Why? Because God wanted him ON the island. But people can't let God do anything HE wants to do. They all have to correct Him and do what THEY want. No, you can't pray him off. "Fast!!" No, you can't...."Pound on the seat! Get excited!" No...why? In the DIVINE ORDER, God has arranged that he should be on this island until He gets through with him. He has a marvelous and wonderful ministry for him past coming off the island and showing him to the people that prayer had brought him off the island. How many see you spoil the whole thing? Spoil the whole thing. That's why I gave you that RULE OF THREE. "Said I not," He said, "If thou dost believe what He has said...thou shall SEE." Get the rule of three? Very simple, but there it is.
- 2. Now come back to this. Here we are; this is all conditional. "For the creature,..." that is, the creation, the whole world, the creation, "...was made subject to vanity, not willingly..," of course not. That's why I said before, I always feel very apologetic

if I am in a zoo and I see these animals caged up and manifesting bad spirits. I feel like apologizing because they're there because of man's sin and not theirs. Creation didn't sin. The animals didn't sin, but they BEAR the judgment of God. And that's why He said, "Cursed be the EARTH for YOUR sake."! Not for theirs. The judgment on the earth, He says, "It for YOUR sake. YOU did it. Not the poor creatures." Now He says, "Willingly?" No. "But by reason of Him that has subjected the same in hope." Now, let me help you with the word. Do you see that little word, "HOPE?" Do you get it? "Because the creation itself shall also be delivered from bondage and corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." Here are these sons again, the "children of God." Now, when you come to this word, "hope," always remember it. In our English translation, we could give you a number of illustrations, we use a number of words which have become so perverted that they are really almost opposite of what the original word was. Every little while in our English translation we'll find a word which is almost opposite from what it really meant in the beginning. Now for instance, here this word, "hope." When we use the word, "hope," today, we use it normally because of an UNCER-TAINTY. And we say, "I think I'll go tomorrow. I HOPE so, if it doesn't rain." You get me? How many see that? HOPE is always a sense of uncertainty. I wish it might be, and I hope so. Now you see, it's degenerated into a place of UNCERTAINTY. HOPE, when used in our New Testament, is a word which is always perfectly safe; there is no uncertainty involved in it at all! HOPE, as it's used is a promise of God not yet made ?; not yet manifested. HOPE is a __? purpose, a plan of God, NOT YET realized, but just as true and real and settled. That's why it's said, "We are SAVED by hope." Well, is it the kind of hope WE mean? Does that mean I get up and say, "I hope I'm saved."? No. Well, what is that, "hope." The eternal security of the fact that salvation is there. Always. That is a HOPE. Now he says, "The coming of the Lord is a blessed hope because we're UNcertain?" No. Because the coming of the Lord is a FACT, not yet realized, and as real as creation or as God. Just as real. Just as real. So never get mixed up when you come to the word, "hope." I wish we could get that straightened out because it has a flavor of uncertainty when we use it: "I hope..." Because we're not sure. Well, when God uses it, it is something as sure as God. Salvation is a blessed hope, because it's as secure as God. The coming of the Lord is a blessed HOPE, not because, "I hope He might..." No. He is coming. It's as good as my salvation. So when you come to the word...there are a number of words like that; we can't get into words tonight, but I wish we could, because there are a number of words which we have in our New Testament which are sort of careless things, sort of dangerous, because they get us off on the wrong angle. Now he speaks here of HOPE. Always remember that when he used the word, "HOPE," a thought, a purpose, a scheme, a plan of God NOT YET brought into realization, but just as real and genuine as heaven itself. "Now we know that all creation groaneth, but not only they, but we ourselves which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves waiting for the adoption to wit, the redemption of our bodies." Isn't that right? Yes. For the completion of the scheme. Are you earthbound? Or are you quite RELEASED? Seek a RELEASE. This is not our home. This is not our dwelling place. It's a little school period in which He is giving some training. Don't get attached to your seat, and your school books, and what color lead pencils you have. Don't do that. That's where we are. We're in a school, and the poor people being educated in the school are conscious of all the MECHANISMS. "What kind of seats do you have?" "Our's are Baptist seats!" "Oh, ours are Methodist seats!" And they get all "school conscious." "What kind of lead pencils?" "Well, mine's Episcopailian!" "Oh, I use a fountain pen that's a Presbyterian!" Marvelous. How many see all this business? They get conscious of all that, instead of conscious of the fact that they're in a school. When school is out, you don't drag your school bcoks and desks along with you when you graduate. You say, "Goodbye!" Yes, you do, just, "Goodbye! I've used you. And I think you, but you're not my EDUCATION." Where's your education? YOU'RE supposed to be the receipient of the thing. But people get their education mixed up with their technique. Your education is not all the school books you had, _? ; that isn't your education. It's the paraphenalia that was USED in GIVING you the education. But people get them mixed. But it's not the education.

- I'll show you here on the blackboard in a minute. Are you about to fall asleep, or do you want me to go on a minute? All right. Now, you've said so. I may end up here about two o'clock in the morning. Do we have something left over from supper? Well, God bless you.
- 3. Now, come on down here. Verse 24: "For we are saved by HOPE." Oh, ho. How many get it right away? Does that mean we are saved by an UNCERTAINTY? Something we HOPE will be? No. We are saved by an eternal fact. Christ's redemption is REAL and ETERNAL. "But HOPE," this is good, "but HOPE that is SEEN is not hope." That's right. "For what a man seeth, why does he yet hope for? But if we hope for that which we see not, then do with patience WAIT for it." That's why I was saying the other night to some of you, ...about having faith, and the _? that you want, that you're trusting in faith to receive. Supposing I have faith for five dollars. Now how many of you know, I can't have faith FOR that and have the thing ITSELF. Do you know that, or don't you know that? Either one or the other. If I have that, how many know, my faith is used up, I'm not using it at all? Well, how does that happen? Well, because you can't have both. If you want that, you exercise your faith, and the minute you exercise your faith to receive it, how many know, your faith is out, and you have it? Now we way, "I have it BY FAITH." Well, that's a GOOD phrase, but how many know it's rather dangerous unless you're dead sure? When you say, "I have it by faith," means, "I have the faith which is JUST AS GOOD as that." Do you see now? The faith that I have is just as secure because God has sent the security, given me the security that when I have faith for that, I don't have THAT, but I have faith. There is a sequel that is just as fine and just as real. Do you remember? How you've had to trust, and your faith is just as real and as good as THAT? Well, faith there, when we use it in that sense, it is right. Your faith is... that's a poor translation, it says, "Now, faith is the substance of things hoped for." Now, when we say, "substance," we think the substance of this book would be paper and ink, and pasteboard, and all the rest. That would be the substance, wouldn't it? Well, the SUBSTANCE of that book, if I'm using it, that means the book and the substance are the ONE thing. I'm holding the substance or the book; they are one thing. Now, when you come to your word, "substance," given there in Hebrews, it's not that word at all. It doesn't have anything to do with the material substance of anything. I remember one preacher was preaching and he says, "When I have faith for the thing, I have the very SUBSTANCE of it!" No. Sit down, dear brother! No, you don't. You have FAITH. You don't have the SUBSTANCE. Well, then what is that SUBSTANCE? It comes from two little Greek words. "Hupo," UNDER; "histimi," TO STAND. Well, that's the faith. I have the HUPOHISTIMI. Now, how many follow me? The HUPOHISTIMI is the faith that you put under the thing to bring it down to you. But when you get down, how many see your HUPOHISTIMI vanishes, and you have your book? That book that is up on the shelf. The book is there. How do I get it? By FAITH. What is my faith? If you have the book down, how many know the HUPOHISTIMI is vanished? And he says, "How do I hope for that which I already have?" You don't. You have the thing already.

Man: Could you say that faith is the potential of the thing you hope to get? Follette: Well, in one sense, but not necessarily. Yes, but it's not of that realm. We're talking here of the activity, action of it, HUPOHISTIMI. So when you come to that, remember that. We're saved by it.

4. Now, come to verse 26. "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities, for we know not what we should pray for as we ought." We have, sometimes, a rather dim conception. But we don't know all the ramifications. We don't know that. But God lays upon us the burden. Now what would happen? "But the Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us in groanings which cannot be uttered." Now everyone that is in here, we're all Pentecostal people; how many know the Truth of that? Because in our limitations, we aren't able to see fully the impact of it. But we're THERE, in prayer, and so the Holy Spirit in us lays hold of that thing, and prays for us, and, "He that searches the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints," according to the way they claim the promises? Well, how many of you know that is the

general interpretation? They get in "intercession," and it "helps" to say, "according to the use of the promises." No. According to the WILL OF GOD. How many see again now that I said the thing has to be IN THE WILL OF GOD? It's a little collaboration of my teaching about the prophets. It is in the WILL OF GOD. How many know that's in John too? Do you remember over in John how he speaks of it, about the..how does He say that? "If we know that He hears us..." That passage, you know. And then right in it, He says, "...according to the will of God." He sticks that little phrase right in there to clear us up; don't venture, he says, "Only according to the will of God." Don't try to claim that promise without being sure that this is the will of God. How many know you can get through? But isn't it terrific to try a thing through that you have no word from God? But you're praying it through because everybodies praying about it. Isn't that a weird thing? How many have ever been caught in that, or haven't you? Oh, I nearly went off the deep end one time in that, because if a sickness that ended in death. Because I knew all the time, because God had given me discernment about the situation. And they had me to try to pray the thing, and oh, I felt like a hypocrite, and I thought I would...oh, it was horrible! You know, trying to have faith for something that you knew there was no faith for at all. He was not giving faith. But intense anxiety, thinking that we couldn't do without this. You can do without if it's in God's will. Yes, you can. You cannot do without if it's in God's will. So He said, "According to the will of God." So with our prayers. Keep them in the channel, ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF GOD.

5. Now come down to this. "And we know that all things work together for good," when we claim the precious promises! No. Now wait a minute. "And we know that all things work together for good," when we walk quietly with the Lord! No, now wait. "...to them that LOVE GOD, to them that are the called according to His purpose." Well, what is His purpose? They all stop there. Don't stop there. "Are called according to His purpose and design." "For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren." How many hope to tell that you are "trailing along behind?" Are you? That's a good possession. He's is the leader, the Head. He has gone; now He's calling many brethren in this pattern. And He says, "To all those who are called in this design." And He says when we are conscious of that and are dedicated to it, we can be encouraged in our heart because we know as a dedicated spirit, who has chosen the will of God, that nothing in this life pattern can harm us. No, it can't. God can cause it to WORK TOGETHER. To accomplish His will. Now let me make...we have movies here. This is the woods we have. Say this is our journey down here. This is our journey; we're going home. Well, here we are, all crooked, and all crooked sinners. Well, we come to this wonderful cross. And then after we pass the cross, how many know it straightens us out quite well? So, we're straightened out. So on this side of the cross, these areall saints now, marching. They're all straight, and white, and beautiful. Well, these are the saints. The children of God, who are called. And as they're marching along, they have all kinds of objectives in their mind. Some are...their theme song is, "To the work, to the work, la la..." And they're out converting the world, building churches, and bringing in the kingdom. Just about as much bringing in the kingdom as the old, post millenial churches. Just about the same. They got that same old swing, even our own people in our churches! They are just conscious of that, you know, and if you don't have that, they say, "Well, that's funny." So here they are. Now, let me help you with something. What are we called for, that we've found in the early part of our message of Christ, about His Body? WE'RE CALLED TO GLORIFY GOD. That's the first call that He had in mind when He made man. Why did He make man? "Because He needed somebody to help Him. He hasn't any angels, they all fell down on Him, and He has to have man to pull Him out." No. He made man for His GLORY. To give Him pleasure. What is that pleasure? They were made for HIM. That's what He had for Adam; started with the very first bit of discipline. To release the lovely image and likeness which never came forth. To release it, but he fell down under it. Ruined the whole thing so that the human concept that He had made so beautifully and perfectly in Adam, is RUINED. Crashed. Now all posterity, all man-

- is poured through a broken mold. Isn't that right? All born that way. David said, "In sin was I conceived. My mother brought me forth, __?_." So there's broken humanity in this awful plight. God doesn't come down and say, "Why are you a sinner!!?" He knows very well WHY. He says, "I don't want you to be a sinner, I want you to come with Me." He never scolds them. He knows what they're made of.
- 6. So, now this objective of God has never ceased. He is just as anxious to take mankind and bring them to a place where they can glorify Him and have that as somekind of an objective. So we'll put God here, (on blackboard). This is God. Above all time and all sense. He is here. Now, when we come along, God says, " I have ONE objective. I want to CONFORM YOU TO THE IMAGE OF MY SON. That's what I want in this dispensation, I want to bring forth a transformation and a conforming just as far as I possibly can to the image of My Son. Therefore, I will bring you past Calvary, and bring you on redemption ground. This merely gives you ACCEPTANCE with Me, but the fact that you are here does not CONFORM you. The conforming is a PROCESS. This is an ____?__, and can be accomplished in a moment, but the process of changing you and transforming you is a divine process. It will take all your life." The last breath we breath, how many know it will be still in the fact that we are being changed and transformed? I'm glad it's that way. You know this wonderful satisfaction inour process because it is so revealing all the time? How many get a thrill through the process? There's a strange thrill about it to see what God will introduce in the next step. All right, here we are. Now, we want to be conformed to the image of the Son, and God says here, "You may do so." But HOW will we do it? How will that process be done? Well, He says, "You were made for my glory." So these people here say, "How can I glorify Thee? How can I glorify Thee?" Well, God says, "I have ONE way in which I am glorified. And that is IN DOING MY WILL. Wherever MY WILL is done, inanimate creation or knowing creation, wherever MY WILL IS DONE I am automatically glorified because that's the reaction." Now take it in inanimate creation. He speaks a word, and the planets, the sun, the moon and the stars all appear, don't they? What is the automatic reaction? They shine to the glory of God. The heavens declare the GLORY OF GOD, first. That's right. All that is manifesting the GLORY OF GOD. That's FIRST. Wherever the will of God is accomplished, He is automatically glorified. Why is it that Jesus continually glorifed the Father? Because the WILL of God was His meat and drink. And all the while the will of God worked out, how many know He automatically glorifed God continually? Because the will of God is being perfected through this instrument. "I do all those things which please the Father for a testimony."
- 7. So now He says, "If you want to glorify Me, DO MY WILL." That's all He says, "Do My will, and you'll automatically glorify Me." Now, in here, let me help you with something more. What shall I DO to glorify You? "MY will and not yours. I don't care how wonderful you might cook up, something good and marvelous for God." How many know that if it's not the will of God, then it's no glory to God at all? It is not. Because He's not the AUTHOR of it. RELIGIOUS FLESH is the author of it, and RELIGIOUS FLESH is NATURAL, and that which is NATURAL can never produce SPIRIT. It's a LAW. It's a law. You can't. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the spirit is spirit. That means a motive, a desire, a thought, a conception. Whatever profound form, if it has it's birth in the realm of the Spirit, it retains it's identity as such until it bears it's fruit. If it is of the flesh, it is still flesh, no matter how religious it may be. It's conception is on the lower level. It CANNOT produce Spiritual reality. It never can. It can produce RELIGIOUSITY, and great banner waving, but it can't do the other. So He says, "If you will do MY WILL..." Now, here's the will of God, but what IS it? In the will of God for these people as they are going along, God knowing these individuals, knowing everyone of them specifically, a separate being as He knows him, and God KNOWS that being, God has a will, or a purpose, or a design for that life. Knowing it's potential and what it's able to do, and what you can do with it, God, looking at that instrument as he stand here a redeemed instrument, God looks at it and He says, "In My mind, in My purpose for you, I have My will which I would like to communicate to you, and if you do My will, it is the means by which you will be transformed and changed

and wrought into My image. Now in My will, because of your vision, your temperment, your limitations, or waht you have; because of that I know what to put in this pattern. I know what to put in your life pattern. I know just exactly what to put in your life pattern. The safest thing for you to do is to come here and as soon as you're saved and baptised in the Spirit, don't run out somewhere." I would rather have two or three or four years if necessary to get adjusted. And then do three months work for God, then four years of up-side down work, and in the end come out with nothing. I certainly would. I certainly would. I deal with it over and over. Now He says, "Here. I know who you are. I know you better than you do. I have a design for you. Do this. Do this. Do this. Do this. And if you will EMBRACE that, I can make all things that come into this pattern for you, I can make them to SERVE you. Even the wrath of man and the wrath of the Devil, I can CAUSE it to glorify God." Do you know He can do that? He does it. He does that continually. I see it in the lives of people all the time about me. And so that's why I like that verse in Ephesians that I gave you, I think it was last night. Let me read it to you again. The chapter, it's Ephesians 2:10. Let me read you Moffatt's translation, which I like very much. Let me read you Moffatt's translation. "God has made what we are, a new creation, creating us in Christ Jesus for the good deeds which are prepared beforehand by God as our sphere of action. How many get it now? How many get it? Now that's a good translation. I've translated from the Greek, and I've translated and got it from every translation I've had, and I just love it. Because, well, I know it's the Truth! God, having before we were born, knowing us, has made a plan and a purpose which He had planned for us before the foundations of the earth, as the SPHERE of my manifestation and your manifestation. Now do you wonder why in teaching and dealing with young people bouncing along, I lay such an emphasis upon, "Be quiet before God and find out what He's doing."? Don't learn to and love, and preach from every Bible. That will come! But how many know SPIRITUAL ADJUSTMENT is the most necessary thing? SPIRITUAL ADJUSTMENT. I beg students, sometimes I've offered to BUY them into it. Yeah, my heart has been so burdened for them, I say, "You don't have the gift. I have. I'll give you money if you'll do this." But how many know you can't buy it that way? I've tried it. I've tried it. I remember having some students in school, and I knew this one was restless; he was young and inexperienced, delightful boy. And I like him very much. I wanted to say, "Lord, if he'd only burn that out." But of course with children you can't, so you just carry it around. But I knew all the while I was lecturing and teaching ... he had quite an idea of who he was, and the great possibilities...in the mission field. And that always bothered me to death. But I worked with him. And I went to him and had a talk. I said, "Listen, dear. I've lived longer than you have. I'll give you so much a lesson if you'll sit still and listen and let this thing soak in. I'll pay you. I really mean it." And I did! I said, "I'll give you so much a lesson. Because I feel God loves you. But you're spoiling the whole thing that God wants. I'll give you money if you'll stop this business, and find out what God is saying; what God is doing." And oh, did I ever have a time with that lad. He had good possibilities, but how many of you see, perfectly ruined? Perfectly ruined. I said, "I'm not blaming you, but you just don't know. You're inexperienced. I'm not expecting a boy of 14 to know what he should at 30. I'm not expecting it. But when I come to tell you something, I'll give you money to do it." Well, of course he had to be _ ? _ . So, he finished and went on. But I knew all the time that he was going to have a hard way. But let me tell the sequel to it. Three to four years later I was way off in another state, at least 2000 miles away from that speaking at a minister's meeting. And we had the Pentecostal assemblies. And there were the ministers of that whole district and the other district, combined, they ask me to come speak. And I'd rather have my teeth all pulled out than do that! But the Lord made me do it. And, now I said, "Lord, now what a mess this is....Lord, I'd rather have a good horse-whipping than do this." (undiscernable) So I went and had a wonderful meeting. And after the meetings I was _ ?_ , and I said, "Time to get out of this place. (And I took a walk to meditate.) And somebody came up behind me like that, and my heavens, there was that lad. I didn't know he was within 2000 miles of me. And he put his arm over my shoulder and he says, "Oh, Brother Follette, I wish we could go back to school and I could listen to you again." I said, "Dear, school is out." How

many of you know that? "You've had your priviledge. You've had your chance." I said, "School is out." Well, he said, "I know now what you meant." I said, "It's too late, dear." How many see that? Do you know my heart breaks sometimes? Yes, it does. When I see such ignorance and stupidity as that.

8. So when He comes to me He says, "I have a purpose for you just like this, laid out before you were born because I know who you are. Now SEEK MY WILL, and put your feet in this little track right here, and as you come marching back to glory, marching back, you will be in the path that I have designed for you before you were born. It's because I know you so well." And He says here; Moffatt's translation is perfectly good, and the Amplified New Testament is still stronger. Where's Ruby anyway? Well, have you got that? Well, read it. Read it right out loud now.

Woman: "For we are God's own handiwork, His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus, born anew, that we may do those good works which are predestined or planned beforehand for us, that He has prepared ahead of time, that we should walk in them. Living this life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live."

Follette: Isn't that good? How many like that? Let's say "Amen" just for a minute. (Amen...amen...amen) How many are with me? All right. Come along, dear. Come along. This isn't fanatical is it? I think it's real. Now, now I'll close this up. Is it eleven, or half past eleven? Well anyway, my time is getting so short, I want to crowd as much as I can into the next two days.

- 9. So as we go marching along, marching along, we DISCOVER His will for us, and ADJUST ourselves to it. And He says if you will do that, "I can cause, because I am God; I can cause all things that fall in here to glorify Me." That's why God is God. "I can cause them all together, to all work for GOOD for you. For your edification, for your schooling, for your transformation. So embrace My will and come moving along." Back again to God. "In the path which I have ordained." Now. What are all these works that we are doing? One is called to the work, and somebodys called to be a ? , somebodies called to be a baker. How many know, all of those, if they have the call of God on them, are just as "holy" as preaching? What makes it holy? THE FACT THAT IT IS THE WILL OF GOD. That's what makes it holy. Not the thing within itself. You can plow corn to the Glory of God because it's a vocation that fits you. And that's why I think that all kind of labor, there's a dignity about it that I enjoy. If God says, "Build a farm," then I want to be the very best farmer I can. I'll take it in and plant a sheaf of wheat. I know people following my teaching doing that. They take it into business, they take it into farming....they can't become teachers and preachers, but they can become businessmen for God. And God blesses their business. They say, "God, will you be my partner?" How many of you know that's good? That's not fanatical. I think that's being a real Christian and living the Christian life! So I said, "Accept your vocation. Dedicate it to God. Become a dedicated spirit in fulfilling it. Here is where all of these works come in. Now, what are all of these WORKS doing? They are BUILDING us. Transforming us. Teaching us. Molding us. Recreating. Doing 10,000 things to us that praying will never do. Wishing will never do it, singing songs will never do it. Going out without any call on you, really at all, from God, with an awful "big" calling inside, how many know, that won't do it? No. Just WALKING with the Lord Jesus, the most humble, simple thing. This is what He showed me; He made me do this diagram. I don't know if you'll get anywhere with it, but how many get somewhere with it? All right. This is the diagram He made me make. I wish you could see the diagrams God makes me make. They really, they help me an awful lot! I see a lot of things that I never read in books. How many know the teaching I give you I never read in books? No, but I know it's REAL.
- 10. Then He showed me this. Here we are coming home to God. What is He doing? TRANSFORMING US INTO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON. Well now, when we are coming, moving along here, God is here. God is looking at us. And we're way under this God, the author and finisher of our salvation. We are accepted here, in the Beloved. This is our acceptable, accepted in the Beloved. And we are going home. How are we accepted? In Him. And God made me

to see that all we have in making my approach to God, I am only accepted as I am in this lovely, wonderful Christ. I'm hidden away in Him, and He accepts me as I come marching back to Him, and He is over me. Now look. And all the time He looks at Christ. He sees me, and He is transforming me into His IMAGE. Do you get that or don't you? All the while He does that He sees His Son, and as He does this manipulation, all of this here, (works), He is transforming me into His image. Because that's His purpose. Are there objectives? Uh, hum. What is MY objective? To GLORIFY GOD. What is God's objective? To TRANSFORM ME INTO THE IMAGE OF THE SON. How many see two, good objectives? Isn't that sweet? He told me that, He said, "There are two objectives working all the time." He says, "I have one. I am tranforming you into the image of my Son, because I accept you in Him, I see HIM, and as I see Him, I am changing you into His image and likeness." YOUR objective is here. Now this is awful long, and I don't know, is it too late now? What time is it? How many got anything tonight? Did you? Did you get anything? It's all broken up...but you see, that's our priviledge. We don't have public meetings. How many know, a general church wouldn't have had anything tonite? But how many know, you know? Well, I love you for it very much. Because you RELEASE me. These burdens get on me, and I walk the floor, held under it. I talk to all creation, I preach to the trees, and birds, and chipmunks. I have chipmunks that I talk to and preach to. Well you know it! You've got to get it OUT! And sometimes they have more reception than (people.) That's a terrible thing to say, but I have found it....well, shall we sing a chorus?

Woman: They're His creatures.

Follette: They ARE His creatures, and I have a real contact with them. I could tell you something about it that would really amuse you, but it's real. Yes, I've made contact with creation like that. It's very subtle, but very, very real, because they are part of His creation, and one with Him. Yes, I've seen things; little, wild chipmunks. From the woods, came dabbling around on the stone wall. And I live alone, you know. I don't have very much companionship. But I don't have to, I'm in fellowship with Him. And I ? . I really did. I said, "You're beautiful, and I want you to love me, and I love you." I talked right to him. And I got down on the stones by him,...and I told him. Oh, he was such a beautiful one. Now, listen. I sat down and talked to him. I said, "Now, you're God's little creature. God made you. And His life is in you. And I love you, and I want to be friends with you." And I said, "I won't hurt you because I love you. God made you and you're sweet and beautiful. I want you to come. I like somebody I can touch. I haven't anybody, and if I had even a little animal it would be sweet." And you know, I got him so he would come on the porch. And I had sunflower seeds. And I said, "...maybe he'll come closer." So finally I got down on the stones and put my hands down, and he took it out of my hand. That's right. And then just to see how tall he would be, he would sit on his hind legs here, and stood up tall when I had my hand this way. Then you know what I would do? I lift my hand up this way, and he'd keep his hands to stretch out and see how tall he would be! Oh, we had a lot of fun, and I said, "Well, you're wonderful." (undiscernable.) And he let me know that he had a mate. And I said, "That would be nice." So he brought the little mate along. Now this is fantastic. You can't tell it to anyone. But it really happened. It really happened. And so he brought his little mate. And she came...and they played on the side of the stone wall. It's 200 years old...layed there by my ancestors. You see, I'm in a very old place. And they were playing, one day, I thought, "Well, I wonder if they have little ones." And they went and got their little baby chipmunks that could hardly crawl, and brought them up and showed them to me, and danced around on the wall! Now people wouldn't believe that. But that's God's truth. And they brought that thing up, and the little hands, you know, could hardly hold on at all, and would go along on the stones. I said, "Thank you." And they took it home and didn't bring it again....now isn't that funny? (undiscernable) Yes, a sweet, little chipmunk. And it's His creation....a can have a kindred spirit with him. I know how he's built; I've seen him. So we won't be too fanatical; maybe I'm fanatical... I don't know, but I do things like that, and that isn't too bad. Some people go and get drunk. I'd rather do that than go and get drunk, wouldn't you? Yes. Now, what were we going to sing. Should we sing

a little more of "Under His Wings."? As we go home? We'll go home under this overshadowing? We'll go home under the undershadowing. And when the pressures come in the next few days and weeks, or even months, remember that the OVERSHADOWING is where He works your miracle. Not in the open. No. "How shall these things be?" The miracle of bringing forth the Christ Child. How shall this thing be, that a new creation birthed in me can come to it's fullness. Under the shadow of the Almighty.Now, each time He puts you back in the shadow say, "Lord, work Your miracle." Yes. Now, what number is that? Four.