GOD'S SPECIAL MIRROR FROM HEAVEN.

The world today is extremely wicked. And yet the world is basically religious. We have more churches than ever before. More church members than ever before. If this is true then why all the corruption? If we've got more religious people why are things getting worse and worse?

I'm going to Matthew 7:21. Listen! The Bible says, "Not everyone that calls me Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Now people who lie and steal and commit adultery, might go to church, but they are not really Christians. More churches, more members. And thank God there are many saints in all of these churches. But the problem is that there are too many folks who go to church who are religious after fashion, but who are not willing to do God's will. Jesus said, you might call me Lord, but if you don't do my will, you're not going to heaven.

So, tonight there are many praying, singing, shouting, testifying even preaching who profess to know Christ, but are unwilling to do His will. Let me add to that something. The greatest enemy to the cause of God is not the atheist or the infidel, nobody listens to them. The greatest enemy to the cause of God is a hypocrite who goes to church, calls himself a Christian and won't act like one. That person does more harm to the Lord's cause and the Lord's church than anybody does. He not only misrepresent the Lord, but he destroys confidence in God, and in His word.

There are many of our Black people tonight who don't even wanna hear the name of Jesus, you know why? They are blaming Jesus for what so-called Christians do. The problem is not Jesus, the problem is the hypocrites in the church, calling themselves Christians, but won't act like Christ. That's our problem. Many are saying that God is a God of love, a God of power, a God of wisdom, and at the same time they're saying God doesn't care how you live. People have been taught this way, but it's not true. What happens is folks have little precious sins that they don't wanna give up. So they try to excuse it by saying God doesn't mind. And the Bible says, "Not everyone that calls me Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Now what is God's will? I'm going to give you two texts that will answer that question. The first text is Psalms 40:8. The Bible says, "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart." God's will is His law. Now let's read Romans 2:18. Paul says, "And knowest His will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law;"

The will of God is His law and every government must have a law of authority. The city of Clearwater has a law, that's the will of Clearwater. If you drive down the street and see a red light, the law says stop. That's the will of the city of Clearwater. Now God is a Great King of a spiritual kingdom, and His kingdom is conducted by law. God then has a law. Do you know that God's law is the only part of the scripture that God would not trust man to write for Him. Everything else was written by men who were moved by the Holy Ghost, the Bible says. But when it comes to God's law, on trembling Mt. Sinai, as thunder bellowed and the lightning flashed through the skies, the Bible says God spake His law and wrote it with His own finger. And He wrote it on two tables of stone.

In Exodus 31:18 the Bible says He gave unto Moses, when He had made an end of communing with him upon Mt. Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God. Now man wrote everything else in the Bible, but God wrote His own law with His own finger.

One of the expressions you hear is that Mt. Sinai was the beginning of the law and therefore it is Jewish. I'd like to give you a text that prove that that isn't true. In Genesis 26:5, the Bible says, "Because Abraham (Abraham lived a long time before the Jewish nation), Because Abraham obeyed my voice, kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws." Abraham obeyed God's commandments before Sinai.

But, ladies and gentlemen, the law is older than Abraham. Let me read a text that you ought to write down. 1 John 3:4, "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law." Now there is a definition of sin as though you read it from the dictionary. God said sin is transgressing, violating His law. Now since sin goes all the way back to Lucifer, then the law must go all the way back to Lucifer. For sin is breaking God's law.

God's law existed from eternity past. Adam taught it to his children. Cain was a sinner, because he broke God's law. Which commandment did he break? The one that says, thou shalt not kill. He sinned because he broke God's law. Noah preserved the knowledge of God's law through the flood. And then Abraham was given a revelation of God and then, after that, God gave His law to Moses, written with His own finger.

Now, my friends, what kind of law was it, that God gave to His people? In Psalms 119:142 "Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth." 172. "My tongue shall speak

of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness." Now let's take another text. In Proverbs 6:23, "For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light." In Psalms 19:7-9 the Bible says, "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure making wise the simple." Now those are Old Testament texts. Let's go to the New Testament, and see what the New Testament says about God's law.

In Romans 7:12, the Bible says, and this is St. Paul talking, "Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just and good." In Romans 3:20, I wanna make something very clear. There are some that are listening and this that they've heard, they've never heard before, and they might not understand what they're hearing. I've heard people saying the law can't save you. Well, before you say it to me, let me say it to you. The law can't save you. Romans 3:20 says, "Therefore by the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified in His sight:" The law does not save a man. Now let's read that verse again and see what the law is for. Romans 3:20, "Therefore by the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the law, is the knowledge of sin." Now we've got the function of the law. It's not supposed to save you. It's supposed to tell you what sin is.

Now Jesus saves, and Jesus only. Men are saved by grace, and grace only. If I have made that clear, please say Amen.

Now let's read James 1:22-25. 22 "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves, 23. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his face in a glass: 24. for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightaway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deeds." Now this is the comparison that James makes in the New Testament. He said be a doer, and not just a hearer. He said if a man is only a hearer of God's word, he's like a man looking in a glass, beholding his face. And then walking off forgetting his face needs washing. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doerer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Ladies and gentlemen, in Romans 7:7, Paul says, "What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, thou shalt not covet." Paul says in that text, Romans 7:7, is there anything wrong with the law? He says no! I wouldn't even know it was wrong to steal except the law said, thou shalt not steal. Now isn't that clear. It's purpose is to tell us what's sin. It's purpose is not to save us from sin. Let me read another text. Romans 4:15. "Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression." Let's illustrate that.

If you're driving up this street and come to this net corner and kept on rolling, and a police stopped you and said, "I'm gonna give you a ticket." You would say, "Officer, why are you giving me a ticket?" He would say, "Because you didn't stop at ___ street." You would say, "Well, officer, you can't give me a ticket, there is no stop sign, there is no red light at 108th street. And where there is no law there is no transgression." Now if you go down here to that street, and run through a red light, and the policeman stops you, you don't even ask why. You know why, there is a red light down there. And if you run through the light, you have sinned, you have broken the law. That's what Paul said.

If the law didn't say stealing was wrong, stealing wouldn't be wrong. If the law didn't say thou shalt not commit adultery, everyone of us could get married and have three of four girlfriends on the side. For where no law is, there is no transgression.

Now when Jesus came He made one thing perfectly clear. In Matthew 5:17, 18, He said, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy but to fulfill. 18. For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot, or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all is fulfilled. 19. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men to do so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven." Now I'm going to read the clincher, James 2:10 "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. 11. For He that saith, do not commit adultery, said also, do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law." Do you know if you went to the penitentiary right now, you would hardly find a man who breaks all ten of them. Often, if you find a murderer, he won't steal. Or if you find a thief, he wouldn't kill anybody. Jesus said you don't have to break them all, because if you break one you break them all.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am amazed that every time we speak of God's law, people get offended. Some folks will walk out and go away. Do you know that most folk, who condemn God's law, have

never read it in their lives. Now I believe you're intelligent. So I'm going to put your intelligence to the test. I'm going to repeat God's law. And if you see anything wrong with it, I want you to let me know. The first commandment says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Anybody see anything wrong with that?

The second commandment says, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, …. Thou shalt not bow down to them nor serve them." Anything wrong with that?

The third commandment says, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." The fourth commandment says, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." Everybody who goes to church believes there's a Sabbath.

The fifth commandment says, "Honor your father and your mother." Now you know there's nothing wrong with that. The sixth commandment says, "Thou shalt not kill." the seventh commandment says, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." Don't run around on your husband or wife. Anything wrong with that?

The eight commandment says, "Thou shalt not steal." Anything wrong? The ninth commandment says, "Thou shalt not bear false witness or lie on your neighbor." Anything wrong with that? And the last one says, "Thou shalt not covet. That means don't be jealous and go after things that do not belong to you. Anything wrong with that?

Ladies and gentlemen, I don't understand why people hate God's law. We need to return to God's law. The problem in our country is we have taught that you don't have to obey God, we have preached that you don't have to obey God, and finally a generation has arisen that has finally decided to take the preachers at their word. They're not obeying God. And if they're not obeying Him, they're not going to obey anybody, including the police, mamma, daddy, nobody.

If you've never read God's law, you've gone through it tonight. The Bible says be a doer of the word and not a hearer only. You know some folks just love to hear the preacher preach. They'll come out and they'll sit and they'll say, I enjoyed it. I want you to know everything I preach you're not supposed to enjoy. Some of it is supposed to worry you. It worries me.

You got some folks who want to shout all the time. You know what the Bible says, the first work of the Holy Ghost is to convince the world of sin. Second work, convince the world of righteousness. That means that the first thing that Holy Ghost does is tell you how rotten you are, and how bad you need a Savior. And if you don't experience that, you will never experience conviction. The second thing the Holy Ghost tells you is how to get straight. And that brings conversion. But conversion comes after conviction. No sinner will come to Jesus, until he realizes that he is lost. Therefore when I preach sometimes, you're supposed to feel convicted, and that aint nothing to shout about.

The Bible says that sin is the transgression of the law. Therefore whoever condemns God's law, upholds sin. For where no law is, there is no sin. For sin is the breaking of the law.

Now Grace is pardon for sin which is breaking the law. And Jesus died that we might have grace, which is pardon from sin, which is breaking the law. And the gospel is the story of Jesus who gave us grace, which is pardon for sin, which is breaking the law. And the preacher preaches the gospel in the church. Now any man that knocks God's law upholds sin. Any man that fights sin must uphold God's law.

Now there are those that say the law is done away with. Now the Bible says if you do away with the law, where there is no law, there is no law transgression. Now if you get rid of sin (sinless), we sure don't need any grace. For grace is pardon for sin which is breaking the law. And if you get rid of the law, you get rid of sin, you don't need grace, so therefore we don't need Jesus. And if you don't need Jesus you sure don't need any gospel, in fact you don't even have a gospel. Because the gospel is the story of Jesus who gave us grace which is pardon for sin which is the breaking of law. And if you don't have the gospel what in the world do you need a preacher for, and if you get rid of him you might as well get rid of the church.

People are going around saying we're not under law but grace. But ladies and gentlemen, you can't separate Christ from His law anymore than you can separate Christ from the rest of the Bible. Jesus came to preach, teach, and show how the law should be kept. And there are those who say all you've gotta do is love. That's true. If you love God, you're not going to: (1) have other gods before Him, (2) make graven images, (3) take His name in vain. If you love God you'll (4) keep the day we told you to keep. If you love your neighbor as yourself you'll (5) honor your father and mother, (6) you won't kill him. (7) If you love your neighbor you won't take his life, (8) you would not steal, (9) you wouldn't lie, and (10) you wouldn't covet.

And Jesus said if you love me, keep my commandments. This is what love is, to obey me if you love me. And if you're willing to do it, the commandments are not grievous. Grievous means hard. Lots of people say, nobody can keep God's commandments. If that's true which ones are you breaking? Do you lie? Then you're keeping one. Do you steal? Then you're keeping two. You just said nobody can keep them. Do you commit adultery or are you true to your wife? Then you're keeping three.
Ladies and gentlemen, if God tells you to obey Him and it can't be done, God is the meanest, most unjust person. You can't do it on your own, but if Jesus comes into your heart you can do it. Ladies and gentlemen, I wanna tell you something. God's gonna have somebody living right down here; might as well be you and me. It's time to stop playing church and fooling people, because you can't fool God.
In Revelation 22:14, the Bible says, "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." This text is telling us who's going to heaven. If you went to court to be judged right now, you would be judged by the law, wouldn't you. That's the way it is in God's judgement.
Do you know that Jesus can't change His law? If He could have changed His law He wouldn't have to die. For where no law is there is no sin. So once Adam and Eve broke the law, all they needed to do was have the law moved aside. Where there's no law there's no sin. And everything could have right along. But God is not only a merciful God, but a just God. And the law is a transcript of His character. It is a reflection of His own righteousness. And to deny the law would have been to deny His own goodness, His justice, His righteousness, His truth, and His truth shall last forever. And so rather than break His law, Jesus had to come down and pay Adam's debt, and your debt and mine. So Jesus came down and died for sinners for He couldn't change His law.
Thank God for His holy law. Do you appreciate God's word? Do you want grace to do God's will, to overcome? If you want you stand with me now to thank God for His message.
There is hope you you, for Jesus loves you so.
There is hope you you, God's law is not your foe.
There is hope, I say, it guides us here below.
There is hope in Christ for you.
There is hope you you, the lamb of God has died.
There is hope you you, behold His riven side.
There is hope you you, now in His law abide.
There is hope in Christ for you.