

The Righteousness Of God

Friday Fellowship, 8th December 2023

Bro. James Menni

Matthew 5:20

²⁰ For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Romans 1:16-18

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

¹⁷ For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Righteousness Of The Pharisees

Philippians 3:4-9

⁴ Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

⁵ Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

⁶ Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

⁷ But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

⁸ Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

⁹ And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

Acts 23:7-10

⁷ And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sadducees: and the multitude was divided.

⁸ For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit: but the Pharisees confess both.

⁹ And there arose a great cry:
and the scribes that were of the
Pharisees' part arose, and
strove, saying, We find no evil in
this man: but if a spirit or an
angel hath spoken to him, let us
not fight against God.

¹⁰ And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain, fearing lest Paul should have been pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring him into the castle.

61-1119 — Perfect Strength By
Perfect Weakness

84 This man was trained. He could speak pretty near any language there was in the world.

He had to brag about it. He was brought up under the strict sect of the Pharisees, and his father was a Pharisee.

Later he was “a Pharisee of the Pharisees,” and that means that he was—he was absolutely the—the strictest of the Pharisees. He was a great fellow. And he had authority, and he was smart.

85 His father had give him an education under the best teacher there was in all the land, Gamaliel, at that time the most notable teacher of any of the schools. Paul become that type of a man.

Righteousness Of
God Is Not
Recklessness/
Lawlessness

1 Timothy 1:8-10

⁸ But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully;

⁹ Knowing this, that the law is ²³
not made for a righteous man,
but for the lawless and
disobedient, for the ungodly and
for sinners, for unholy and
profane, for murderers of
fathers and murderers of
mothers, for manslayers,

¹⁰ For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;

63-0122 — Remembering The
Lord

166 The believer is looking for
every straight road he can walk
in, to get right.

167 But the unbeliever is wanting somewhere where he can go and just maintain his profession of a Christian, and then just live anyway he wants to.

That's what this nation wanted for a president, and that's what they got. Exactly. That's what the—the—that's what the church wants, that's what they got. Yes, sir. That's what you get.

168 But the believer wants to
get everything shaved off of
him. “He wants to lay aside
every sin, and the weight that
so easily beset him;

he might run with patience the
race that's set before him,
looking to the Author and
Finisher of our Faith, Jesus
Christ.” Yeah. Remembering
Him, as we lay aside every
weight.

56-0101 — Why Are People So Tossed About?

110 Now, the people, there's two classes of people today, them same classes, that's trying to do something to save themselves.

Each one says, “I’ll go to church every Sunday.” That’s very good. “I want to be religious.” That’s very good. That’s still under the law.

But when the other, by going
to church and being good, is
not something that you do
yourself; it's Something in you,
doing it for you, the Holy Spirit
in your heart.

Righteousness Is The
Covering/Robe That
Makes Us Acceptable
In The Presence Of
God

Genesis 3:6-7;21

⁶ And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

⁷ And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

²¹ Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

Revelation 19:7-8

⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

⁸ And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

Isaiah 64:6

⁶ But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Matthew 22:1-14

1 And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said,

² The kingdom of heaven is like
unto a certain king, which made
a marriage for his son,

³ And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

⁴ Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.

⁵ But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise:

⁶ And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.

⁷ But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

⁸ Then saith he to his servants,
The wedding is ready, but they
which were bidden were not
worthy.

⁹ Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.

¹⁰ So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

¹¹ And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:

¹² And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.

¹³ Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.

57-0925 — Questions And
Answers On Hebrews Part I

75 ...And after this...and, lo, a
great multitude, which no man
could number, of all
nations,...kindreds,...people,

and tongue,...(there's your
Gentile Bride coming up, all
right)...these stood...before the
Lamb, (there's their Saviour, the
Lamb, not the law;

the Lamb, Grace)...clothed with white robes,...(watch, in a few minutes, see if the white robes ain't the righteousness of the saint)...and palms in their hand;

The Called And The Chosen

Ephesians 1:4-6

⁴ According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

⁵ Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

⁶To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

65-1205 — Things That Are To Be

109 And if you ever was in the
Orient, which I preached in
there many time, that wedding
supper is still carried on just the
way it was.

The bridegroom, that, all, he
has so many guests that he's
going to have.

Probably, Brother Kopp,
probably you've watched it
there in India. See? They have
so many guests that he's going
to ask; say he's going to ask
thirty guests.

Now, the bridegroom has to
furnish the robes. He has to
furnish them, therefore there's
a man stands at the door. And
you come up with your
invitation. He examines your
invitation and puts you on a
garment, a robe.

That, some of them are rich,
and some of them are poor,
and some of them are
different, but they all look alike
when they get these robes on.
They all look alike.
And you have to all be alike.

You ain't going to be, say, "I'm⁶⁶
the Methodist over here. I'm the
Presbyterian over here." Oh, no.
You ain't going in, the first
place. See?

You've got to come by the
Door. Jesus said, "I am the
Door to the sheepfold."

“I’m Pentecostal. I’m this. I’m that.” That don’t mean one thing.

You come by that Door. And if you come by that Door, you get the robe.

53-0613 — God's Provided Way
21 ...How beautiful that parable
was taught of the wedding
supper. He found one there
without a wedding garment on.
Why, that's very typical.

In the Oriental times, when they⁶⁹
give a—a supper out or
something another, the
bridegroom had to furnish the
robes. That's—that's the way it
is in this affair too, the
wedding supper we're going
to.

And then the bridegroom hired
a man to stand at the door.

And everybody that had a
invitation, come at the door.

Poor or rich, any kind, they put
this robe around them. When
they were in, they were all
alike. I like that.

22 Brethren, there's no big me
and little you then, when you
come by the way of the Door.

And then He found a man back
there that didn't have a wedding
garment on.

He come in some other way besides of the door. And Jesus said, “Friend, what are you doing here?” And he was speechless.

And you try to climb up your
own moral stepladder or by
some creed or some church,
brother, you're going to find
yourself the same way.

Every man that comes by the
Door is going to get the same
robe. And that robe is the
baptism of the Holy Ghost.
Every man pays the same price.

63-0728 — Christ Is The
Mystery Of God Revealed
613 He's got a place to meet
Them. You know, He—He...The
Bridegroom don't leave out
nothing.

He's got the ring, the
identification. He's got the
robe that She wears, Her
clothing. See? And He's got the
provided place to meet Her,
that's in the air. Everything has
been all provided.

He's got the Wedding Supper
already set; guests already
invited, already chosen. All the
Angels are standing around,
His servants, at attention. Oh,
oh, oh, oh, oh!

64-0/19M — The Feast Of The79

Trumpets

112 Go into the prophet's
chamber and watch them
seven steps. Where did
the—where did the guard meet
the challenge to bring the
comer into the presence of the
king?

At the top of the steps; was in
the seventh step. There shows
that we've got to come again
with that same Spirit that was
on John;

he introduced the Messiah. He
was greater than all the
prophets; he introduced It. And
we've got to come to a place,
again, to something that's
going to introduce the
Messiah.

2 Peter 3:11

¹¹ Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

This Robe Comes Only
By Predestination
(Many Are Called But
Few Are Chosen)

64-0802 — The Future Home Of
The Heavenly Bridegroom And
The Earthly Bride

128 Now this here, fellow here,
we're going to make him like
this. Now, this is called the
woman at the well.

This is the priest, Pharisee. And
where you see this, open
blackboard, means grace and
salvation.

129 Now, “In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.” The three stages.

It was a attribute first, was in God, that He thought of Himself as being human; and that transmitted Him down to be Jesus; and now, if you'll ever be There, you was with Him then.

For, there's only one form of
Eternal Life, that's God; and
you had to be a part of God at
the beginning, not what you
just chose down here. He
chose you. "All the Father has
given Me will come."

130 Now look at this priest
here. We find his bottom part,
here, his back life, back behind
him, his predestination back
here, is sinful.
Here is hell, down here.

131 Now, this little part in here, that looks like the blackboard, that represents his purity. He was a priest. He was an honorable man.

That represented this. He was, also, had to be a good man, or he couldn't be a priest. But you see how he got it, was intellectual learning.

132 Now, this little woman, her
first life, up here, she was a
prostitute, she was all marred
up. But way down in her, here,
was just a little bit of
understanding. “I know when
Messiah cometh...” See? See,
that was there.

133 Notice, when Jesus came and manifested the Word, because the Word discerned the thoughts that was in the heart; as Hebrews 4 says It will, 4:12, that He would.

“The Word was a discerner of the thoughts of heart,” and He came as the Son of man, the Prophet. What happened?

This priest, with only intellectual learning, said, “It’s a devil,” because that’s what his denomination called it. What did it do? He had no representation, so it blacked him out.

134 But this little woman had
nothing to present; she was as
filthy and dirty as she could be.
But, notice, way down in her,
she's got representation, see.
And, then, she was looking for
this to be made flesh.

The Evening Time
Messenger Clothes The
Bride With The
Righteousness Of God

63-0116 — The Evening
Messenger

246 That's the messenger of
the last days, the evening
Light, is first find that Church
(where will they believe the
Message?), hunt it.

Can you read what I'm talking
about? Hunt where that
Church is that'll even let you
come in, that won't close the
door in your face.

And then when you do there,
then you've found character.
Now if she will stand still long
enough to tell her how that
Bride's got to be dressed!
She's got to be clothed. Stand
still! If she could get...

247 Look at the little Rebekah listening to every word, her little heart was beating. She...He—he was telling her.

Now, you've sweated it out,
“Where will I go?” until I find the
character. Then when I find the
character, then make her stand
still long enough to get her
ready to go to meet him.

Oh, my, what a striking thing!
(Wish we had a little more time
on that clock.) Get her ready;
stand still to listen to his
message of him. Eliezer wasn't
speaking of himself,

but he was speaking of the one
he was sent from. And he had
the gifts to prove that he was
sent from him. Amen! He
wanted to clothe her with
these things. You know how he
fixed her up.

62-0908 — Present Stage Of My Ministry

121 Well, all men has forsaken me, but there's one thing, He stood by me!...?...I'm not, I wasn't disobedient to the Heavenly vision that happened down there on the river.

I've stayed true to it. He's been true to me. I'm trusting in Him, someday, I don't know when, for a crowning of my ministry.

I've stayed just as true as I
could be. I don't know what
it'll be. I don't know when it'll
be. And I, just when He's ready,
I am. I don't care.

I hope He will crown my
ministry of this, of letting me
take the clothes of the Word,
and dress His Bride in the
clothe of the Word, and for His
righteousness.

I hope He will crown me, let me stand on that day, say, “Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.”

Our Adorning Is Not
Outward Only, But
Comes From The Inside
And Shows Itself On The
Outside

1 Timothy 2:9-10

⁹ In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;

¹⁰ But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

1 Peter 3:3-5

³ Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;

⁴ But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

⁵ For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

62-0127 — Meanest Man I

Know

120 The Church is whole lot like
it was in the days of Esther.

Esther didn't take the
perfuming of the women, she
adorned herself with the
modest apparel, the hidden
Man of the heart,

and the king said, “Put the crown on her head.” Esther was a type of the Church today, those who are ready to come out and adorn themselves with the sweetness of the Holy Spirit,

not the perfuming and the
dressing of the world, try to
compare with them, but that
hidden Man of the heart, that's
the One.

John Saw His People
Receive Robes By Grace;
Our Prophet Saw His
People Robed By
Believing His Message

Revelation 6:9-11

⁹ And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

¹⁰ And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

¹¹ And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

63-0322 — The Fifth Seal

228 Notice. Now I want you to watch this real close. “They were given robes.” They didn’t have them. They were given robes, white robes, each one of them.

Now, the saints now have,
already have one; they get it
here. But, there, “They were
given robes.” And the saints
already had theirs, and gone
on. See? See? They had—had
not...

229 They, see, they had not a chance, because they were blinded by God, their own Father; so that the grace of God could be fulfilled, so the Bride could be took from the Gentiles. Is that right?

64-0719M — The Feast Of The
Trumpets

162 You remember, under the
Sixth Seal, how every one of
those martyrs,
according—according to the
Word of God, receive robes.

It was given to them by the
grace, because they're blinded
that they can't see their
Gospel, that this people might
be called out of the Gentiles
for the—the Bride.

They were given robes, the Bible says here, under that Trumpet. Them Jews, who absolutely is against Christ and everything; the reason they are, is because the Bible said they are blinded.

And they were blinded for your sake. And the just God knows that they would receive It, but they were made blind for your sake. The Bible said so.

63-0322 — The Fifth Seal

346 But, listen, I just got something to tell you. It's just so good, it's just burning right in my heart.

I hope you haven't forgotten it,
see. Let me say this, in the
presence of Him. By His grace,
He also let me see my people,
not long ago, in white robes.

You remember it? Remember?
You remember the story, not
long ago? The Gentile Bride,
they're there now. They all was
in white robes.

63-0322 — The Fifth Seal

432 Now notice. But I was just thinking, as this precious, godly brother, John...I just thought it would be a good place to inject that, just before closing, see. If John looked over There,

and them was of his brethren,
see, his brethren that had to
suffer a little; then, see, the
Lord God permitted me to see
my brethren and the saints
that were waiting for the
Coming of the Lord.

Notice, they were not under the altar of sacrifice; mine wasn't. But, these was, they were martyrs. See? Mine wasn't under the martyrs' altar.

433 Now I want you to listen real close. And I'll close, honest, just about in ten minutes, at ten o'clock, if I have to just cut it off and finish it tomorrow.

434 Look. They, they were not
my...the ones that the Lord
showed me, the Bride, She was
not under the martyrs' block,
no, the sacrifice altar of the
martyrs;

but had received white robes,
by accepting the pardoning
grace of the living Word.
Christ had give them a white
robe.

The Robe Of
Righteousness That
We Wear Is Our
Theophany

2 Corinthians 5:1-4

1 For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

² For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:

³ If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked.

⁴ For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.

65-1205 — Things That Are To
Be

106 This old earthly tabernacle
here, you know what it is?

This body is like an old coat that you wear, a coat that you once wear. But now you have one so much better, you don't use it any more.

What do you do? You hang it in the closet, for you've got one better. You've got a better coat. It's more up to date than the one you used to wear, that's worn out.

What? It is that garment. You are the inside of that there. That garment only done what? It bore your image. See? But you don't need it any more now. You've hung it up. It's a rag.

And that's the way this old
body is, you, it's bore the
image of the heavenly. Yet, it is
not you. You are on the inside
of that body. You, the Spirit of
God, is on the inside of that
body.

That's what makes the outside
come into subjections,
because the inside is pulling it,
see, bringing it in line with the
Word of God; your inside, you
yourself, your being.

This body is just an old coat.
And someday, what will you do
with it, for you was—was only in
the garment for a while?

That is like the earthly garment;
this body. Your—your real body,
your real self, is on the inside of
this old coat that you call
William Branham, or Susie
Jones, or whoever it is. See?

Someday it will hang in the earth's hall of memory of you. You'll put it out yonder in the grave, and somebody will put a tombstone up, "Here lies Rev. So-and-so, or John So-and-so, or So-and-so."

It'll lie there as a memorial of you. The people just seen you in this. And what you was, your real you, was on the inside of that. But the old coat, itself, just "borne the image of the Heavenly."

Oh, people, have you made reservations to change coats?
Have you made reservations for Heaven? Remember, you must have reservations. You can't get in without them.

We Have To Stand
Still To Be Robed

63-0123 — Identification

46 When Eliezer was sent from Abraham to find a bride for his son, Isaac, a type of the Father, and the Son,

and the servant, and so forth,
Eliezer sweated it out until he
found character. And when he
found character, he had it.

And that's what the Holy Spirit
is trying to find today, is
character. You can't have
character until you got faith,
and faith produces character.
And when he found the
beautiful Rebekah...

47 Notice, when she come to
Isaac, she veiled her face. Why?
She had no more head, the
man was the head. When a
woman gets married, she puts
a veil over her face. Why? She's
coming to her head.

And the Church, when the Holy
Spirit finds the Church, She
veils Herself, Christ is Her
Head, and Christ is the Word.
She cares no more about Her
traditions and things, Christ is
Her Head. Character!

62-0720 — A Testimony On The
Sea

200 God don't look at
members. He's hunting
character, that He can place
His Word in somebody that'll
believe Him.

As I said, other night, Eliezer
sweated it out till he found
character for the bride. Then
he had to make her stand still,

in order to get her dressed right, to meet the one they was talking about. See? Why, if you find character, you can't get them dressed right. They can't. Uh-huh. All right.