

# Getting Out of the Fog

by George Verwer

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*George Verwer's sermon calls for a transformative spiritual revolution rooted in love, teamwork, and genuine faith.*

**Duration:** 1:01:40

**Scripture:** Psalm 119:11, Luke 14:33, 1 Corinthians 15:58, Philippians 1:6, 1 John 3:16-17

**Topics:** "Doubts"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the need for individuals to become revolutionists for Christ. He highlights that Christ knows our weaknesses and accepts us regardless of our state. The preacher also mentions that God works with different people in different ways and understands our psychological problems. He urges the audience to make a firm decision to come out of the fog and believe that God will transform them into revolutionists. The sermon emphasizes the importance of daily denying oneself, taking up the cross, and following Christ.

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## Transcript

In the middle of January 1971, whilst the OM motor vessel Logos was in Rotterdam undergoing work for certification of seaworthiness, George Verwer went to Cape and Ray Bible School to speak to the whole school at the invitation of Mr. L. A. T. Van Dooren, the principal of the school. This is a recording of what he said. I don't believe it's by coincidence I'm here tonight.

It's very difficult to leave the ship. I've hardly ever been away on a Thursday. I'm usually there always at least Monday through Friday or speaking in the Netherlands where I can get back to the ship in the morning.

So I don't believe that I'm here by coincidence and I feel that somehow God has his hands upon this school and I like to move where I believe God is moving because I'm only one person and without the Lord Jesus I can do nothing. If I go into places that aren't prepared, I can pour out my heart, I can stand on my head, nothing will happen. And I've just about done that.

But when I come to a place where I believe the Lord is working, where I know there are men more spirit-filled than I, ministering the Word of God, I believe that he is going to do something. I believe that tonight may be one of the greatest turning points in your whole life. I don't say that because I'm anything, but I say that because first of all I believe most of us need a turning point.

Most of us, I'm convinced, are drifting in the wrong direction. We may have a lot in our heads and we may be gathering even more in these days, but somehow I believe we've missed real New Testament, revolutionary, dynamic Christianity. Now words don't mean much.

You can take my words and you can throw them out the window, but what we have seen God do now for 14 years, a movement that most people didn't think would go more than a few weeks, is proof that these principles of the Word of God work. Some of the people who have been the most skeptical about O.M., many Americans I think of especially, because we don't have any big show in America, we don't have any organization in America, just two or three people. That's why many Americans have never even heard of it.

And Americans like show, they like beautiful buildings, just go visit the Vatican of Wheaton and you'll see. And so people have become critical and we've been accused of being fly-by-night, I've been accused of being anti-American and not appreciating the Nixon administration and all kinds of other things. But some of these people who have been the most critical somehow landed up in a meeting like this and ended up some of the strongest people we have in the work today.

There are Americans in this work and there are British, almost an equal number of those two nations, and they're outnumbered by the other nations, which is very, very encouraging to me. And they've worked together. I don't know if you've got any anti, or not anti, I don't know if you've got any English-American problems here in this school, but all as I know, I don't know how 20 British can live in a Bible school in Britain in the midst of 60 Americans.

And to be a minority in your own country is an unusual situation. But maybe it'll teach you some humility, because whether you're British or American, you can always use some of that. But I believe, with all my heart, that as Americans, we can work together with people from other countries.

But it will never happen unless we change our course. It will never happen unless we experience a revolution. It will never happen unless we come to grips with real, biblical, New Testament Christianity, as opposed to American evangelicalism.

And it's not just myself who thinks this way. Many men, like Tozer, for example, have really studied this situation, or like Leonard Ravenhill, have seen that this is true. You and I have been brainwashed.

We've been doped. We've been injected with just as much pseudo-Christianity to keep us from the real thing. And though we may be saved, uh, most of us, when we're just reared in this environment, know very little of this kind of spiritual revolution.

And it really is a tremendous situation. It really is. It's not just true in the United States.

It's true in many other countries as well. The verse I want us to think on tonight and begin our thinking on is Acts chapter 17, just one verse, verse 6. When they found him not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also. These that have turned the world upside down.

Now, this was a simple description of the Apostle Paul and his team. He worked on a team. He wasn't just alone, like we so often do today.

One missionary couple, just out of Bible school, boom, send them off to Bongo Longo in the middle of some country, and there they are with their Bible school notes, and they're going to shake heathendom for Jesus Christ. And we wonder why hundreds of them bounce back with nervous breakdowns and why at least one-third of all new recruits, especially from the States, drop out after the first term on the mission. The Apostle Paul was fairly strong in the faith, but he worked on a team.

He got together and he worked with others, and they turned the world upside down. What have you turned upside down? And I believe that Christianity, real Christianity, is a revolution. It's a spiritual revolution.

It's a revolution of love. I've titled this little book that I put into print, and I believe that somehow this is what we've missed. We've missed this whole revolution of love.

What love can do when it begins to move through our lives. What love can do when we begin to allow it to have full sway. The love of Christ.

The power of Christ. Now, when I come to a school like this, and I think of all the Bible teaching you have, and I would probably agree with probably almost everything you've heard from this school. I mean, I don't know everyone who's spoken to you.

I'm sure there's somebody I'd probably disagree with, but I know the message of Ian Thomas. We've circulated his books in multitude of languages all over the world, and Brother of Endurance books as well, and I know what the school stands for. I believe this message.

I believe this message that you heard last night, but I'm also convinced of this, that many of us are so deep in the fog of unreality that we'll hear a thousand messages, and we never will change. That's right. It'll take something more than saying, yes, Lord, I want that.

Something more than, yes, this is it. Lord Jesus, I give myself to you. Lord Jesus, I believe I'm crucified with you.

It's you and me. I can't do anything. Now do it, or any other prayer you may practice, whether it's an OM prayer, a capony prayer, or whatever prayer you may be taught.

It's easy to pick up the lingo. Quite another thing to pick up the light, and I'm convinced that because many of us are trapped in the fog, we cannot understand spiritual truth. We cannot really take in spiritual truth.

Also, I believe too many of us want to get everything of Jesus without letting anything go of ourselves. Now whether you want to accept it or not, there's plenty of emphasis in the Bible on the negative. I love to be positive.

I believe it's only Christ in me who can live this life, but I also must face the reality of strong verses that say, for example, if any man come after me, let him deny himself, take up the cross, and follow me. Or an even more difficult verse like Luke 14 33, except you forsake all that you have, you cannot be my disciple, even if you go to Bible school. And we're living in a day in which most Christians want all the blessing and none of the responsibility.

It doesn't work. We have a Christianity in the book of Acts, and in this Bible, that's hot. We read about men like Elijah standing on Mount Carmel, and when he prayed, he didn't get handed a bucket of ice cubes.

Fire fell. And in the book of Hebrews, it says, our God is a consuming fire. And when you and I become spiritual revolutionaries, when we really begin to live the way this book talks about, we will be ignited, and we will become anointed, and we will become a hot, sharp, burning, revolutionary instrument in the hands of God.

And that is not the abnormal life, that's the normal life. Operation Mobilization is a very ordinary movement. I, myself, am a very ordinary person, at a low IQ, had a pile of problems, I wasn't some great person before I knew Christ, nor after.

In fact, OM is not a one-man show. I may have the biggest mouth, maybe that's why God's using me, I don't know. But this movement has moved because God has raised up now about 70 men of responsibility.

And without them, I would be nothing, and we together, without the Lord, we would all be nothing. But so often today, we become evangelical hero-worshippers. This often just leads us to a deeper road of frustration.

We all want to be like so-and-so, we read some biography, oh Lord, if I could only be like Hudson Taylor, Lord, why am I such a worm and a wretch? You'll never use me, Lord. I think a majority of the people that I have faced, they have accepted Christ in some way, but they've never accepted themselves. They've never accepted themselves.

I had quite a few write me after my meeting here last year, and they said, thank you, George, some of them by mistake calling Mr. Verwer, don't make the same mistake. Thank you very much for telling me to accept myself. I realized when I was done that I never have really done that.

And this is so true. Some of you know the ministry that Bill Gothard has had in America, just showing young people some of these basic issues about themselves and the Word of God, that we must accept ourselves. We must realize that God is going to work through us as we are.

He's not going to turn you into me. You can be very happy for that. He's not going to take you, a little quiet, a shy girl, and sort of make you the biggest loud mouth in Caponry.

Nor is he going to take the more talkative one who you wish you could turn off and make her a little quiet, silent, whispering miss. No. He is going to take you as you are.

He's going to mold you and conform you to Jesus Christ and make you a revolutionary as you are. He'll take your loudness and he'll use it. Oh, he'll tame it.

He'll break you. He'll do all kinds of things to get you to learn how to be still. But basically, your temperament will be the same.

Read that book. You can get a copy. Write to me.

I'll send you one. Spirit-filled temperament. Oh, how key that little message is.

Because too many of us are running around wishing we were her, wishing we were him. And we look in the mirror and say, oh, what happened when they gave out the faces? So on one hand, we're trying to serve the Lord. We're trying to be disciples.

We're trying to be instruments in the Lord's hands, and yet we haven't even taken this basic step of accepting ourselves with our particular weaknesses. Turn with me to one of the greatest verses in the whole of the Bible, 2 Corinthians. 2 Corinthians chapter 12, verse 9 and 10.

He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly, therefore, will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Most gladly, will I glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

That's accepting yourself, accepting your weaknesses. It doesn't mean you don't do anything about it, but it means that basically you rest. You rest in who you are.

The Bible talks in Hebrews 4 about a rest of faith. I believe this is a very real thing. Some people enter it by crisis, other people enter it by process.

No matter what way you enter it, it's got to be a daily thing. But I believe there is a place where we as Christians operate and live our Christian life in the rest. We have ceased from our own works.

It's very clear, and I feel that many of us are uptight, as they say over in the States. Believe me, I don't know what they say anymore. I get all mixed up.

I live with so many Englishmen and Americans. I'm completely confused of who's using lifts and who's using an elevator and where it's a boot and what's what. But anyway, you'll understand if it comes out wrong.

But I believe, and many of us are uptight and we're trying so hard, we've never really entered this place of the rest. And one of the reasons is we aren't at rest without ourselves. I used to be so anxious about myself.

Now I was skinny, you can see that. People are always coming to me, oh George, why don't you eat more? And I'm sure I've scared many a man, especially with a big appetite, away from operation mobilization. But I had trouble accepting myself.

I remember one time looking in a magazine, I didn't know the Lord at this time, but I know Christians that have the same problem. These problems don't all disappear. We make our little decision for Christ.

And sometimes I'm afraid it is too little a decision. Instead of a revolution, it's merely some kind of a decision. And it scares me and I wonder if some people who do this really know Christ.

But anyway, I remember seeing a magazine article and there's a picture of a girl and a rather skinny chap sitting next to her on the beach. And it was advertising some muscle building, weight gaining apparatus that you could get for who knows how much money. And as I saw this picture, I had a lot of interest in girls, like 99.9 all American boys.

And so I saw this little picture and as it had the next picture next to the first one, a big strong football type captain of the team comes along and he hits this little wormy type and boom, knocked him away and he walked away with that bird. I mean the girl. I mean the chick.

Forgive me, I'm very confused. Anyway, I was really shaken up by that. So I immediately wrote in for this kit and it wasn't funny at all.

And so there I was in my living room, my house there in New Jersey where I was born, doing my exercises and stretching these things. I could barely even move them, much less keep going back and forth. And after months, I think I gained about a pound.

And I was more frustrated than ever. And I always felt so inferior. You know, a majority of people that I counted, I counted a lot of people, feel inferior.

And some of us, I was outgoing then and I could put on a big show. I went to all the dances. I was the only freshman at the senior prom and all this.

But I was inferior the whole time. I had not accepted myself. I was inferior to even all these girls that I dated.

And I was being torn up by this. And when I became a follower of Jesus Christ, March 5th, 1955 in Madison Square Garden, Billy Graham was preaching. I found a whole new revolutionary way of life.

I found that God loved me. I found that he accepted me. All 124 pounds, no more, no less.

I found that he would use me. I found that he wasn't out to crush my temperament or to punish me or to show me up each day for the wretch I was. But he loved me and he just wanted to work through me through his Holy Spirit.

And this kind of revolutionary Christianity does work and it will pull us free from many of our hang-ups, many of the things that are trapping us and keeping us from being effective for Jesus Christ. This is the revolution I'm talking about. Perhaps you thought that I thought the revolution is running down the street with an armful of tracks or sailing off to Indonesia in a ship, standing on the masthead with a loudspeaker preaching to the seagull on something else.

But believe me, the real revolution must begin in your own heart. You must understand this. This is why I believe in Bible school, why I believe in training programs.

Anything along this line gives us time to stop, to think, to get our own lives in order. The revolution begins here, in your own heart. You know, many, many, many people will never come into this because they're caught in the fog.

I just quickly want to share with you some of the fog that I've seen people trapped in. I believe that to know victory, repentance is involved. Repentance is involved.

And I believe there's too little emphasis today on repentance, on really turning from sin, turning from the things that we know are not right. So many young people are living a double life, again, because they're trapped in the fog. You wouldn't believe this, but I've had Bible school students, one from a big Bible school in America, come to me and tell me that all his years in Bible school, he was with prostitutes and immoral people every weekend.

You may say, well, that's not a very nice thing to say here at a Bible school. Well, I doubt if that kind of thing is happening up here, but anything can happen. Anything can happen.

And the double life has no respect of persons. And I have met people, I knew a young man in Bible school in Britain, who every weekend or every other weekend hitchhiked into London and lived and dwelled in the bottom of the worst pit that you can find in the Soho, and continued as a leader in his Bible school. This is

where we as young people, if I can consider myself still somewhat near your age bracket, are very, very clever.

We can fool our parents, we can fool our teachers, we can fool our very roommates. We can have porno stashed away in Bible school, no one will ever know it. We can be feeding our minds on things that we know are taboo and keep everybody deceived.

The double life, and I would not say that tonight if I hadn't known dozens, dozens who've come to me and told me they were gripped with the double life while they were at Bible school. And it was tearing them apart. And when they got home on the weekends or they got away from the Christian environment and the Christian pressures, the truth they had in their hearts and their heads didn't hold up.

And it all went down. It happens on OM. I know people who've come back from OM, and the moment they stepped back to England, they went back into sin in one form or the other.

Now you don't need to go to the Soho, you don't need to do some vile thing to be living the double life. The greatest cause perhaps of the double life is pride. And we can, we can just uh, uh, sort of sophisticate our sin.

Where before we gossip, now we share prayer requests rather freely about other people. And uh, there's a way of, of bringing sort of a, an evangelical aroma to our own flesh, to our own irritabilities and pride and, and envy, all the envy that gets around us as Christians. The jealousy of others who may be being used to the Lord more than we are.

Someone else is asked to testify and you're left out and, and resentment or envy comes into the heart. One psychiatrist, a Christian psychiatrist in India wrote me. He said, I believe, George, 80% of people's problems come from bitterness and resent in their hearts.

How true this is. I wonder if there's some of us here, if we searched our heart, we know we've got bitterness or resentment against someone. Many today have it against their parents.

Maybe you're here because of some subtle form of resentment or bitterness against your parents. You've never forgiven them for something. Maybe you're from a broken home and you've never forgiven your father, or you've never forgiven your mother, or you've never forgiven a brother, or you've never forgiven another Christian.

And though you've got the words and the talk, deep down there's, there's a gangrene of resentment and bitterness that'll eat you apart the rest of your life if you don't let the blood of Christ and the love of Christ and the forgiveness of Christ cleanse it and free you from it. This is revolutionary, but this is where the revolution must begin. Some people don't like you to speak about sin.

I don't know how you can read the Bible and not speak about sin. On almost every page in the Bible, sin is spoken about, and it's described, it's compared with leprosy, and I believe that too many of us are playing around with various forms of sin. And one of the very reasons we can't come free from it is we don't hate it enough.

We don't hate it enough. And we get trapped in what I call evangelical fog. What is some of this fog? You know, we had a lot of fog in England today.

Planes aren't landing, and in fact, my plane was canceled this morning because of fog in Southend, so I flew across into Gatwick. But, uh, there's a lot of fog in our own lives. Let me quickly give you some of the fog, and I've seen people trapped in, so trapped in that all the sermons in the world and all the messages couldn't bring them out.

First of all, there's this fog of materialism. We refuse today to pay attention to the teachings of Jesus about material things. We're almost totally blind to this, and we just don't want to face up to the fact that we have been blinded by our love for material things, and we have surrounded ourselves, and we are living in the most cushy society.

And believe me, these, these, uh, this love for material things will not go out easily. It will take a tremendous struggle. Tozer said this, there can be no doubt that the possessive clinging to things is one of the most harmful habits in life, because it is so natural.

It is rarely recognized for the evil that it is, but its outworkings are tragic. This ancient curse will not go out painlessly. The tough old miser within us will not lie down and die obedient to our command.

He must be torn out, torn out of our heart like a plant from the soil. He must be extracted in agony and blood like a tooth from the jaw. He must be expelled from our soul by violence as Christ expelled the money changers from the temple.

I want to tell you to come free from the love of material things will take a revolution. The rich young ruler was faced with this revolution. He had scored very high on many other points, and Jesus said, go and sell all that you have.

We Americans and many British and Europeans as well represent the rich young rulers of the world. Whether you know it or not, the poverty age or the poverty bracket in America, three thousand dollars, when you get over that puts you in the rich young ruler class as far as the rest of the world is concerned. And the things we take as necessities in America are considered luxury, total luxuries and eighty percent of the rest of the world.

And this is why in many cases, American missionaries, some Europeans as well, have been totally ineffective. They could not understand why this national didn't get on with it. They could not understand the tension of the problems.

One little look and anybody with half a screw would know what's wrong. But somehow we won't learn. And materialism has just overwhelmed us.

John comes along and he says, love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man loves the world, the love of the father is not in him. What do we do with that verse? And what about first John three sixteen? Oh, we love John three sixteen.

That's our favorite verse, isn't it? We all know that one. Sure. We want to get to heaven.

What about first John three sixteen? In this, we perceive the love of God in that he laid down his life for us. So we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. And then verse seventeen, he that has this world's good and is his brother in need, we've seen some tonight, and opens not his heart of compassion, how dwelleth the love of God in him.

I want to tell you, this is so revolutionary, so hot, it makes a Marxist look like he's going backward on a conveyor belt. Right? And I have seen communists, when I presented this revolutionary gospel, just admit that this was more revolutionary. And yet, somehow, most of us are found drifting in our own materialistic society.

Most of us in this room will be happy to settle down somewhere, someday in America, in a nice home with a nice car, several cars now, you're poverty stricken if you don't have more than one car, and all the other things. And that's only a minor part of it, because, you know, it's not the things around you. And I never judge people for the things they have, because God looks at the heart.

God looks at the heart. And you may be very poor. You may be very, very poor.

You may be living in a shack in the middle of Arizona. But, uh, I hope there's no one from Arizona tonight. It's a great state, actually.

But, uh, you can have just as much love for material things. Many of our Indian brothers find this the greatest battle in their life. They have nothing.

Have nothing. And yet, this is the number one battle in their life. And I believe many of us are trapped in this fog.

And this is why evangelical Christianity becomes totally hypocritical. And I say this. American Christians and British Christians, we can go and hear messages about the deeper life, and we can hear wonderful truths, and we can say we believe them.

But until those truths hit us and turn us upside down in our relationship to the material world, and begin to make us unselfish and loving and sacrificial, then we only say by our lives that in reality, communism is more dynamic. In reality, the false cults without the Holy Spirit have more power. So we're saying ultimately the devil's more powerful than Jesus, which I can't believe.

We see right now 20,000 Mormons on the march in Europe. Most Christians don't even like to talk about this subject. 20,000 Mormons on a two-year program, more of them in Europe than all the missionary societies of all of North America put together.

And they now want 100,000 people in Britain, these Mormons sweeping across Britain, 100,000 converts. They preach perhaps the toughest message you can declare in this country, you've got to forsake tea drinking, you become a Mormon. You want to preach that in Britain? I don't know how they do it.

Perseverance, discipline, dedication, and some kind of phony love that they copied off Dale Carnegie or Joseph Smith. Oh may God open our eyes. We cannot continue as we are.

The little trickle that's coming out of our churches to the mission people. Eric Fife, one of the leaders of Urbana three years ago, said we have a greater missionary interest than ever before, and less candidates per number of Christians. And the missionary situation in Britain is becoming more hopeless by the month.

Many can't even get their support, even though it's only a small amount each month. It's incredible. And I believe this demands a revolution.

I believe we've got to come out of this fog of materialism. Secondly, many of us are caught in the fog of impurity. I wish I could speak all night on this.

This is, this is the big hook. Billy Graham says of our country that we have become a generation of sex gluttons. Stronger than anything I ever dare say.

But it's true. And a high percentage of us know that this is the big battle. And so many Christians for 10 minutes of pleasure have thrown away a lifetime of spiritual reality.

And it would be worth coming here tonight if the only thing you get into your heart is the desire to stay pure by the power of God. And you can. I, as most Americans, had to some degree a problem in this area.

I lived for dates. I lived for, for this way. And though I, I never committed immorality because by the mercy of God I was saved 17.

Uh, it wouldn't have been very long. It was all in my mind. So it might as well been there in some ways, in any case, because the standard of Jesus is very clear.

And yet because this revolutionary Christianity became a part of my life through the word, through the prayers of others, through denying self, taking up the cross and following him through a whole host of truth. It's not any one truth. Why is it that so often in the church we get one little favorite set of truths and we ride it and ride it and ride it until we fall off the horse and then discover that there are a few other truths in the Bible.

Really, there's so much truth in this book that no one person has ever got a corner on all. And this is why I believe we can learn so much from each other. This is why I like to read a complete cross-section of books and get under the ministry of a cross-section of people.

Because God has so many wonderful truths to teach us, so many revolutionary truths. But I believe with all my heart we neglect God's teaching about sex. I speak to many evangelical young people who believe sex is dirty.

Where do we get this idea that sex is dirty? And yet so many are hung up and having problems and I can tell you just have no idea what happens on the mission field. You have no idea the amount of homosexuality and lesbianism there is on the mission field. Of course it's just a few, but it's there.

And it's there because we refuse to face issues in our training program. I had a young man launch his mission field in Asia and every woman on the field of the first four were all proven to be lesbians, had to be thrown out. What kind of ungodliness can we ever dream of on the mission field? Why? Because most girls when they were young and when they were in Bible school never were even taught anything about this.

Maybe had a slight problem, completely repressed it, made it worse. When if they had shared it and got some counsel they could have been completely free and I've seen people come free from every sex problem there is. And the same of course is true in other areas whether it's perversion or just lust or whatever it is.

And so many are caught in this fire and they're being torn apart and they'll never serve Christ effectively and they'll end up bringing disgrace to the work of God as is constantly, constantly happening. Now is the hour to get desperate about this. Not when you're 40.

If you don't get concerned now about getting out of this fog, you probably won't win many battles when you're 40. Roy Hesschen once told me when I was talking to him about this problem, he said, George if you think it's a problem among young people, he said in my counseling all over the world I've discovered it's a greater problem among those who are married and who are in their 40s. So many foolish young people think that if they get married they'll solve this problem.

They get married and they get into it worse because the devil has no border and the marriage border doesn't stop them either. The answer to this problem is a revolution of love, a revolution of discipline. The answer to this problem is the cross and repentance.

It's living in the light with one another. I know people who've been delivered from these problems simply through opening their heart, linking up with one other person of their own sex and praying together that the Lord will take them through. Many of you know you'll never get through alone.

If you're honest man, you know it because you team up with someone else, you pray together, you share in battles together, pray for one another as it says after you confess your faults in James and you'll go through. And I would get out of Operation Mobilization if it wasn't for the victories I've seen in a majority if almost all the people when they've been with us and when they've been moving out in this one. God can take you out of that fog of impurity and he can keep you out.

If you do fall he can pull you out again. That's the wonderful thing. If you're finding a lot of battles in this area or any other area, you may not come out without a few falls in the process.

But if you understand the grace of God, the forgiveness of God, the love of Christ, and realize that when you fall you don't swim in the puddle, you get up and get clean, then you will soon find that that grace heals the wound. You know we're all wounded. Don't be amazed when you see inconsistencies in others.

Be astonished when you see any consistency. We're all wounded. The devil has marred the whole earth and he's marred you and I. And people don't get out of all this the day they're born again.

Watchman Nee in his book, Release of the Spirit, which I recommend you read, I think it's on that table, says it takes 5, 10, 15, 20 years for God to bring a man even to, in a sense, some degree of spiritual maturity. It's not going to happen seven months at Capony, nor two years on O.F. It's a lifetime of yielding your members unto righteousness, of reckoning yourselves as dead, realizing, yeah, you are dead. But you know, unless you face the issue, you have trouble taking it to the cross.

Many of us try to go to the cross and go to the Lord and experience a new degree of reality without first facing up to the areas where the devil has control. We love to repent over sin vaguely. Oh Lord, I am a sinner.

But oh, to confess anything, even to one other person specifically, is very difficult. Oh may God bring some of us out of this fog of impurity. And I just testify personally in thanks to the Lord Jesus for delivering me from the lusts of the flesh.

For 15, 16 years, five of it single, and the battle was as hot. Someone who started dating at nine years of age and went with 32 different girls between then and 16, which those of you in America know is not unusual. And then all of a sudden I start to read these principles in the Word of God and start to see God's demands.

I thought I'd never do it. But in His power, in His strength, you can live free from the fog of impurity. And I believe there are some of you that want that because you know without it there's no hope.

Then there's the fog of emotional problems. This is big. This seemingly is almost as big as this other one though.

This fog of impurity leads many people down the tunnel of emotional problems. I want to tell you, you cannot play with the sins of the flesh without it affecting your mind. Especially if you've been reared in an evangelical home.

Some of you, your parents have put such a standard in front of you, every time you look at it you get ill. You've been so overdosed with Bible verses since you've been little that you get a psychological reaction when you walk into a church. And I know many evangelicals rebelling from their parents, overthrowing the faith.

I know many Christian leaders whose sons are completely deserted the faith, whose daughters are hippies and taking drugs. Praise the Lord, we've seen some of these hippies and drug takers come back to Jesus and come to Jesus in these days. We've got several been on drugs on this ship.

One has been five years working on the deck. No, he's in the engine room now. Five years on drugs.

An American bumped into one of our teams and another team in Iran and now he's going on for Christ. Jesus is the solution to the drug problem. He's the solution to the wandering problem.

And I believe there's tremendous potential in this wandering generation. They've already seen through some of the things most evangelicals can't see through. They're tired of just playing the game.

They're tired of thinking that Christianity is mainly a short haircut, a nice tie and a clean shirt. No, those things may be convenient at certain times. That's not Christianity.

And I praise the Lord for what God's doing among these Christian freaks, these Christian hippies. And we've seen some of them in our work and they're soul winners. They're soul winners.

And we need to be careful looking down our nose like the Pharisees, because you know, Christianity does not consist in what you wear, does not consist in your haircut. A man came up to me in Holland, smoking a cigarette, actually. I haven't got quite the victory over that over there.

He said, long hairs of the devil. Look at this Bible verse. It took me into Corinthians.

And he said, look at this. It says you can't have long hair. But what he didn't realize that long hair in that day was down here.

And short hair, as far as I can study, was around here. And in any case, I don't believe that Christianity consists in outward things. Two men went into a Billy Graham meeting.

You perhaps heard the story in Minneapolis. Big Congress, two long haired fellows went out and sat in the front. And two straight ushers came down and removed us from the meeting.

Billy Graham said, the two men that looked the most like Jesus Christ have been taken out of the meeting. When they're brought back, I'll start to preach. Now, in most countries where we work in these days, it isn't

convenient to have long hair, but to tell a man he has to get a haircut to find reality in Christ is sort of putting the cart before the horse.

But so it has always been with so many of us in the church. Little trivialities we major on and the majors, love, righteousness, purity, godliness, we minor on. So true.

And this is why many are rejecting it. This is why so many evangelical young people are throwing it over. Praise the Lord for some of them who have come back through sometimes a little more revolutionary message.

I believe that God wants to deliver us from the fog of emotional problems. I don't believe it's going to be a shortcut for some who are scarred or wounded, but I believe the rest of faith, the sufficiency of Christ can do it. My own wife was marred by emotional problems, migraine headaches, backaches, heart murmur.

Because her father was killed in the war, her second father hated her, and she never had love. You know, we all need love. Whether he's a communist behind the Iron Curtain or an American or an Englishman, we need love.

We don't get that love, things don't go right in our minds. And this is what's happened with so many people in this unloving society. They haven't had the love.

Maybe some of you are like that, never really had love from your parents. Maybe you sit here tonight among a hundred people and feel like a lonely island in the middle of nowhere. I want to tell you, that is enough to make someone eventually crack up.

But you know, when you realize these great truths that Jesus loves you with an everlasting love, the rest of faith, and the sufficiency of Christ, something's going to happen. It's happened to my wife. She read a book that spoke about the obstetrics of the new birth.

She read a book that showed that these things were mainly emotionally induced. Even physical sicknesses can have their original cause in an emotional upset. Read that book, *None of These Diseases*, and you'll see what I mean.

And so she had all these things, she was taking all kinds of pills, and nothing was happening. And actually, I met her through going to rent a Moody Science film. She was in charge of the films.

I won't get into that story, but we got to know each other. We fell in love and wanted to get married, but I saw that she was completely being worn away by these physical illnesses. I didn't understand it.

Only through counseling and through reading, I came to see that this was mainly a spiritual issue. And in her own room after weeks of battling, you know, God will allow us to go through almost anything to bring us to that place where we realize He's enough. It's not Jesus plus this, not Jesus plus service, Jesus plus O.M., Jesus plus a husband.

That's what it was for her. She always said, Lord, I'll go anywhere. I'll go to the mission field.

Just give me a good husband. I'll go anywhere, Lord. And she was all knotted up because she thought I was going to leave, and the fact of the matter, I was, because I was scared to death.

All these headaches and all this money it was going to cost. And in her own room. My grandfather's from Scotland.

And, you know, this is what happens when you get cooped up in a Bible school. You laugh at anything. You need more physical exercise.

Anyway, there in her own room, she realized that Jesus Christ was enough. And it wasn't Jesus plus George. And she just surrendered herself to the Lord and just said, Lord, my life is yours.

I love you. And she believed. You know, it's faith brings the victory, isn't it? You can hear all the messages, but as it says in Hebrews, if you don't mix the word heard with faith, it's a no avail.

And she mixed it with faith that night. She slept very well. And when she woke up, she was completely healed.

I've lived with her in the most difficult circumstances for 11 years. And those things have never been back. You know, you can't go to the mission field today unless you have a wife who's going to stick with you.

Unless you have a wife who knows how to stand the trials and the testings. And it wouldn't be any good for me to be a great preacher and love to go to New Guinea and work in India if I didn't have a wife who could stand the test. And you know, there's many a young man that wants to serve Christ.

But where are the women, especially in this day, who can stand the pressures and the tests and the trials? The hope is the sufficiency of Jesus Christ. Well, I believe I've taken enough time. I just close with this.

This appeal to become a revolutionist. This appeal for you to determine once and for all with all your mind that you're going to become a revolutionist. You're going to refuse to drift any further.

You're going to refuse to stay in the fog. You're going to believe with every inch of faith in you tonight that God is going to take you out of that fog and make you a revolutionist. You're going to believe that the message you've heard here week after week, even last night, will become reality by faith, by daily denying self, taking up the cross and following Him.

You know, you can have a crisis, but any crisis that's not followed by a process will soon be an abscess. And a lot of people have that in Britain and America today. They tell me about the great blessing they got five years ago.

What about tonight? What about today? What did you get from Jesus this morning? Unless you learn to daily take up the cross, to daily enter afresh into the revolution and out of the fog, to daily believe God to break that dichotomy, that double life. Unless you're ready for daily combat, daily communion, daily repentance, and for daily Jesus. Forget it.

Forget it. You'll never be a revolutionist. Oh, you'll be a religionist.

You'll be an evangelical. You'll be a good church goer. Oh, you'll sing in the choir.

You may even come on OM, but you'll never do what they did in Act 17. They turned the world upside down. Come out of the fog and let Christ make you a revolutionist.

He knows your weaknesses. He works in different ranks with different people. He knows any particular psychological problem that you have.

He accepts you as much when you're down as when you're up. And with that grace, that forgiveness, nothing can stop us. Let us pray.

I don't like invitations. It's harder for me to give a five minute invitation and preach for 50 minutes. But I know, especially under an academic, and in an academic situation, you can forget what you've heard here in 10 minutes.

If you meet your girlfriend out there, one look at her and you can forget everything. Or maybe you've got some studies, or maybe you've got this or that. And I just cannot come here tonight without giving some of you the chance to make a decision, a commit.

It's only the beginning. I have no spiritual pet pills tonight. And I believe that some of you that want to make a whole fresh beginning in your Christian life, you want to mix what you've heard tonight and other nights with faith.

And I believe one of the best ways to do that is to cause you or ask you to take some physical step. And I did this last year, I think maybe for the first time here. And I saw more results from my last year's visit than any of all previous visits.

And I believe that some of you that want to make a decision tonight, and your decision is to be a spiritual revolutionist, to come out of the fog and into the light of forgiveness, of grace, of acceptance of yourself, and believing that God will use you as a sharp dynamic instrument, regardless of your hang-ups, your problems, your weaknesses. So I'm convinced, I'm not going to take much time, I'm not going to ask you to come for, but I'm convinced that this little invitation is of Him. And I want you, if you will pray that prayer with all your heart, God make me a revolutionist.

I want to come out of the fog, I turn from sin, from what's ever hindering me, from running the race, and I believe God is going to make me a revolutionist if it takes 60 years. We've got one man on our ship who wants to come more than anyone else, he's 77 years of age. You know it's worth 77 years if it takes that long.

But you've got to begin, and I believe there's some of you that want to begin. And so I'm going to give you that opportunity, if you'll pray that prayer, Lord take me out of the fog, out of the double life if that's your situation, into the light of spiritual revolution, of biblical dynamic militant Christianity. If you'll pray that prayer with all your heart, and I'd like you to just stand quietly right where you are, and I want to have a prayer of commitment and believe God's Spirit will fill you and take you out of the fog and into the light.

During this appeal quite a large number stood up, and after the main meeting was over, George Burwer spoke to those who stood up as follows. I'd like to say just a few things that I believe will be a real help. First of all, you're going to be attacked.

The Bible says that we have an enemy like a roaring lion. He doesn't care about those who are just sitting around. He doesn't care about the non-revolutionists.

Someone just wrote me from India, and they were telling about Napoleon and how he had a couple of tests he gave to his enemies to see if they were harmful or not. And the non-revolutionists, he knew they

were no problem, so he didn't bother with them. He threw all his efforts against these potential revolutionists.

And the devil is not worried about the non-revolutionists. They aren't going to upset anybody, turn anything upside down, knock down any of his castles. They aren't even going to build a sandpile.

But once you say, well, Lord, I'm going to be a revolutionist, I'm going to be a world changer, I'm going to see lives changed upside down, I'm going to determine that any cost of my life is going to get turned upside down. Then the devil decides, well, this isn't too good. So he has a little special meeting.

Alan Redpath once said on a tape, has he preached here yet? I have mercy on you. He's a great force in my own life. I was a student at Moody when he was a pastor at Moody Church.

He knocked me out so many times, I thought sometimes I'd never get up. I still listen to his tapes. He said in one of his tapes, I think he was preaching in Edinburgh, that Satan has a number of demons that he can send out against any one Christian that's really beginning to move.

So realize that. Very important. Secondly, realize that there will be failures.

Anybody who makes any kind of commitment, at least in my meetings, I guarantee failure. I guarantee failure. I had a girl really encouraged once, and she made a commitment at a meeting, and she came to my after meeting.

She wrote me months later, she said, you're the first preacher that preached and gave an invitation, because she'd gone through many. And actually, it all worked. You promised me failure, and that's what I've had.

What should I do? You see, God loves failures, and sinners. I'm still a failure. I had to go to a brother yesterday and confess and repent that I had said something that wasn't the way Jesus would have said it.

And God broke me and gave us a fresh unity. There'll be failures. And as you come to the cross with your failures, there's forgiveness.

You know what happens to so many people that make a big commitment. They set up an image, structure, a standard. For a while, they keep it.

They're sort of running on the emotional veal of that meeting. Sooner or later, the crunch comes, down they go, then they get discouraged, depressed, disillusioned, throw it over and say it doesn't work. It doesn't work.

I've met many people who've done it. Reality includes dryness, failure, depression, discouragement, the work. That's reality.

That's reality. But it also includes knowing what to do with those things. The girl who knows reality isn't the girl who never gets depressed.

The boy who knows reality isn't the boy who never gets discouraged or whose mind never drifts off to something that isn't pleasing to Christ. But he knows what to do. That's why the Christian's real.

The man in a false position of holiness, and believe me, there's no end to the group. In India, started a group on super sanctification. The final test of sanctification was for a girl to undress in their presence.

And the whole movement went wild. All the leaders were having women strip in their presence, and they fell into sin, and the whole thing went down in a sewer. And that happens.

I can tell you right in this country, things that happen I wouldn't even describe in a public meeting. And I believe it's deadly. This whole area where we think we're going to get perfect, we're going to, you know, we're going to be way up here.

It's deadly. It's deadly. I know it's not, uh, it's not him.

Sure there's victory, but victory includes knowing what to do when you fall. Our burden is not to fall. It's clear in John.

Very, very, very clear. Where the Lord tells us not to sin. My little children need things right unto you that you sin not.

Good. That's what we're talking about tonight. But if you sin, you have an advocate with the Father Jesus the righteous.

So reality includes living in victory. And most of the time we are in victory. We are rejoicing.

But because the tremendous battle within us, the lust of the, uh, the spirit lust is against the flesh, whatever way you want to describe it, we do fail the Lord. We do sin. It's not an action in mind.

It's not in commission, in omission. And a lot depends on your standard. My standard is Jesus, and that knocks me out daily.

And so reality isn't just living on some great standard, but it's knowing what to do when you sin and how to bounce back. That's the reality. The realist, he's got problems, he's got battles, he's got struggles within, without, but he knows what to do.

He knows how to appropriate the grace of God. You must understand that. If you understand that, you'll never get discouraged.

I've hardly been discouraged in 15 years, not more than a few minutes, sometimes a few hours, because I don't, I don't accept discouragement any more than the immorality. It's all from the pit. But when I feel that discouragement coming on and maybe getting a time of discouragement or, or somewhat of a depression, I don't remain there.

I've learned how to get out of it. Appropriating the word, praising the Lord, fellowshiping with someone else, sharing, all kinds of ways, not any one way. And realizing that it's truly Christ and that he can, I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me, the word of God says.

So try to understand that. There will be failures. Reality involves that.

Takes time to make a man of God, but knowing what to do when you fall. And if you learn that secret, nothing's going to stop you. It's just fantastic.

Thirdly, you must get into this book in a new way. Don't study it any more. Devour it.

Devour it. Meditate, feed, memorize. Until the word is memorized and down in the subconscious, it's doing you little good.

Eighty percent of our problems are in the subconscious. That's why we do things we don't want to do. We don't do things we should do.

And our battles are down there. I wish I had a few hours to talk about that. But the Bible says the word will make you clean.

Now you are clean through the word. I don't understand it. But it does work.

The greatest thing that's cut off, I would say at this point, ninety-five percent of all my lustful thinking. So now when things tend to want to jump into my mind, instead there's verses. There's praise.

There's images of the Lord Jesus and the way he lived, which I get from the word, not looking at Solomon's head of Christ. And so unless you're willing to get really serious about this book, forget it. A man once told the story of someone going down with a wicker basket and trying to get water out of the lake.

Of course, every time he picked the water up, it all went out of the wicker basket. The man said, well, that's like my memory. But you know, at least every time he did it, the wicker basket was cleaner.

So you may not be able to remember everything so well. But each time you let the word go into your mind and into your heart, it will clean you. How can a young man cleanse his way? Take heed according to the word.

I have hid thy word in my heart, Lord, that I may not sin against thee. Get into this book like never before. Memorize it.

And linked to this, you can take it the next thing at any cost. Learn to appropriate the promises. Not one, not two, but the hundreds of promises.

Like 1 Corinthians 15, 58. Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. Or Philippians 1, 6. Having this confidence, he which has begun a good work in you will continue it until the day of Jesus Christ.

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