

Theophany Part 1 - Full understanding after the opening of the seals

A topic in the message that causes a lot of debate is concerning the theophany. Brethren have adopted and introduced many ideas of what they think it is and does. In the next few writings we would like to show the truth on the theophany as taught by the Bible and prophet William Branham. In this first writing we will show how Brother Branham changed in his understanding of the theophany. It is important to keep in mind that Brother Branham had a progression in his understanding of the theophany. Before the opening of the Seals, Brother Branham probed at what the theophany was and how it was used. After the opening of the Seals, he was no longer probing into what the theophany was, but he had a clear understanding. It is important to understand this because some of the things Brother Branham said about the theophany before the opening of the Seals do not run with the revelation of the hour as revealed to Brother Branham by the mighty angel. Thus, you must use quotes about the theophany when Brother Branham had the correct understanding.

Let's first show a few quotes where Brother Branham discussed how the opening of the Seals enlightened him in his revelation.

[BEGIN QUOTE]

TRYING_TO_DO_GOD_A_SERVICE_WITHOUT_HIS_WILL SHREVEPORT_LA 11-27-65 Breakfast

19 I'm not disgrading my Presbyterian brethren there, and some of you Baptist brethren on the way you have security. I'm not saying this to be different, but you didn't have it just right. See? That's right. See? **But I had it wrong too.** But when an Angel stands from heaven and tells you, and here it is right in the Scripture, that--that's true. See? That's right. See, He always speaks exact with the Scripture.

TRYING_TO_DO_GOD_A_SERVICE_WITHOUT_HIS_WILL SHREVEPORT_LA 11-27-65 Breakfast

[END QUOTE]

[BEGIN QUOTE]

FEAST_OF_THE_TRUMPETS JEFF_IN 07-19-64 Morning

14 Then one day in Sabino Canyon, while God called me early in the morning up there, I was up with my hands in the air, praying, and a sword came into my hands. You know that. I stood there and looked at it, just natural as my hand is now. Not knowing what it meant, and it was left me with a Voice that said, "This is the Sword of the King." And then, later when the Angel of the Lord revealed it, It was the Word in the hand. Immediately after that, the Angels of the Lord appeared and told about the Seven Trumpets--or the Seven Seals; and I was to return back here to Jeffersonville and preach the Seven Seals. And there if I've ever said anything that was inspired, it was in that. There where the Angel of the Lord met us in a... **The Bible become a new Bible.** There It opened up and revealed all the things that the reformers and things had left out. It was the complete revelation of Jesus Christ, altogether new to us, but perfectly, exactly with the Scripture. That was the Word which has always been. I was so inspired and directed.

FEAST_OF_THE_TRUMPETS JEFF_IN 07-19-64 Morning

[END QUOTE]

It is clear by the quotes above that God dealt with and changed the thinking of Brother Branham on many subjects after the opening of the Seals. Eternal security is just one subject that Brother Branham changed on. The subject of theophany is another area where he also changed. Now let's show some quotes on how Brother Branham progressed in his understanding on the theophany.

[BEGIN QUOTE]

HEBREWS_CHAPTER_TWO_NO3 JEFF_IN 08-28-57

All flesh like that is... Not the same flesh, it's different flesh, but it's made out of the dust of the earth where it come from. But the difference between an animal and a man, God put a soul in a man and He didn't put it in the animal, **because the soul that was in the man is that theophany.** Oh, I've...

HEBREWS_CHAPTER_TWO_NO3 JEFF_IN 08-28-57

[END QUOTE]

[BEGIN QUOTE]

HEBREWS_CHAPTER_TWO_NO3 JEFF_IN 08-28-57

Theophany is a human body that's glorified, not exactly with flesh and blood like it will be in its glorified stage, but it is of a form of a human body that doesn't eat, neither does it drink, but it's--it's a body, a body that's waiting for us as soon as we leave this one.

HEBREWS_CHAPTER_TWO_NO3 JEFF_IN 08-28-57

[END QUOTE]

[BEGIN QUOTE]

WHO_IS_THIS_MELCHISEDEC JEFF_IN 02-21-65 Evening

His--His first being was Spirit, God, supernatural (All right?), the great Eternal. Second, **He begin to form Himself towards flesh in a theophany, it's called, "the word, a body."** This then is the state He was in when He met Abraham, was called Melchisedec. He was in the form of theophany.

WHO_IS_THIS_MELCHISEDEC JEFF_IN 02-21-65 Evening

[END QUOTE]

Before the opening of the Seals, Brother Branham would sometimes call the theophany the soul and other times a body. It is clear to see he was probing. However, after the opening of the Seals, he never called the theophany the soul, but he only called it a body. Let's look at another quote to express this point even further.

[BEGIN QUOTE]

WHO_IS_THIS_MELCHISEDEC JEFF_IN 02-21-65 Evening

And then when this robe of flesh is dropped, **there is a natural body, theophany, a body not made with hands**, neither born of a woman, that we go to. Then that body returns back and picks up the glorified body.

WHO_IS_THIS_MELCHISEDEC JEFF_IN 02-21-65 Evening

[END QUOTE]

As you can see in the quote above, Brother Branham clearly calls the theophany a body. A body is not a soul. However, this point does not run with what Brother Branham said before the opening of the Seals in the Hebrew series. In the Hebrew series he called the theophany the soul, but here in Who Is This Melchisedec he is calling it a body. Thus, you can not use the two quotes at the same time. You have to understand that Brother Branham progressed in his understanding on the theophany. As shown in the quote above, he even talked about how the Angel of the Lord dealt with him on things, and changed his thinking. Thus, you must take the Revelation after the opening of the Seals, after the Angel of the Lord dealt with him. You must take the truth taught in Who Is This Melchisedec over the Hebrews series quote. The theophany is not a soul, but it is a body.

An important point to keep in mind when discussing the theophany, is that there is one message book that contains the most information about it. That is Who Is This Melchisedec, preached by Brother Branham in February, 1965. Yes, there are other messages that talk about the theophany, but Brother Branham said the most about it in Who Is This Melchisedec. The complete truth on the theophany can be found in that book. Now let's show one more point Brother Branham changed on the theophany. Before the opening of the Seals he said we once lived in the theophany. After the opening of the Seals he said that we bypassed the theophany.

[BEGIN QUOTE]

QUESTIONS_AND_ANSWERS_ON_HEBREWS_NO3 JEFF_IN 10-06-57

89 Now, there you are. That's the way we are here. We come from a higher being. In the beginning we were in the image of God. The veil and the darkness keeps us from knowing it now. But Jesus told His disciples He was with them before the foundation of the world. See? We were. You can't know it now, but you was in the beginning. And if this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting. Hallelujah. And then **we move into this theophany, what we once lived**, so we can eat and shake hands..

QUESTIONS_AND_ANSWERS_ON_HEBREWS_NO3 JEFF_IN 10-06-57

[END QUOTE]

[BEGIN QUOTE]

WHO_IS_THIS_MELCHISEDEC JEFF_IN 02-21-65 Evening

28 Now, the different between Him and you as a son... See, He was at the beginning the Word, an "En morphe" body. He came in and lived in that in the Person of Melchisedec. Then later... We never heard no more of Melchisedec, because He became Jesus Christ. Melchisedec was the Priest, but He became Jesus Christ. **Now, you bypassed that, because in that form He knewed all things. And you have never been able to know that yet. You come like Adam, like me.** You became from the attribute to the flesh to be tempted. But when this life is finished here... "If this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting." That's where we go; that is the Word. Then we can look back and see what we done. Now, we don't understand it. We have never become the Word; we've just become the flesh-man, not the Word. But...

WHO_IS_THIS_MELCHISEDEC JEFF_IN 02-21-65 Evening

[END QUOTE]

In conclusion, it is clear to see by the few quotes supplied in this writing that Brother Branham progressed in his revelation on the theophany. That the Angel of the Lord dealt with him and

gave him a full understanding on the theophany. That some of the statements before the opening of the Seals do not run with the revelation of the hour. In order to get the full truth on the theophany, you must drop Brother Branham's ideas before the opening of the seals and take the truth as given by the Angel of the Lord. For example, you can no longer call the theophany a soul, but rather it is only a word formed body. Or, you can't say Adam came through his theophany, but rather he bypassed it. By understanding that Brother Branham progressed in his understanding on the theophany, you can see the truth on the theophany and many other doctrines that Brother Branham taught, and how his understanding on many subjects changed, but the later messages contained the revelation given by the Angel of the Lord.