Living Sermons

A BILLY GRAHAM CLASSIC SERMON

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND YOU

JOHN 14:16-17

"He is not something; He's Someone. The real, permanent high comes from the Holy Spirit, and He gives you a high even in your low moments."

BILLY GRAHAM

Sacramento, California

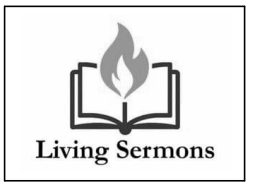
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THE HOLY SPIRIT AND YOU

Preacher: Billy Graham

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Living Sermons

FOREWORD

Who is the Holy Spirit, and what does He have to do with you? In this message, preached in Sacramento, California, Billy Graham turns to Jesus' promise of the Comforter, the One who "helps alongside," and sets out plainly what the Bible teaches about the third person of the Trinity.

Dr. Graham insists that the Holy Spirit is not an "it" or an influence but God Himself: all-powerful, present everywhere, convicting of sin and giving new life to those who are spiritually dead. He explains what it really means to be born again, how the Spirit lives within the believer, empowers for service, produces His fruit, opens and shuts doors, exalts Christ and fills those who are emptied of self. Then he warns soberly of the sins against the Spirit: angering, lying to, tempting and resisting Him.

His tone is plainspoken and often humorous, from a little girl who "forgot" what electricity is to an atheist who gave God one minute. Underneath runs a deep urgency, for "My spirit shall not always strive with man."

In preparing this edition, we have preserved the preacher's message and wording. We removed time stamps and broadcast material, trimmed a few repetitions that belong to the spoken word, arranged the transcript into chapters with subheadings, and corrected punctuation, capitalization and obvious transcription errors so that it reads as a book.

As you read, listen for the gentle voice of the Comforter. If He is drawing you to the cross, do not resist Him.

Wisdom Epsi
— The Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

Watch the live sermon from which this message was transcribed on YouTube

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Our standard is reverence for the Word of God. Our daily goal is to transform powerful live sermons into polished PDF and ebook editions for the edification of the Body of Christ. It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

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MAIN MESSAGE BEGINS HERE

CHAPTER 1

THE COMFORTER

ONE WHO HELPS ALONGSIDE

I want you to turn to that passage that Ralph Bell read to us a moment ago. He talked about the Comforter. That comes from a Greek word—and I'm not a Greek scholar, please don't get me wrong; I'm not trying to show off how much or how little I know—but that word Comforter means "advocate," or one who helps alongside.

And that is what the Lord Jesus Christ was promising just before He was to die on the cross and be resurrected and ascend into heaven: that He was going to send a Comforter, Someone to help alongside.

Now, the apostle Paul wrote and said, "Now concerning matters pertaining to the Spirit, I would not have you ignorant."

A MOVEMENT IN EVERY CHURCH

Now, we've all been aware that in the past few years we've had a movement called the charismatic movement. It hasn't been limited just to certain denominations. It's been in all denominations, whether it's Episcopal or Roman Catholic or wherever.

For example, down in southern Poland, where the Pope comes from, we held a crusade in a great cathedral. And there was a great charismatic movement in southern Poland, and across the border into Germany. We sensed that God was working in those people in a new way.

Now, some people interpret it one way, and some interpret it another way. Some people mean that we're having a renewal or revival in our churches or

among our people, and they call that charismatic. And others may have certain gifts that they call evidences of the charismatic movement, and so forth.

I'm not going to try to get into all of those differences tonight, because I would be here all night, and I'd be here all week, and all month, and for a year, because there are some differences of interpretation. But I think you know what I'm trying to say.

NOT DRUGS, BUT THE SPIRIT

It's impossible to understand the Bible, Christian living, or the structure of the church without understanding something of the person and the work of the Holy Spirit.

Timothy Leary, the former Harvard professor, was on a network program just a few days ago, and he said that he believed in the use of drugs as a route to tune in to God and to turn on to God. Well, the route is the Holy Spirit—not drugs.

CHAPTER 2

WHO THE HOLY SPIRIT IS

SOMEONE, NOT SOMETHING

The Scripture teaches that He's a person. He's not an agent or an influence. He's God! And we're never to refer to the Holy Spirit as "it."

Now, there are some mistranslations in the Authorized Version, because in those days when it was translated, several hundred years ago, they referred to certain things about the Holy Spirit as "it," because the word was neuter. But He is not something; He's Someone. And "Holy" indicates that He's holy within Himself: the Holy Spirit.

Now, in some places in the Authorized Version it's translated "Ghost." In those days the word spirit was called ghost. But it didn't mean ghost in the sense that we mean ghost today—some film out of Hollywood in which a ghost comes along. The Spirit is used in contrast to that which is flesh and material.

THE TRINITY

Now, the Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is co-equal with God the Father and God the Son. There is a Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. And no one can explain it.

It's like the little girl who was in her classroom—she was in about the third or fourth grade—and they asked, "How many of you can explain electricity?" And one little girl lifted up her hand. And the teacher said, "All right, well, what is electricity?" And the little girl thought for a moment, bit her lip, and she said, "I forgot." And the teacher said, "Well, that's too bad, because you're the only one that ever knew."

(Laughter)

ALL-POWERFUL AND EVERYWHERE PRESENT

Now, the Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is omnipotent. The word omnipotent means all-powerful. In Micah 3:8 it says, “I’m full of power by the Spirit of the Lord.”

And then the Bible says that the Holy Spirit is present everywhere at the same time. “Whither shall I go from Thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?” said the psalmist in 139:7. You can’t go anywhere and get away from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is everywhere.

And that’s the reason that, when you have a sense of guilt put there by the Holy Spirit, many times that guilt will go with you, even if you travel to a faraway island trying to get rid of it. It is the Holy Spirit convicting you of sin. The Holy Spirit bears witness to Jesus Christ, who is the truth.

CHAPTER 3

NO SUBSTITUTE

KICKING THE TELEVISION SET

One young man who had been converted to Christ remarked, “To induce spirituality by taking drugs is like trying to turn on your TV set by kicking it.” And many people do that. I found out that it’ll work sometimes!

(Laughter)

So that’s not a very good illustration.

(Laughter)

But there are those that think that by drugs, or some trance, or some hypnotism, they can have the same experience that you have with the Holy Spirit. That is wrong. It’s false. You cannot!

THE REAL HIGH

Oh yes, there’s meditation and all kinds of things that can give you a high. But the real, permanent high comes from the Holy Spirit. And He gives you a high even in your low moments.

CHAPTER 4

HE GIVES NEW LIFE

CONVICTED BY THE SPIRIT

Some of you that are watching by television have been convicted by the Holy Spirit, and you need Christ. He's trying to draw you tonight to the cross of Christ, where that sin can be forgiven. And there's a telephone number on your screen now that you can call. A counselor is standing by now to answer your questions, and to help you make that commitment to Christ, or to talk to you about whatever problems you may have in your life.

THE WALKING DEAD

Now, the Holy Spirit not only convicts, but He gives new life. The Bible says that we're dead in sins. Do you realize that you're a walking dead person? You're dead toward God. You're spiritually dead. Your soul is dead; your spirit is dead. Your body is alive, but you're dead. The real you is dead.

Now, what needs to be done for a dead person? He needs to be made alive. And that's the work of the Holy Spirit: to make you alive.

BORN FROM ABOVE

Jesus said you must be born again, and that word actually means to be born from above—born from above, born by the Spirit of God. You see, man without God is dead, and life is at best a bore. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Have you been born again? Has that happened to you?

We've got that expression, "born again, born again," and people are getting a little bit tired of it. People are saying, "I'm a born-again Christian," or "He's a born-again Christian." I'm not so sure but what it has become a phrase that really doesn't mean what we really mean biblically by being born again.

Back when Mr. Carter was president and running for president, they called him a born-again Christian. And he certainly was a born-again Christian. But then they began to use that word "born again" describing automobiles. They had an ad on television that said, "This is a born-again automobile." And then they said this was born again and that was born again, until it became a phrase that was used out of its context.

It means born from above. And Jesus said it to a religious leader, a person who was more religious than almost anyone here tonight: Nicodemus, a professor of theology. He said, "You need to be born again, Nicodemus."

"And I will put My spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you shall keep My judgments, and do them," God says through Ezekiel.

CHAPTER 5

HE LIVES IN YOU

THE TEMPLE OF GOD

"He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you," Jesus said in this fourteenth chapter of John. "Know ye not that you're the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"

The Holy Spirit comes to live within you. And when you receive Christ tonight, the Holy Spirit will come to live in you, to help you live the Christian life—in you and through you.

POWER FOR SERVICE

He also empowers us for service. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me."
Power—supernatural power.

And I want to tell you—and I'm not going to boast; I say it with all humility—I'm not a great preacher by preaching standards. If you took a group of theological students and they studied my preaching, they wouldn't put me down as a great preacher. But I believe that God has given me power in preaching, and that is the power of the Holy Spirit.

When you lift up Jesus Christ, and when you present Him, there's a power there. There's a power in the cross. There's a built-in power in the Gospel: the power of the Holy Spirit.

CHAPTER 6

FRUIT, VICTORY AND GUIDANCE

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

And then He produces the fruit of the Spirit. When you receive Jesus Christ, you want to be a person of love and joy and peace and longsuffering and gentleness and goodness and faith and meekness and temperance and self-control. That's produced by the Holy Spirit.

Those are attributes of Jesus Christ Himself. Love, joy, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and self-control: He had it all. You can have it all, but it has to be done by the Holy Spirit through you.

You cannot, of yourself, live the Christian life. You'll be a total flop and failure. It has to be the Holy Spirit living it through you and producing it in you. And He will do that.

FROM ROMANS 7 TO ROMANS 8

You see, if you take up Romans, the seventh chapter, that's a chapter of defeat. But then you pick up the next chapter, Romans 8, and you'll find the Holy Spirit is mentioned eight times, and it's a chapter of victory. You can have victory in the Holy Spirit. We're told to walk in the Spirit.

OPEN AND SHUT DOORS

But the Bible also teaches that the Holy Spirit opens and shuts doors. And I've found that true in our ministry: He opens some doors, and He closes others.

One of the greatest tasks that we have is deciding where to go, which city to go to next, because we have invitations from many parts of the world. Where

should we go next? Where should we put our emphasis? And then, as we see all these computers coming, and we see new channels opening up on television, and new mediums of communication opening up, we ask ourselves just how we can use them effectively for spreading the Gospel of Christ.

And this is where the Holy Spirit comes in, to help us and to lead us and to guide and direct us. And we are constantly concerned about it, and on our knees about it. "For the Holy Spirit shall teach you in the same hour what you ought to say." He comes to teach us, and to guide us, and to open and shut the doors.

HE EXALTS CHRIST

And then He magnifies and glorifies and exalts the Lord Jesus Christ. "He shall not speak of Himself."

If you find a person coming along saying, "The Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit," and never talking about Jesus Christ, you can know that that man is not speaking from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit exalts Christ! He exalts the Lord Jesus Christ. He did not come to talk of Himself.

CHAPTER 7

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

A COMMAND

And then He fills us. The Scripture says, “Be not drunk with wine, but be filled with the Spirit.” And that means to be continually filled with the Spirit.

You have to be emptied of your selfishness and your own desires and your own gratifications so you can be filled with the Holy Spirit. And that’s a command! Be filled with the Holy Spirit!

BY FAITH

Are you filled with the Holy Spirit? You can be. By faith you can say, “Every known sin in my life has been forgiven. I’ve confessed every known sin. By faith I believe I’m filled with the Holy Spirit.”

CHAPTER 8

SINS AGAINST THE SPIRIT

YOU CAN ANGER THE SPIRIT

But you can also sin against the Holy Spirit. And the worst of all sins are the sins against the Holy Spirit.

You can anger the Spirit. As I pick up the Bible, I do discover the wrath of the Spirit. As we read in the Psalm, "How often they rebelled and grieved Him in the desert," the translation from the Septuagint is, "They disobeyed and made angry the Spirit of God." They rebelled and angered His Holy Spirit; "therefore He turned to be their enemy, and Himself fought against them."

Wouldn't it be terrible to have the Holy Spirit as your enemy because you'd angered Him? The word "grieve" means to make very angry. And I would urge every one of you to be very careful, lest you rouse the wrath of the Spirit.

"My spirit shall not always strive with man," God said way back in Genesis 6, in the days of Noah. And the Spirit of God ceased striving, and the flood came, and the world was destroyed, except for eight people.

YOU CAN LIE TO THE SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit can be lied against. In Acts 5, Ananias and Sapphira: "Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God," said Peter. They acted a lie. They pretended to be what they were not. They were hypocrites. They acted out a lie.

YOU CAN TEMPT THE SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit can be tempted. "How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord?"

Many times sinners say, “Well, if God is God, let Him strike me dead.” There was a fellow years ago down in Tampa, Florida, where I was. He was an atheist, and he stood out there with a watch and said, “All right, if God is God, I’m going to give Him one minute to strike me dead.” Nothing happened. And some old brother on the front row said, “You cannot exhaust the patience of God in one minute!”

(Laughter)

THE EAGLE ON THE ICE

But it is like the story I heard about the old eagle on an iceberg on the Niagara River. He had landed there to eat the carcass of a sheep. And as he was floating down, he was getting closer and closer to the falls. And as he got closer to the falls, somebody on the shore yelled, “Watch out, old eagle! Watch out! You’re near the falls!” But the eagle thought to himself, “With my strong wings I can get up off this in a second.” But just as he came to the falls and he lifted those wings, he found that his feet were frozen in the ice. And he couldn’t get free, and he went screaming over the falls.

You can tempt God. “Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.” You can wait too long. You can tempt God too long. And the day or the time will come when it’s no longer possible.

CHAPTER 9

DO NOT RESIST THE SPIRIT

A DANGEROUS THING

And then the Holy Spirit can be resisted. “Ye do always resist the Holy Spirit: as your fathers did, so do ye.”

You can resist the Holy Spirit. And some of you tonight know that you need Christ, but you’ve been resisting the Holy Spirit. That’s a sin against the Spirit. It’s a solemn thing to resist the Holy Spirit. You detect His voice, and yet you deliberately do nothing about it. It’s a dangerous thing.

“He that despised Moses’ law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?” Resisting the Holy Spirit!

WHILE YOUR HEART IS TENDER

Tonight you’re going to have an opportunity to receive Christ into your heart and to make sure of your relationship with Him. The Bible says, “Because there is wrath, beware lest He take thee away with His stroke: when a great ransom cannot deliver thee.” “My spirit shall not always strive.”

There comes a time when you go beyond a certain point, and your heart gets so hard that even if the Holy Spirit speaks to you, you can no longer hear. That’s the reason the Bible says come to Christ in your youth, before the evil days come. When your heart is tender, come to Christ. Anytime you hear the voice of the Spirit of God saying, “Come,” you’d better come, then and now. You may never have that moment again.

"He that hardeneth his heart, being often reproved, shall suddenly be cut off, and that without remedy."

GONE BEFORE NOON

A friend of ours was driving this morning. He came up over a hill, and he was going very slowly, and he had his wife and his daughter with him. And a man who wasn't familiar with that particular territory came over the hill and hit the side of their car. And by the time she got to the hospital, she was dead. They never dreamed this morning when they got up, a happy little family, that she would be gone before noon.

How quickly it all happens! Come when you can. Come to Christ when you have a chance. You have that tonight.

"He that being often reproved shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy." "Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." We don't know that we'll be alive tomorrow. You don't know that, if you're alive, you'll have another chance like this. Come while you can.

CHAPTER 10

ELECTION DAY

YOU ARE VOTING TONIGHT

You're voting tonight. Every one of you is going to cast a vote. This is election day. You're going to vote either for Jesus Christ, or you're going to vote for the devil. Jesus with you; the Holy Spirit in you.

THREE THINGS

You say, "What do I have to do?" Three things.

First, you must repent of sin, and the Holy Spirit has to help you in your repenting.

And then the second thing: by faith you receive Jesus Christ, who died for you on the cross, as your Savior and Lord and Master.

And then thirdly, you are willing to obey Him in all the little things that He'll speak to you about and teach you out of His Word. You must be willing to say yes to all that.

LET HIM IN THE COCKPIT

You must be willing to turn your life over to Him, and He becomes the Master. He becomes the pilot of your boat, or the captain of your airliner. You're like a plane going through the sky, and all of a sudden the bomb will come, the destruction will come, unless you let Jesus into the cockpit to become the pilot. He knows all the instruments. He's been over the route before. He knows all the dangers.

You turn your life over to Him. He'll help you in your marriage, as you heard Joni and Ken tell so beautifully a moment ago. Turn your life over to Him as Master and Lord and Savior.

If you have a doubt about your relationship to God tonight, you make sure. Or you might be like that priest: you may be in the church but not sure of your relationship to God. Make sure tonight.

CHAPTER 11

THE INVITATION

SETTLE IT TONIGHT

I'm going to ask hundreds of you to do what we've seen hundreds do every night here in Sacramento. I'm going to ask you to get up out of your seat right now and come and stand in front of this platform, symbolically, and say, "I do want to receive Him. I do want to know that my sins are forgiven, that I have eternal life, that I'm ready to meet God."

Why do I ask you to come? Because every person Jesus called in the New Testament, He called in public. Every person—think of it—in public. There's something about coming forward openly. When I got married, I got married in front of witnesses. You come to Christ in front of witnesses and give your life to Him.

If there's a doubt in your heart about your relationship, you come and settle it tonight—hundreds of you, thousands of you that God is speaking to. Do not resist the Holy Spirit. Do not say no to the Holy Spirit tonight. You come. He's drawing you to the cross. We're going to wait.

THE DOOR IS OPEN

And after you've all come, I'm going to say a word to you, and have a prayer with you, and give you some literature that you can take home to help you in your Christian life. It's very important that you do this, and it's important that you come. And after you've come, you can go back and join your friends; they'll wait. If you've come in a bus or with a group, they'll wait. But come and settle this tonight. Don't wait another minute. There may not be any other time for you. Time may be running out.

Young or old, man or woman, Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, whatever your background, the door is open for you. You get up and come. We're going to wait on you now, from everywhere—way back here, and over there. I'm going to ask that people not leave the service at this holy moment; it disturbs so many people. But you come quickly. You may be in the choir; God has spoken to you. You get up and come.

THE INVITATION HYMN

Just as I am, without one plea,

(Announcer) The number on your television screen is a number that you can call for spiritual help and counsel. Please write the number down. If the line is busy, wait a few moments and call again. People will be there to help you as long as the calls keep coming in.

And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

HERE IN SACRAMENTO

You that have been watching by television can see that here in Sacramento, California, hundreds of people have been coming to make their commitment to Christ tonight, drawn, we believe, by the Holy Spirit. God the Holy Spirit has been speaking to you. I'm going to ask you to pick up your telephone and call the number that you will see on your screen, and make that commitment over the telephone. If it's busy, call back again and again. The counselors will be there all evening. May God help you to make that commitment. And be sure and go to church next Sunday. God bless you.

(Announcer) You can make that same commitment right where you are. Just pick up the phone and call the number you see on your screen. Special friends

are waiting to talk with you and pray with you about this most important decision.

Sight, riches, healing of the mind;
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe…

(Announcer) Again this evening, as you can see on your television screen, many are making their commitment to Jesus Christ. It is also a time of commitment for you. We'd like to help you. As Mr. Graham has just told you, the same helps we're giving these tonight he will send to you if you would just write for them.

CLOSING WORDS

(Closing Announcement) If you just prayed that prayer with my father, or if you have any questions about a relationship with Jesus Christ, why don't you call the number on the screen. There will be someone there to talk with you, pray with you and answer those questions. And remember, God loves you! If you would like to commit your life to Jesus Christ, please call us right now, toll free at 1-877-772-4559. That's 1-877-772-4559. Or you can write to us at: Billy Graham, 1 Billy Graham Parkway, Department C, Charlotte, NC 28201. Or you can contact us on the web 24/7 at peacewithgod.tv. We'll get the same helps to you that we give to everyone who responds at the invitation.

On behalf of Franklin Graham and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, thank you for watching and thank you for your prayers.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Passages quoted or alluded to in this message, in order of appearance. An asterisk (*) marks a passage the preacher did not name by chapter and verse; the editors identified it.

John 14:16-17, 26* — Jesus promises the Comforter, the Advocate who helps alongside. *(Chapter 1)*

1 Corinthians 12:1* — "I would not have you ignorant." *(Chapter 1)*

Acts 5:3-4* — The Holy Spirit is God. *(Chapter 2)*

Matthew 28:19* — Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *(Chapter 2)*

Micah 3:8 — "Full of power by the Spirit of the Lord." (Named by chapter and verse.) *(Chapter 2)*

Psalm 139:7 — "Whither shall I go from Thy spirit?" (Named by chapter and verse.) *(Chapter 2)*

John 16:8* — The Holy Spirit convicts of sin. *(Chapter 2)*

John 15:26* — The Spirit bears witness to Christ. *(Chapter 2)*

Ephesians 2:1* — Dead in sins. *(Chapter 4)*

John 3:3-7* — "Except a man be born again"; Jesus and Nicodemus. *(Chapter 4)*

Ezekiel 36:27* — "I will put My spirit within you." *(Chapter 4)*

John 14:17 — "He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." (Chapter named, verse not.) *(Chapter 5)*

1 Corinthians 3:16* — You are the temple of God. *(Chapter 5)*

Acts 1:8* — "Ye shall receive power." *(Chapter 5)*

Romans 1:16* — The built-in power of the Gospel. *(Chapter 5)*

Galatians 5:22-23* — The fruit of the Spirit. *(Chapter 6)*

Romans 7–8 — From defeat to victory. (Chapters named.) *(Chapter 6)*

Galatians 5:16, 25* — Walk in the Spirit. *(Chapter 6)*

Acts 16:6-10; Revelation 3:7* — The Spirit opens and shuts doors. *(Chapter 6)*

Luke 12:12* — The Holy Spirit shall teach you what to say. *(Chapter 6)*

John 16:13-14* — He shall not speak of Himself; He glorifies Christ. *(Chapter 6)*

Ephesians 5:18* — "Be filled with the Spirit." *(Chapter 7)*

1 John 1:9* — Confessing every known sin. *(Chapter 7)*

Matthew 12:31-32* — The sins against the Holy Spirit. *(Chapter 8)*

Psalm 78:40* — They grieved Him in the desert. *(Chapter 8)*

Isaiah 63:10* — They rebelled and vexed His Holy Spirit; He fought against them. *(Chapter 8)*

Ephesians 4:30* — Grieve not the Holy Spirit. *(Chapter 8)*

Genesis 6:3 — "My spirit shall not always strive with man." (Chapter named, verse not.) *(Chapters 8, 9)*

1 Peter 3:20* — Eight people saved in the flood. *(Chapter 8)*

Acts 5:4, 9 — Ananias and Sapphira. (Chapter named, verses not.) *(Chapter 8)*

Matthew 4:7* — "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." *(Chapter 8)*

Acts 7:51* — "Ye do always resist the Holy Spirit." *(Chapter 9)*

Hebrews 10:28-29* — Done despite unto the Spirit of grace. *(Chapter 9)*

Job 36:18* — Beware lest He take thee away with His stroke. *(Chapter 9)*

Ecclesiastes 12:1* — Remember your Creator in the days of your youth. *(Chapter 9)*

Proverbs 29:1* — He that hardeneth his heart shall suddenly be cut off. *(Chapter 9)*

Proverbs 27:1* — "Boast not thyself of to morrow." *(Chapter 9)*

Matthew 10:32* — Every person Jesus called, He called in public. *(Chapter 11)*

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

William "Billy" F. Graham Jr. (1918–2018) was raised on a dairy farm in Charlotte, North Carolina. In 1934, at age 15, he made a commitment to faith during a revival led by Mordecai Ham. He was ordained in 1939, graduated from Florida Bible Institute in 1940, and earned a B.A. from Wheaton College in 1943, where he married Ruth McCue Bell.

After pastoring in Illinois and serving as the first full-time evangelist for Youth for Christ International, Graham was vaulted into national prominence by the 1949 Los Angeles Crusade. This event launched decades of global outreach, including historic, extended crusades in London (1954), New York City (1957), Seoul (1973), and Rio de Janeiro (1974). Overall, he preached live to nearly 215 million people in over 185 countries and territories.

In 1950, he founded the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA). Through BGEA, Graham hosted the syndicated *Hour of Decision* radio program for over 60 years, published *Decision* magazine, and authored 33 books—including bestsellers such as *Angels: God's Secret Agents* (1975) and his 1997 autobiography, *Just As I Am*.

A counselor to U.S. presidents, Graham appeared on Gallup's "Ten Most Admired Men in the World" list a record 61 times. His honors include the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1983), Congressional Gold Medal (1996), and an Honorary Knighthood (2001). Following his passing in 2018 at age 99, he lay in honor in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda, and a bronze statue of him was added to the U.S. Capitol in 2024. Billy and Ruth raised five children, 19 grandchildren, 44 great-grandchildren, and nine great-great-grandchildren.

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LivingSermons is raising Kingdom-minded volunteers across the world to help transform live sermons into lasting digital resources. If you have the burden to serve and the skill to contribute, there is a place for you. Let us preserve God's spoken Word together and take the Gospel further.

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- **Social Media Managers:** Share books online, grow our reach, and engage our global community.
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