

THE Question OF Illegitimacy

"A bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord; even to his tenth generation shall he not enter into the congregation of the Lord." Deuteronomy 23:2

Illegitimacy is an issue that has both baffled and worried generations of Christians. In what manner, if at all, does this Old Testament law apply in our lives today?

Knowing there was illegitimacy in her family's history, Sister Daulton was one of those who sought an answer to this difficult subject. In November of 1960, her husband was afforded an opportunity to visit with Brother Branham in the denroom of his home in Jeffersonville. Also present were Leo Mercier and Gene Goad, secretaries in Brother Branham's office.

On his wife's behalf, Brother Daulton presented the question of illegitimacy. Brother Branham turned to Leo Mercier and ask him to write down what he was about to say for Sister Daulton's benefit. When he finished speaking, he signed his name and added a personal note at the bottom of the page.

Reproduced here is a photo of the original, hand-written letter. In the box to the right, the text of the letter has been typed for your benefit.

November 12, 1960

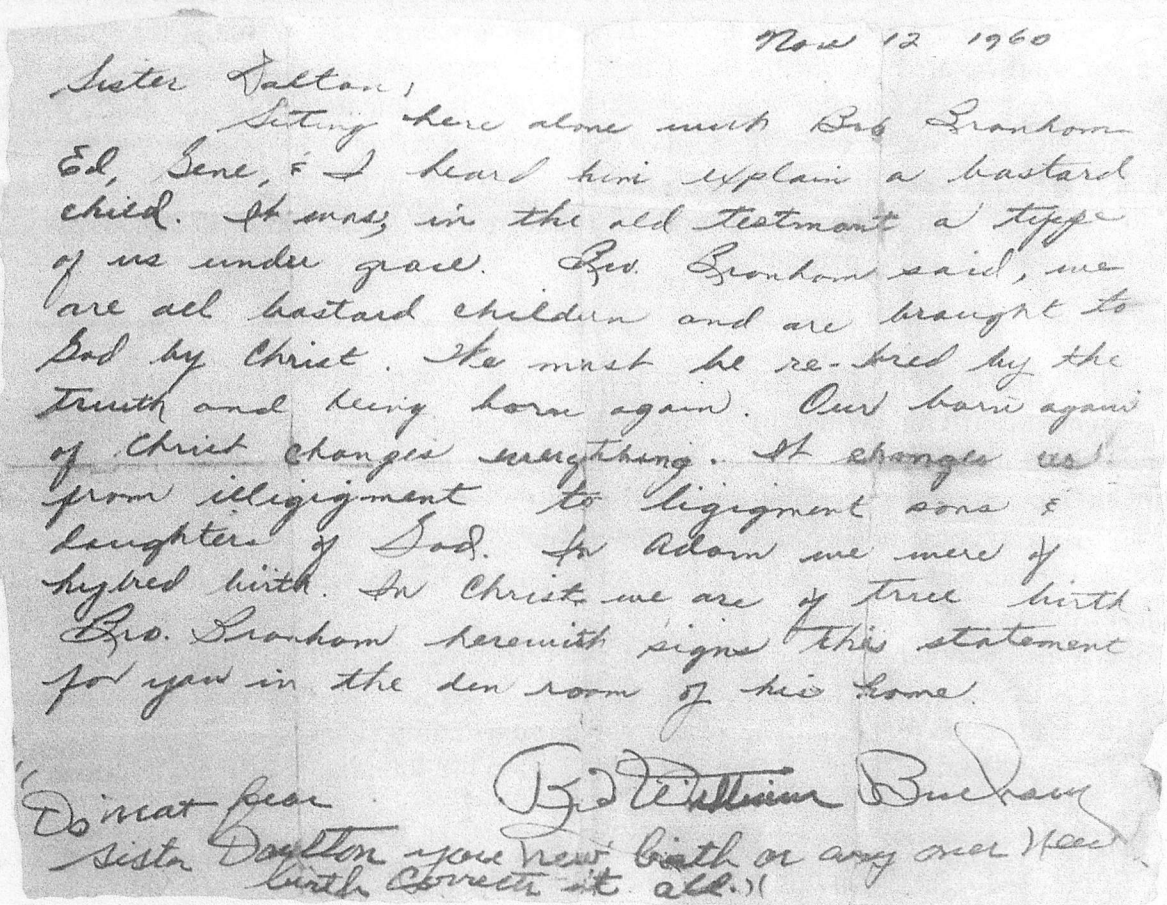
Sister Dalton,

Sitting here alone with Brother Branham, Ed, Gene, and I heard him explain a bastard child. It was, in the Old Testament, a type of us under grace. Brother Branham said [that] we are all bastard children and are brought to God by Christ. We must be re-bred by the Truth and being born again. Our [being] born again of Christ changes everything. It changes us from illegitimate to legitimate sons and daughters of God. In Adam, we were of hybrid birth. In Christ, we are of True birth.

Brother Branham herewith signs this statement for you in the denroom of his home.

Rev William Branham

"Do not fear, Sister Dalton, your new birth, or anyones new birth, corrects it all!"



IT.WASN'T.SO.FROM.THE.BEGINNING_ SHREVEPORT.LA SUNDAY_ 60-1127M

E-48 And hybriding was such a horrible thing in the Old Testament. He said, "A bastard child shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord for ten generations." There's nothing to breed him out, only that sin. Think. Ten generations, four hundred years before a illegitimate child could ever come into the Kingdom of God. There was no serum to take care of him. He had to just breed it out through the family. Four hundred years 'fore a illegitimate child could into the congregation of the Lord.

But today, since the Blood of the Jesus Christ has been shed and you've been interbred by all different kinds of ideas, the Holy Spirit is here this morning to breed you back to the original, bring you back to Pentecost, breed you back. And we sit together this morning in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, letting the Holy Spirit [Blank.spot.on.tape--Ed.]...?... work. What is circumcising? Cutting off all the hybrid, the surplus, the things of the world, the things of the church age, bringing us back to Pentecost like it was at the beginning.

TEN.VIRGINS_ JEFF.IN ROJC 425-492 SUNDAY_ 60-1211M

41 That's how someone got it the other day. I've got a lot of letters on that, "Hybrid Religion," that I made a remark over in... The Bible said that a illegitimate, called "bastard child," could not enter the congregation of the Lord for ten generations, which would be four hundred years that a illegitimate child could not come into the congregation of the Lord. That's how bad that hybriding was; that was a woman that let another man live with her in order to bring forth a child, that that child was hybrid, not by its father but by some other man. See? And that was so evil before God, it taken ten generations to ever breed that out again, before God.

But that doesn't apply to this age. You have a new birth now. They don't... They had just one birth back there, that was the actual sexual breeding. We have this new birth now which is the spiritual, that breeds out all the cull. And we are new creatures in Christ Jesus, borned again of the Spirit of God: new creatures. And the word "creature," if some of you good scholars here that understand (if you don't, you might look it up), the creature comes from the Greek word of "a new creation." Oh, the same as you are a creature here born sexually, you are then a new creation borned heavenly. Of--in God's new creation of a new man. New creation, that's a birth. But it has to be a birth. Just the same as the natural birth is necessary, the spiritual birth is just as necessary as the natural birth.

SPOKEN.WORD.ORIGINAL.SEED_ JEFF.IN V-3 N-1 SUNDAY_ 62-0318M

41-1 Who did it? God. When did He do it? Before the foundation of the world. Then if we come in a illegitimate birth through Eve's corruption, making us all her children and subject to death, then the sovereign God has to make a way to redeem His children, "And all the Father hath given Me will come to Me. And no man can come unless My Father draws him." Oh, my. Now, where's your great big thing you done? You never done nothing. You ought to be ashamed. God, Who done all things... The wheel's a working just right.

Someone come the other day, said somebody had said something bad about me and--and accused me of something that was wrong. And I said, "Oh forget it."

Said, "How can you take it like that? That involves your family. That..."

I said, "Oh, my." I said, "That was predestinated before the foundation of the world to give me a trial. I said, "Why, my, my, my. Sure, so that's all right."

Said, "How do you do it?"

I said, "If I looked right down this way, I'd be falling all the time."