



Gene Norman's Testimony

We went to ... Shreveport meeting, the last meetings he had there, in the fall of '62, and he invited us out for dinner there and he told us when we went back to find him a home that he was coming to Tucson and that was the first I knew that he was ever going to be in Tucson 'cause he had never said, (anyhow, we found a place for him) and he wanted us to stay in the worst way ... in his room that night and not leave We was going to leave and start back that night for Tucson and he didn't want us to leave, he wanted us to stay there. And what it was, we only got part way, we didn't even get out of town and the bearing, the universal bearing in the Ford went out, went to thumping and we just pulled behind the station. Woke up the next morning and we was right across from a wrecking yard. Drove it over there and the guy put a new bearing in and we was on our way ... but he tried in the worst way for us to stay, but we wouldn't impose on him like that but he was always so gracious.

Brother Branham never missed chance to do something for you and it was always such a wonderful spirit. And when we were in the room he wanted to know if he should go through that prayer line and tell us what happened again and we said, "No." We wouldn't make him do that you know. We knew he could do it but that was sure something that he asked us if we wanted him to.

But anyhow, he came in the first part of January in '63 and when he first came to our apartment we had there, he came for the key and I'll never forget it and neither will my wife, she always reminds us about it and tells people about it how that when he came there, he stood like a fighter feet apart like and he stood there so ... I can't explain how he looked, but he said "something's fixing to happen" and I didn't know what it was and didn't have any idea you know and anyhow, what it was, was a couple of months later, that's when the Seals was opened, see up at Sunset.

But we got the key for him, got the little place for him, that's where he moved over into Alf Larsen's house and he rented, (had that rented) till the summer there. So I had the privilege of going up hunting with him up there with Brother Fred and of course that's on tape in several places and it started the night before and he was talking to Fred and I about a couple of hours before dark and we was going to go out. It was just around the corner from where the main camp is and where the whirlwind came down and we was camped right there along that little jeep trail and there's a little canyon that went up back up in there and he was talking to us there and telling us some things and finally he shouldered his gun and he says "....." Umm, oh, what it was, I was praying for my daughter. Let's go back a little bit I was praying for my daughter, my oldest daughter and when he left off talking he said "Gene, I didn't know you was out there praying for your daughter?" and I said "Yes Brother Branham" and he says "Well, it's going to be alright. I see a light above her." He says, "It's going to be alright"

And he was telling us some things there and he shouldered his gun and he held his two hands out and he said, "Do you think when visions come like this here that they don't bother?" And his hands was just trembling and he said "We'll hunt a while and then we'll have a little lunch and we'll come back at dark or after dark." So I went around the corner from the camp and Fred, I think he went up the main wash and I went around the back of him and was going to hunt that wall right above where the whirlwind came ... back up in there and I had just got around that corner just a little ways and I sat down and I never wept like that in my life and I wasn't thinking about anything. I wasn't thinking about my daughter ... he says everything was going to be alright and I just wept and wept and wept and when I got done, I was just real drained you might say, tired.

So I got up and walked and I got up up on top there and I could see before that happened, I could see him going up what he called that that hogback there by that pine tree. He went right in the direction where that blast was the next morning. So I went around the back and I went up around up on top there and I had hunted about an hour and the same thing came on me. I just sat down and wept and I didn't even know why I was weeping or what happened.

Anyhow, we all got back in there about dark and we didn't see any pig, but the next morning he had us to go up there where he'd went the night before (a lot of brothers know just here it's at) ... We went up that direction there and he separated us. He was hunting to the right and Fred was hunting the middle and I walked down the rattlesnake Mesa road and I hunted downhill and I went down into the bottom and I got down in the bottom and it happened to me again ... that was three times. I just sat down and wept and wept and wept. And when that passed away I got up and I hunted about ... I started working back and I hunted probably about a half hour and that blast went off. It sounded like it was right above my head and I looked up and I didn't see nothing ... I didn't see the cloud in the form that it shows in the picture ... when I looked up I seen two long streaks like a plane a leaving a trail. Two streaks with a great miles one way with a spot ... a big space in between it but I couldn't see no plane. I thought what it was was probably a plane bust the sound barrier but there was no planes in the area ... there just wasn't any there you know and I didn't know what it was and so I started hunting back up the hill there and I met Fred and Brother Branham. They was sitting on the rattlesnake Mesa Road on top waiting for me and the first thing brother Branham asked me when I got on top was "Gene, did you hear that noise?" And I said, "Man, Brother Branham! I've been out here five years and I have never heard a sound like that in town, out of town or any place" But he didn't say anything. And Fred and I walking back, I said "Man! Wasn't that a blast?" and he said "Yeah, there could be something to it." So we got back to camp and Brother Branham said he'd put a piece of paper up there on a bush and that "We'll come back and try it" And if they're not in there, we'll go back.

So we went up there the next morning and tried it and they weren't in there and he'd drawn a little map and he give it to me and it showed where that piece of paper was so we would get out on the right finger you know and he positioned me to where I could scare them over to Fred and Fred hadn't got his pig but there was nothing happened so he was going to go back.

A few days later I had the privilege of going back ride back with him to when he preached the Seals. So he come and picked me up. And Fred Sothmann, Tom Simpson, they had cars and Billy Paul and we had quite a convoy so anyhow, I got to ride with him and he said "We'll eat breakfast at Benson" and I said "Well I don't know if I'll be able to eat breakfast. I had too much pork last night and I was up a couple of times in the night and I don't know." He said "Well we'll stop and ... " and you'd think you was listening to a medical doctor, 'cause he went right to explaining what happened on my insides. "You got too much of that rich grease" and it had upset my stomach. And the way he'd explain it, you'd think you was listening to a medical doctor. And when we got to Benson, I ate breakfast! That was alright!

We got back to Jeffersonville there and I got to stay with Brother Beeler and Brother Palmer and had good fellowship with them and I'd like to say that to me them Seals are so outstanding and I thought I was getting a lot then but I tell you, I wasn't even scratching the surface, but to me they're just so wonderful.

I think it took more out of him on those Seals than people really know and I could see that. And he was so nervous that we got into Arizona, he started singing for maybe two or three hours and he'd say "Well do you know this one Gene?" He was trying to pull himself out of it. Really it just took and awful lot out of him from what I could see. And the next day I went over to mow his back yard and take care of the place for him. And I walked round the back of the house in the morning and here he was hunched up against the house. He was just beside himself I guess. Anyhow, he said "Don't tell that guy across the street." (There was kind of an odd character that used to bother him). He said "Don't tell him I'm here Gene. I just want to be alone". So I got around the front and went out there and mowed and got out of there as quick as I could. And he went back in the house I guess by the time I got round the backyard, 'cause I wouldn't bother him for anything and so it really drained him.

I was over at my Brother in Law, Willard Weert's and he got a phone call and I picked up that Life Magazine and I was thumbing through there and I seen that cloud picture and I didn't have any idea what it was and so I asked Willard "Don't you think that's strange?" and he said "Sure is" And I said "Can I just take this and show Brother Branham?" and he said "Sure you can have it if you want it." Brother Branham come over Sunday to go to Church at one of the Assembly of God Churches down on Broadway and I showed him that picture of the cloud and I said "Did you ever see this before Brother Branham." And he says "No, I haven't seen it" He looked at it and said "I guess you've seen that it's in the form of a pyramid?" and I said "No I never" And he said "Do you mind if I have it Gene?" and I said "No, take it along. I don't want it". And he never said what it was but later on when he said what it was, why we were going to Church another Sunday morning and he said "Gene, why don't you go down and tell that McDonald" (he was the guy at the university there that was making light of it), "Why don't you go down and tell just what happened up there?" and I said "Oh not me Brother Branham. I'd get it all balled up. I said "You go tell him". He said "Well it's not for them, it's for us that believe". And I think it was a year and a half or two years later that that man took his own life. Now that's the difference. If you stand for the Word or if you go against the Word. That's quite a contrast. He took his own life.

Brother Gene Norman

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