

QUOTES FROM BROTHER BRANHAM - CHAPTER 10  
The Mystery of Iniquity

Brother Branham gave at least two meanings for the phrase “mystery of iniquity”. In the first, he labeled the deceivers at the beginning of the Church Ages as working the mystery of iniquity:

*Not then, see, not then; but, “in his time,” see, at the breaking of that Seal. We’d know exactly what it was. Who is this man of iniquity? Who is this man of sin, this fellow that’s a working iniquity? “But he be revealed in his time.” **For the mystery of iniquity does already work (deceivers, you see, deceiving the people off into something, see): only he (God) that letteth will let, until he (the Church, Christ, the Bride) be taken out of the way. And then shall the Wicked one be revealed,...***

*88 At the breaking of the Seal, “at his time.” Paul said, “Not in my time, but in the time when he’ll be revealed.” See?  
63-0318 - The First Seal*

In the second, Brother Branham said the person of the Antichrist is called “mystery of iniquity” while Jesus Christ is the Person of the Mystery of Godliness. Thus, there is an ongoing battle between Christ and Satan, between the Mystery of Godliness and the Mystery of Iniquity. Also, the false churches are full of iniquity:

*Now I said a moment ago that the false vine came into full fruition in this age. Her fruit would mature and ripen. That is correct. **This evil-spirited church, full of iniquity**, will be revealed as the mustard seed that grew into a tree wherein lodged the fowls of the air. **At her head will be the antichrist, the mystery of iniquity.** All this is true. And if this is true, then it must also be true that the Bride Church will mature, and her ripeness shall be an identification with her Lord by means of the Word, and her Head Who will come to her is **the Mystery of Godliness, Which indeed is Christ.** And as the false church with all cunning and diabolical power made up of political force, physical force and demons of darkness come against this true vine, the true vine with the fullness of the Spirit and the Word will do the very acts of power that Jesus did. Then as she nears her Headstone, becoming like Him through the Word, Jesus will come that the bride and Groom may be forever united as one.*

*An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - 9 - The Laodicean Church Age*

Based upon the following quotes, the Serpent Seed doctrine explains why all men and women are born in sin and shaped in iniquity:

*Take some of these old movie actors and get up here, married four or five times, living with three or four different husbands at the same time. And some of these magazines exposing them and tell them, taking their pictures naked out here, and you little girls set that as your example? Why? Because your mammy before you perhaps, your grandmammy before you...*

*You see where that seed of the serpent works in? Sure it did. And what's it done? If iniquity is to visit to fourteen generations under the law, what will the iniquity be visited in this day? When the seed of the righteous is about worked out; and God said it'd come a time if He didn't cut the works short, there'd be none of it left. We're at the end time.*

*58-0928E - The Serpent's Seed*

*Now, but... See? God, when He passed the judgment upon Adam and Eve, she was already done the sin before He could pass the judgment. **And listen, did you ever know that the first child was ever borned in the world was borned in sin, shaped in iniquity, come to the world speaking lies? The very first one that was ever born was born that way, because...***

*"And so what about Adam and Eve?" They wasn't born. They were created. See? But the first child ever come was born in sin, so it has to be that line. "A man that's born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble." He's borned in sin. That's the reason he has to be reborned again (See?) by the Spirit, not by a spiritual thought; by spiritual birth (See?) that regenerates him, makes him a new creature. The first man was born was borned in sin.*

***Then there had to be One come without sex. Now, if sex wasn't the first thing, then why did they have to have One in sex to redeem the whole human race? Why didn't He just bring one down the corridors and said, "Here's the just One that thinks right"? It had to come through the sex, come through woman, because that's where it come in the first place. Through sex brought unrighteousness, and through sex brought Righteousness.** See? God, without an adultery, without sexual desire, brought forth Jesus Christ by immaculate conception, by overshadowing Mary and creating in her this baby, that come by sex. And through that, His holy Blood redeemed the whole fallen race. See? So it has to be, no other way for it.*

*Every man that's born of a woman is death bound; he's dead when he's born. That's right.*

*That's the reason I was talking the other day how that we have that blessed assurance now.*

*62-0527 - Questions and Answers*

*Now, to begin with, to base back, **the reason we have to be born again is because the Bible teaches us that we were all born in sin, shaped in iniquity, and come to this world speaking lies. Then that shows us that our nature, to begin with, is sinful to start with. We're no good to begin with.** So we cannot claim anything by our shrewdness, our sincerity, or how great we are, how little we are, or--or whatevermore, we are altogether wrong to begin with. And there is nothing at all that we can do about it. You cannot... Jesus said, "Who, by taking thought, can add one stat--one to his stature, one measure to his stature?" You can take all the thoughts, do all the dreaming of it, read it, study it, examine it, and everything*

*else, and you can't help yourself one iota. So that just throws it all out. I'm so glad it does, because if it laid in the thought of knowing something, smart, we poor illiterate people would be left out, so we wouldn't have a chance. But God changed it, or never had it that way in the beginning. The churches always makes it complicated. God makes it simple. So it's brought down into a place where all of us can see, all of us can have it. It's for whosoever will.*

*61-1231M - You Must Be Born Again*

Brother Branham taught churches today crucify the effects of the Holy Spirit today citing the Scripture "there they crucified Him" from Luke 23:33:

*And you are turning now to Saint Luke, the 23rd chapter, and I want to read one verse. That's all I need for this basis this morning, to place it upon. Now we read the 20th... the 23rd chapter, the 33rd verse of the 23rd chapter.*

*And when they... came to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.*

*Now I want to take four words out of there, out of that reading, to base what I want to say, "there they crucified Him," four words. And now my subject is called... **I--I'm a bringing an indictment to the denominational churches of this day, and also many of the independents, for crucifying Jesus Christ afresh in this day. Indicting them! This morning, it's called: The Indictment.***

...

*"There," the greatest religious city, "they," the most religious people, "crucified," the most shameful death, "Him," the most precious Person. **If that ain't enough to condemn this generation!***

*63-0707M - The Indictment*

Six times Brother Branham mentioned his desire to preach a sermon about *The Trail of the Serpent* but never had the chance. In this quote he said the false church would try to impersonate the true church as a false twin and have a Pentecostal move, yet be deceptive and evil:

*There is always twins. And that's the reason... **Don't forget this, little flock. The church in the last days is going to be twins, "so close that it'll deceive the Elected..." Matthew 24:24, see. The church is going to... It's a Pentecostal move. It's so much like the real thing, till it would deceive the very Elected if it was possible.** And a little later on, if I get the chance, I want to explain what, how that election comes. **See, it's going to deceive them because it's almost like the same thing.** See, just two fathers, that's all; same mother, same church, same movement, same thing. The bedding ground is the same, where the Word falls; but one of them, like here, is perverted. You understand? Say "amen" if you did see. [Congregation says, "Amen."--Ed.] See, one of them is a perversion, because it's the wrong father. Which, I will prove someday, if God will let me, that denomination is the mark of the beast. **See, it's the wrong father, he is stirring people to an organization instead of to the Word. See, it's the wrong father. It's a Cain move.** When I go home this time, I'm preaching on the subject, *The Trail Of The Serpent; the beast at the beginning, and the beast at the end; and trail him right through the Bible, and show how he**

heads up. See? And you all get that on the telephone, you see, if the Lord permits us to do it. And now just watch how cunning that fellow is, how he's just exactly just... Well, they're just like Judas and Jesus there, both brothers in their tribe, just like Esau and Jacob. And--and like the--the crow and the dove, sitting on the same roost. And everything is a twin, in--in this great warfare that we're in.

The enemy uses deception, like he did to Eve, "Oh, God has said? Surely, but--but surely..." See?  
65-1031M - Power of Transformation

Brother Branham said the Jezebel church has a cup of iniquity that is filling up as well: Now, you see, now as Satan is going to--has incarnate himself from antichrist to false prophet now, and in the days of the Jew, is antichrist amongst the early church... In the dark ages he become a false prophet to the world. See her there with her cup of iniquity. Now, that's to the church age.  
63-0319 - The Second Seal

Regarding the label of reprobates, this quote shows how the workers of iniquity are the spiritual seed of the serpent, also known as reprobates:

*Then I knew the truth of the camp meeting and the vision. The parable of the Sower and the Seed, the sixth chapter of Hebrews, and the evident manifestation of Spiritual gifts in a mixed audience--all became wonderfully clear. The sower in white was the Lord. The sower in black was the devil. The world was the field. The seeds were people, elect and reprobates. Both partook of the same nourishment, water and sun. Both prayed. Both received help from God, for He maketh His sun and rain to fall on both good and evil. And though they both had the same wonderful blessing and both had the same wonderful manifestations, THERE WAS STILL THAT ONE GREAT DIFFERENCE, **THEY WERE OF DIFFERENT SEED.***

*Here also was the answer to Matthew 7:21-23*

*"Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father Which is in heaven.*

*Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy Name? and in Thy Name have cast out devils? and in Thy Name done many wonderful works?*

*And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: **depart from Me, ye that work iniquity.**"*

*Jesus does not deny that they did the mighty works that only the Holy Ghost can accomplish by way of men. But He did deny ever knowing them. These weren't backsliders. These were wicked, unregenerate, **reprobates. These were the seed of Satan.***

*The Church Age Book - Chapter 5*