

# Being 'Taken Out' by Any Means Possible

The excerpt below is from John Crowder's book "The Mystics". John shows as part of his study, that the majority of high-profile spiritual people in the past have ended up 'falling' to the enemy's strategies.

This quote exemplifies the enemy's desire to 'take out' anyone who is a threat to him. He will try any means possible to achieve this.

His chief weapon is any weakness in us. If weaknesses are eliminated he will try new attacks to identify where unknown weaknesses are. If this is unsuccessful, he will try old weaknesses to see if we're off our guard. Being out of alignment in our spiritual authority is also a place for the enemy to successfully work.

We must be on guard for our very lives and our salvation, 24/7.



"As for [William] Branham's demise, prophetic teacher Paul Keith Davis relates a vision in which he was actually taken back in time to a William Branham meeting. In the vision, Davis was helping to escort the crowd up to Branham for prayer, and was watching Branham's movements as he prayed for the sick. Davis then saw two serpents coming after Branham. One of them represented the hatred of man. Nearly every ministry that moves in great power will face intense persecution and hatred. People will utterly reject and despise you; it simply comes with the territory. Consider the death threats and murder attempts on John Alexander Dowie; the persecution of countless saints, martyrs, and prophets; and the skeptical press attacks and lawsuits against almost every miracle ministry. If we choose to pursue our supernatural Kingdom birthright, these are giants we will have to face. To pursue the miraculous takes a radical commitment to risk everything-reputation and even the respect of family and friends-for the sake of the gospel.

In Davis' vision, Branham overcame that first serpent.

Persecution did not hinder him. But it was the next serpent which got him. The second serpent was the adoration of man. That was also the one which took out Dowie in the end, as well as Stephen Jeffreys and others. That serpent was perhaps the chief adversary of the entire healing revival. If the enemy cannot stop you with outright resistance and persecution, he will thrust you onto a pedestal. We cannot take the glory for ourselves; we cannot draw attention away from the Lord.

"When you make an idol out of man, you destroy his ministry," says prophetic minister Bob Jones. "Long ago, I was told that my ministry is a failure unless you go past me....When you start worshiping an idol, you'll never attain to his level. But when you listen to those the Lord is using, His main purpose is to get you on that level...so you can go on up."!! Rather than idolizing our leaders, we must recognize that their level of ministry is just the starting point from which we can build higher! These men are the floor, not the ceiling. The nature of apostolic reproduction is that we go past them. I believe the Lord is still hesitant to release the true apostolic anointing in this hour, because we will quickly want to idolize it, instead of imitating it. Davis says we must learn from forerunners such as Branham – their successes and their failures – in order to take our birthright, which is the Kingdom dimension in which they walked."<sup>1</sup>

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