Hebrews - Commentaries by Gordon Henry Hayhoe

Montreal Conference: 1988, Decisions and Disappointments

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Address—G.H. Hayhoe

I'd like to turn first of all to a verse in Hebrews chapter 10, Hebrews chapter 10 and verse 35, which hath great recompense of reward. I just wanted to read this one verse before I speak about the theme that was on my heart because I believe it's so very important. I believe that we can only receive the truth from God as there is confidence in Him and in His love, in His interest in our affairs. If someone talks to you and you feel they have no interest in you, no real care about your life or your things, why you say, well, it didn't seem to mean a great deal to me. But if it's someone whom you feel really loves you, has a sincere interest in you, by that means a great deal to you. But oh, how wonderful this is, dear young people, that you have a friend in the Lord Jesus, if you know him as your Savior, who has full knowledge all about you. He knows your background, He knows your feelings, He knows everything that has gone through your mind during these meetings. He knows the assembly that you come. From everything about you. And he has a personal interest in you. He has made you different. No two of us have the same fingerprints. We're all different people. And the Lord has a personal interest in you and He cares. But Satan is at work to destroy that confidence in God. He began way back in the Garden of Eden by seeking to destroy. Adam and Eve's confidence in God by making them think that God was holding. The best thing in the garden from them, where in reality He was only protecting them from what would have harmed them and did harm them when they partook of it. But dear young people, if they had only realized that God had planted that garden Himself and provided them with everything for their happiness, they would have accepted the warning. Someone has said How often does one forbidden thing hide from our view 1000 blessings. And if there's something forbidden that you're going after, something that God's Word warns you about and you're seeking after it, it's because you don't have confidence in God. You think that going after that forbidden thing is going to bring something worthwhile into your life. But how can it be so when the God who created you and who knows you through and through has given you his precious Word and all the assurances of his love, particularly in that? When we had sinned, He gave His only begotten Son to redeem us. And often said that God placed Adam and Eve in the garden in that way. And when they had sinned and spoiled it all, he said, well, I'm going to give you something better than what you spoiled. I'm going to invite you to my home above, a home that you can't spoil, and I'm going to pay the price so you can be there. And that's what he did. And you and I who are saved, we know that one. We know him as our Savior. We know him as our Lord. And are we going to allow the enemy to put doubts in our minds that he cares about us when we think of the price that he paid for us and the future that's ahead of us where we will never need anything? Faith will cease there because there will be nothing we have to trust about. We'll be in the eternal realization of all that God has provided. But this is a scene of trust. And so here this verse. And isn't it a marvelous thing? But I read it overwhelmingly. That God says, I'm going to give you a great reward if you just trust me. Just think of it. It's all that we should do. We certainly should trust Him when we think of who he is and what He's done. But he says, I value your confidence so much that there's an exceeding great reward if you'll just trust me, if you'll just trust me. And dear young people, I say this to you, that if you'll just trust the Lord, that there's going to be an exceeding great reward and more than that. There's a present blessing in it too, because the Bible says that godliness has the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. And the peace and the joy that the Lord can give you in your heart. Maybe your circumstances may not be all that you would like them to be, but the peace and the joy He can give you in your heart, it's overwhelming, it's tremendous, and He wants to do that for you. Well, what I particularly had in mind in speaking this afternoon was to talk about two things that I think are very important in our lives, particularly as young people, and that is decisions and disappointments, decisions and disappointments. And I think that we need to learn trust in both those things. We need to learn trust and decisions because.

If we make decisions contrary to the word of God, contrary to the leading of the Spirit of God and our. Lives by, we're making a mistake. We're really saying to the Lord, I don't believe you can plan the best for me. I need to take some of these things on and plan them according to my own wisdom instead of according to the wisdom of Thy word. And then when disappointments come, and they do come, I guess we have all heard the little poem Disappointment His appointment change one letter and I see that the thwarting of my purpose was his better choice for me. Next time you write disappointment, just change the 1St letter and put an H instead of the D and you have his appointment. And when you realize that, it makes it so different. His appointment. Absolutely nothing happens by chance in your life and mine. And to have confidence that the path that He has marked out in His word is the true path of blessing and happiness in a world like this. And that if disappointments come, things that we can't understand come and happen in our lives. To still be able to say it's a God of love who allowed this in my life. And he has a purpose for our light affliction, which is but for a moment. Worketh for us a far more exceeding. And eternal weight of glory, if I can just put it in this way, you might say, wasn't it too bad that that decree was ever passed, that those three Hebrew children were to bow down to the to the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up? And because they didn't bow down, they were thrown into a fiery furnace? Was that a big disappointment they could never get over? I believe that in a coming day they'll tell you that that was the most wonderful experience they ever had in their whole earth, the time down here on earth. And dear young people, I say to you and to those of us who are older, these disappointments can turn into a rich blessing in your soul now and for all eternity. It can reap eternal and blessed results of far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Well, I just like to look at 4 scriptures in connection with decisions, and I'd like to turn first of all to Proverbs chapter 3, Proverbs chapter 3, and verse 5. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. In Psalm 119, Psalm 119 and verse 9. Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way by taking heed thereto, according to thy word? And then the 105th verse of this same song. The 105th verse says, Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Then to Jeremiah chapter 10. Jeremiah chapter 10 and verse 23. O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself. It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. I just wanted to read these 3 verses in connection with the decisions of life because I believe that these verses bring before us how that we have guidance in the Word of God as well as of course in prayer in connection with our decisions of life. Now we have many decisions that we have to make in life and isn't that lovely? That verse in the 3rd chapter of Proverbs in all thy ways. Acknowledge him. And he shall direct thy paths. Yes, dear young people, in all thy ways, not just in these big and

important decisions. Some of you have come to these meetings, and perhaps you've met friends, friends that may change the whole pattern of your life from now on. And maybe you're very pleased and happy about this. Well, that's lovely. But there are a lot of other little decisions that equally are important in your life and mind.

Mind And so I just want to commend this verse to you in all thy ways. Acknowledge Him. That is, when you get up in the morning, ask the Lord that he would direct you in your pathway of life because He cares. That verse we have read in Jeremiah says, O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself. As I look back over my own life and I think of how if the Lord. Hadn't given the instruction in His Word. What mistakes I could have made, things that would have spoiled my whole life, and how? How wonderful that God has given to us His Word. He has also given us the avenue of prayer for those two things I believe go together. Reading of the Word of God and prayer, they're often brought together. I believe first of all the importance of the Word of God, because I want to say this, if God's Word has spoken, then you don't need to ask the Lord whether you should obey it or not. If it's a question of marrying somebody who is unsaved, you don't need to ask the Lord whether you should marry that unsaved person because He's already given you instruction in His Word and said be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers. But there are of course many other things. That come in life where we don't have any direct instruction in the Word of God. And in those cases, why we need to pray and ask his mind and his will. So we need the constant reading of the Word of God. And as perhaps many of you, dear young people have heard me say before, read the whole Bible. Read it all. Because those stories in the Old Testament are just God telling us about people who were. Like passions with ourselves who were in situations similar to ourselves and showing us how they acted, how they reacted, mistakes that they made, good moves that they made, and all these things it tells us are written for our learning. And if you don't read those stories in the Old Testament, you're going to lose something because they're written to instruct us. God has not only given direction, but He has given us these pictures. I like pictures when I'm going to follow some work that I'm going to do. I like written instructions, but I also like pictures. They always help me to get hold of the written instructions. And God has given us both in His Word. I believe He has given a picture of every situation that you can find yourself in, and He has shown people just like ourselves who are in those situations and what they did and whether they acted wisely. Has also shown us the results of the good things they did and also the results of the mistakes that they made, and all these things are written for our good and for our learning. Now it says, in all thy ways acknowledge him. That doesn't mean that we just ask him when there's some big decision, well, what line of work am I going to follow, or who is going to be my partner in life, or where am I going to take up my residence? Those are rather weighty decisions, but there's a whole lot of little things. One time Nehemiah stood before a great king, and the king asked him a question the way he answered that question. Was tremendously important. He didn't have time like Daniel to run to his room 3 times in a day and pray. He had no time, but could he pray? Yes, it tells us that in the very presence of the king. So I prayed to the God of heaven and I said to the king, wasn't that lovely? And you have that resource. That's what it means. Pray without ceasing. It means that you're always in the attitude of prayer and you're asking the Lord. To direct you so in all thy ways, acknowledge him. When you get up in the morning, you don't know what you're going to meet in the day. You don't know what you're going to meet. Before you return home from this conference, I want to tell you this. The devil is going to be right out on the road as soon as you get out here. And he's going to do his best to shake every bit of confidence you have. He's going to try and destroy what you heard in these meetings. I've experienced it when I was a young person. You enjoy the meetings very much, and something happens as soon as the meetings are over that really shakes you right to your boots. And this God allows so that we would learn confidence in Him, confidence in him. And so it tells us in all thy ways, acknowledge him, ask Him. He's concerned about the smallest matters in your life. Whether you get on the right road or not, He's able to show you all the kinds of things he cares about.

Every detail in numbers of very hairs of your head. And so it says, trust in the Lord with all thine heart, all don't let the enemy shake your confidence in God. Because there's a beautiful verse in the Psalms too that says they that know thy name shall put their trust in thee. And so I want to encourage you to have that kind of confidence. You say, well, I'm a pretty shrewd person and I don't think people fool me very easily. But listen to that verse in Jeremiah chapter 10. Oh Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself. You may go to the guidance teacher and he may tell you, or she may tell you. You've got it in you. You can do it, but you don't and I don't. There are two powers that are superior to man, the power of God and the power of Satan. And if you and I don't put ourselves under the protection of the Lord and walk in the light of His word. There's another one who can outwit us every time, and that's the enemy of our souls. That's the enemy of our souls. Oh Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself. I don't stand before you here to say that I was trued in planning my life, but I tell you that I have a wonderful guide, the captain of our salvation, and he goes before I love to think too. I like that verse that says. When he put us forth. His own sheep, he goes before them. Sometimes as we travel, people give us directions and we really appreciate them and watch them. But it's a lot easier when somebody says, just follow me, go ahead, I'll go ahead of you and you just keep your eyes on me and I'll direct you. And that's so nice, you know, And that's what the Lord does. He says, I've given you my word, but I want to do more. I want you to always have your eyes on me. And so as that car goes ahead, you watch the license number, you watch when he stops, you watch when he starts, and you watch him. And that gives you the path. May he explain it to you before, but it's an awful lot nicer to have him ahead of you. Oh, dear young people, the Lord's the captain of our salvation. He's taking bringing many sons home to glory, and he knows our walking through this great and terrible wilderness. He knows every situation. You're going to meet different situations from the ones I have met, and I don't. I don't say that I understand all that you're going through because God didn't put me in the same place as you. But I say He's just as much a sufficient guide for you as He is for me and for every other young person in this room. He cares about you, as our brother reminded us yesterday. And so the way of man is not in himself. It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. But you say I've made some mistakes. What about them? Well, isn't that lovely? Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way, but by taking heed thereto, according to thy word, perhaps there have been some things that have crept into your life, things that have spoiled your communion with the Lord, things that are hindering you from following the Lord Jesus. Well, it says. How are you going to cleanse your way? Well, you look at the word of God and you let the Bible talk to you. Just like when we're traveling and we come to a place that we're not sure about, what do we do when we look at the map and we let it talk to us and sometimes I'm sorry to say, we we passed the point or we make a mistake. What do we do? We get the map out and we go back to where we turned off the wrong way and that's where we start over again. And that's what I want to say. Dear young people, if you have made some mistakes in your life, there is a way back to the Lord. It's true, sometimes you may have to reap a certain amount. Sometimes we've wasted 1/2 an hour or an hour or more just because we made a mistake. But much better to go back and get things straightened out than to keep on in the wrong way wherewithal still a young man. Cleanse his way. Have you heard something in this meeting that has? Made you think that really hit me. I'm not really just going that way and you've looked up and said, Lord, I want to go thy way and I acknowledge that I was very self willed. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Oh, don't go on your own way without his direction.

And then it says, thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I've often mentioned about this, those two things probably others have too. A lamp to my feet and a light to my path. I often compare it to the headlights of my car, you know, and the headlights of my car, I would think they probably shine maybe 100 or 200 feet ahead. But you know, if I decided that I was going to drive in the dark and I said, well, I really can't go any further than 200 feet because that's as far as my lights give me light. Oh, you'd say, but just keep going and you'll have light all the way. Now God gives you light for one step, but when you say I won't take that step, don't expect light for the next. I don't expect light for. The next 200 feet until I've gone that 200 feet where my headlights showed me. And perhaps you're saying, Lord, if I just knew what was 10 days ahead, it would be so much easier. The Lord says I've given you light for one step. Take that step and I'll give you light for the next one. That's what it means. Dear young people, Thy word is a lamp to my feet just for one step. And. I'll a lamb into my feet and a light on to my feet. He lights you all the way to glory. The Word of God will show you the steps all the way. There's people of all ages here, some dear children, some young people, some middle-aged, some of us are older. We found that there's light all the way and we need different things as we grow older. But there's light, There's wisdom in the Word. There's light when we turn to the Lord because He knows our walking through this great and terrible. US and so we have all that we need in him. Well, now just to mention things that we have to decide about. First of all, it's salvation. Salvation. Is there anybody who is listening here today and you haven't received the Lord Jesus as your Savior? You have turned away from the wonderful love that he wants to show to you. That's the first decision. That's the most important decision of your whole life. When you say yes to the Lord Jesus, will you come as a Sinner and receive Him and put your trust in Him? And I will tell you that if you do, He'll never leave you nor forsake you. He'll be with you all the way. His precious blood paid the price of sin, and He is able to give you the assurance in your soul that they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. So that's the first and important thing. And, you know, there's a lot of young people here, and perhaps some of you, like myself, you've been brought up in the Assembly of the Saints and you've grown up and you've heard the truth from childhood. But hearing it, you know, isn't enough. People sometimes say to me, well, it was easy for you, But you know, it doesn't matter whether you're brought up in the meeting or not. You have to buy the truth. You have to go through something in your soul. As to why you're there, am I just there because my parents were there, or am I there because I believe the Lord is there? You're going to have to go through that. And it isn't for us just to choose. Israel didn't have a right to choose where their center would be. They didn't have a right to choose how the ark was to be carried. No, God gave them directions. And I want to say to you, dear young people, I want you to really be persuaded from the word of God as to how and where the Lord Jesus would have you to gather that you might be gathered to His precious name as a member of His body around himself. So what a privilege. We've had a lot of about this in the meetings here, and I believe it's a tremendous privilege that we should have to gather according to His Word. Not just because of good fellowship, because it is wonderful, but because we believe that there is a scriptural way, something established in the Word of God that gives us light and instruction about how we should gather. Does he care about the job you have? Yes, he does. He does. His concern and says let every man abide in the same calling men. He is called with God and you want to choose the line of work where you can abide with God, where you can glorify him. And do you think the Lord cares about that? Paul is a tent maker. He had a skill in that direction. I don't know whether I'd be a good tent maker because I don't think I have much skill in that direction. But you may have something that God has fitted you for.

And if you ask Him, He will direct you and direct you into an occupation where you can do your daily job to His glory, where you can go to work and feel the Lord's right beside you and that you're not doing anything that you have to do with a bad conscience. Oh, isn't that wonderful? He cares then about your job. Does he care where you live? Yes, one time. Isaac was quite concerned about leaving the land because there was some problems there. There was a famine. And he was concerned about it. Was the Lord concerned about where Isaac dwelt? Yes. The Lord said, go not down into Egypt. Sojourn in this land and I will bless thee. You just choose whether you want to live in Montreal or Toronto. Or do you say, Lord, I want to live in the place where it's thy will that I should be, where I can honor thee, for I can be for thy glory. Cares about that. And when Isaac did that his his father had made a bad mistake and went down into Egypt and got into a lot of problems, problems he had to reap the rest of his life because he brought something into his home that spoiled his home and he had to read for it. And sometimes when we're self willed, the Bible says whatsoever a man saweth that shall he also read. And so poor Isaac was going to follow what his father did. But when the Lord said, don't go down Isaac. In this land, it says he sold that year, and he reaped A hundredfold. He might have said, oh, but there's a famine here. I gotta go. But when he stayed there, God gave him better than he'd ever had before. And so how wonderful that God cares about the place where you live. Does he care about the partner? Oh, indeed he does. Indeed he does. He cared enough for Adam that he made a a girl specially for him. And I believe that if you look to him. He has one especially for you too, if that's His will for you. Yes, there may be some who've gone through life and been faithful to the Lord alone, and God will honor them for that. We read about them in the Old Testament, but you may be that you're saying, well, is there one for me? Well, look to the Lord about that and He's able and the one He has for you. Is the very best one because he wants to bless you and two are better than one. But and a three fold cord is not quickly broken. Don't forget that. What's the threefold cord? It's to have the Lord's will in your marriage. It's to seek to follow in that plan and pattern that He has for you. As I say, there may be some who serve the Lord much better alone, and the Lord will give them great credit. Paul was very faithful, probably couldn't have done all the things that he did. If he had been married and so he served the Lord alone, and I believe he's going to get an abundant entrance. But what I want you to realize, dear young people, and I want myself to realize that we can trust the Lord. We can trust the Lord. Cast not away there for your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. God is going to reward you for being confident. Oh, you see how my faith really gets shaken sometimes when I don't see anything open up my job. I don't see any friend coming into my life. Everything seems to go wrong. I can't seem to find what line of work he wants me in and you just feel in a turmoil. And the Lord says I haven't showed you the way in verse 35. And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing. And he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth. And none can stay his hand, or say, What doest thou? Now I'd like to turn to Job chapter 1. And verse 21. Verse 20 Then Job arose and bent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, and said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. Thither the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. In Psalm chapter 18, Psalm chapter 18 and verse 30.

I'll read verse 29 also. Provide thee I have run through a troop, and by my God have I leaped over a wall. As for God, his way is perfect. The word of the Lord is tried. He is a buckler to all those that trust in Him. Now in First Peter chapter 5. First Peter chapter 5. I'll read verses 6:00 and 7:00. Humble yourselves therefore unto the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon him, for he cares for you. Well, the reason I read the first verse is that it seems to me a very conclusive and definite verse. It says, He doeth according to his will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth, and none can stay his hand or say. Doest thou? If I can put it very simply, there is no such thing as luck. There is no such thing as luck. Absolutely nothing in your life or mine happens by chance. Everything is under God's control. He doeth according to His will in heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth, and none can stay his hand or say, What doest thou? Have we settled this in our mind? Are you saying, well, I just seem to have a streak of bad luck? Nothing seemed to go my way. I can't understand why. Other people seem to have things workout for them or not me. Well, I'm sure if that's the way you're looking at

it, you're a very unhappy person. You're very upset. But God says cast not away there for your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. He's looking down and seeing you as a young person sitting here. Perhaps you're going home feeling a little disappointed because this was the second thought that I had the decisions and the disappointment. You're going away and there's disappointment in your heart. He thought that the Lord was going to work something out a certain way, and it just didn't turn out. It just didn't work out the way you had hope. And you say? Do I have to accept this as from the Lord? Well, I'm not saying dear young person, that I would have the grace for it because I I know there's regretting in my heart too. And I find it awfully hard at times just to say the Lord allowed it. My place is to accept it from Him. And I want to tell you, you'll never really have the peace of God. That passeth all understanding until you. Seek from Him the grace to take those adverse, those difficult situations from Him. To be able to say God's will is supreme and that's all I want in my life is His will. And if He has seen it fit to allow it that way. I've called attention before. Perhaps others may have heard me mention this, but in in the 10th, 11TH chapter of Hebrews, you have two groups of people. You have a group of people who had miracles wrought in their lives through faith. They subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtain promises, stop the mouths of lions. A whole group of people who saw miracles, saw things that were really wonderful happen in their lives. Daniel in the den of lions, and the lions not even touching him. This was a miracle. Three men in the fire and not even the smell of smoke on them. You say that happens in other people's lives, but not in mine. Maybe it does, maybe it does. Does God say that everyone is going to have these miraculous deliverances? I read books that make you feel that there's something wrong with your faith if you don't have miraculous deliverances like that. But that isn't what I read in the Bible. I find as you read that 11TH of Hebrews, that there were a whole group of people who didn't get any deliverance at all. They were tortured, they were tormented, they wandered in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented, and God didn't deliver them. Was there something wrong with their faith? Listen to what the Spirit of God says. These all having obtained a good report through faith. Received not the promise. That is, they have the Old Testament Saints didn't have what you and I have, the blessings as a result of the finished work of Christ, but they obtained a good report through faith. You know God's writing up your report. And when you're just in tears and say everything smashed in my life and I can't see why the Lord doesn't come in, He's saying I'm writing a good report for that person. They're trusting me when it's the hardest thing on earth to do, they're just trusting me and I value that. Cast not away there for your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. You think that other person's getting a good report, that you can get a good report right in the midst of that.

Disappointment and that trial and so. Isn't this lovely? He doeth according to his will, and the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth, and none can stay his hand, or say, What doest thou? When we think of Job, here was a man that God's report about him was certainly better than average. Says he was a perfect man, upright and one that feared God, one that really sought the blessing of his household. And everything went wrong. He lost his family, he lost his wealth. And afterwards lost his health. What did he say? What did he say? I can't trust the Lord when he does things like this to me. Oh no, he didn't say that, did he? He lifted the shield of faith and he said, the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. It didn't mean that he didn't feel it. The verse tells you there that he really did felt it. He was really crushed. And I want to tell you it's not wrong to feel things. The Lord Jesus felt things. It's been a comfort to me to read that verse. Reproach hath broken my heart. I am full of heaviness. I look for some to take pity. And there was none but for comforters. And I found none. Somehow I thought at one time that you should never feel those kind of things, that you should just be in such triumph that you didn't feel them. But that's not the way the Bible talks. You do feel them. You do feel them. You feel them keenly. The Lord felt the rejection He felt. The reproach. He felt hungry, he felt thirsty, he felt weary, he felt everything. And it's not wrong to feel him. But we have to watch, brethren, dear young people, that it doesn't produce resentment, rebellion and a lack of trust. That's where the danger is. That's where the shield of faith gets down and Satan's fiery darts come in. So job lost all that. It was hard for him to accept it, but what happened in the end? He got a good report too. He got a good report and God was doing something that I, shall I say, he couldn't do in any other way. And God does things with us, and there's no other way that's right but his way. As for God, his way is perfect. That's a hard thing to say at times, isn't it? But it says that by my God, I've run through a troop, by my God, I've leaped over a wall. You say everybody's against me, but by your gods you can run through the truth. Don't let them. Don't let them shake your confidence in God. Who you say is just like a wall was in front of me. Oh my God, I've leaped over a wall, says he makes my feet like hind's feet. I'm sure we've all watched the little deer. As it comes to an obstacle, you don't have to remove the obstacle. It's just got that nice little spring that springs up, goes over the obstacle. You see, I can't have peace until the obstacle is removed. God doesn't say it'll remove the obstacle, but he'll give you the grace to rise above it. He'll give you the grace. I like that verse that says He maketh my feet like Hinds feet. Then it doesn't stop there. It says He maketh me to walk on my high places. God always exceeds. You know when I watched the little deer and it jumps up, then it comes down on the other side, but the Lord says I'll help you to jump up and you don't need to come down on the other side. You can walk on that high place. You can walk in communion with me. You can walk in the enjoyment of submission to my will, and you'll find a peace and a happiness that can only be experienced as someone else said. There are joys in the path of faith. Only known to those who walk in them. And so we find with dear Job the Lord enabled him to say in the midst of his trial, The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away, Blessed be the name of the Lord. And he enabled David to say, As for God, his way is perfect.

And you may have a lump in your throat when you try to say it. But get down on your knees and those things happen and say that verse to yourself and say it again and again. Say God's way is perfect. I don't understand it. I won't understand that down here perhaps, but up there, as we had in our readings, then shall I know even as also I am known. I was mentioned about the time when our lives will pass into review. Many people shrink back at the thought of the judgment seat of Christ, while it is indeed a serious thing, because the Lord is going to have to burn up quite a bit in our lives. But there's also a blessed side to it. That we're going to see the hand of God in everything that happened in our life, something we couldn't understand down here. We understand parts of his ways down here, but wouldn't be a wonderful thing. The Lord stands right? I, I like to think of the judgment seat of Christ like this, as if the Lord stood right beside me and he says, now I'm going to let you see your life and he stood right beside me. He says, I blotted out every sin, but I want to show you your life and I want to show you. How I took care of you and how I preserved you as parts of it are going to have to be burned up because there was nothing for me in it. But I'm going to pick out every little thing, even the right desires, and I'm going to reward it. I'm going to let you see what you never saw down here, My ways with you. As for God, His way is perfect. And then we come to that beautiful verse casting. All your care upon him, for he cares for you. He's concerned about you. Maybe you say, well, nobody else is concerned about me. A lot of young people and older ones today are very frustrated and discouraged in this generation because. The way things are going and they see things getting worse and you see a lot of things happening not only in the world but even among the people of God that really upset and discourage at times. But that verse says humble yourselves therefore unto the mighty hand of God. And maybe I can repeat what I often say because it's my own personal experience. I've often mentioned that the verse before is part of the sentence. If you maybe you have hang in your wells, casting all your care upon him for he careth for you. You said I've tried to do that. I've come and I've come on my knees and. Always carry it away with me. I don't seem to be able to cast it on the Lord. But I want you to notice, dear young people are worse before is part of the same sentence. Says Humble yourselves

therefore unto the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you. You say, Well, what does that have to do with it? Well, I'll tell you my own experience when things go wrong and I want to leave them with the Lord. And I have to say I'm a worrying kind of a person, so I find it hard. Perhaps you do too. And I just have to get down on my knees and I have to say, Lord. If you came to me and said, I'll change everything and make it just the way you'd like it, but it's not my will for you, would I say please, Lord, make it the way I'd like it. I could have peace then, but I'm upset now. Or would I say, O Lord, all I ask is for grace to accept it from thee. You'll find that when you do that, you can leave the care there, but not till then. But not till end. Maybe you've had that experience. And you say, well, I'm always carrying them away. But have you really humbled yourself? Have you really done what Job finally did? After arguing with his friends for 30 some chapters and trying to set them right and trying to excuse himself, he finally did humble himself. And what was his blessing? Twice as much as what he had before. It's hard, dear young people, and I'm not saying it's easy, but I say it's confidence in God and he values that. He values that. And if you don't, the devil is going to be busy. Like it says in the next verse. Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil is a roaring lion walketh the boat. Seek ye whom he may devour. Did you ever feel like he was devouring you? He just couldn't get above the thing he said It's impossible, can't understand it. And it's Satan who is just devouring you. I've often said that Satan is.

Roaring lion in discouragement. Bible doesn't present him as the roaring lion in persecution, presents him as the roaring lion in discouragement. Persecuted Christians are happy, discouraged Christians are miserable because Satan's got the advantage, he's over them. But in in persecution, very often he's the one that's suffering defeat because he sees these Christians with smiling faces. Going perhaps to their death, for Christ's sake. He's defeated, not the Christian, Oh, how wonderful, casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you. Well, He has a purpose in your life and mine, and he's working out that purpose as it's often been compared to a piece of canvas. And you can see all the tangled threads now. But on the other side, we're going to find out. But dear young people, what I want to impress and I'm trying to say. To myself as well as to you, that in all your decisions that you make. Bring the Lord into them. Never, never say well. I can't follow that verse or I can't take that step. It would be too difficult because you're only robbing yourself of happiness, and you're robbing the Lord of the joy of looking down and seeing one of his own who loves him enough to trust him when he or she can't understand. The Lord finds joy in that. It gives him joy. As he looks down, cast not away there for your confidence, which hath great. Recompense a reward, will I say that's in the matters that have to do with decisions, decisions about your job, decisions of where you'd live, decisions about how you should gather, decisions about friends. And then these disappointments, these things that come that we'll never understand until we get home to glory. Some of them we may understand, some of them we may not, but we can accept them from the Lord we. And trust in him. May I quote the little poem again? Trust him, when to simply trust him seems the hardest thing of all. Oh, how he values that. He wants your confidence. He's done everything that love could do to win it. He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all, How shall he not with him also freely give us all things? I just like to close with one verse in Jeremiah. Chapter 3 I think it is. Jeremiah chapter 3 and verse 4. Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, thy father? Thou art the guide of my youth. Meetings like this are often times of great decision in our lives. Many of us who are older can look back to times like this when there was a real turning point in our lives, when we really laid hold of the Lord's things and he laid hold of us. I say that because I remember dear old brother Mcleave, whom some might have remembered how he said. He said my desire is not that I'd get hold of the truth, but that the truth would get hold of me. And brethren, that's what we need. We need the truth to get hold of us. And sometimes it does at a time like this. And that's why it says, wilt thou not from this time? There are times of decision in our lives. There are times of acceptance when we accept something and we say, Lord, I accept it. I take it from thee. There are times like this that come. And so I just want to close with this first. Wilt thou not from this time? Cry unto me, thy Father, Thou art the guide of my. Do you know any better, Guy? I don't. I don't know any better guide. He's the one who went to Calvary and died for me. He's the one who is living for me as I my great high priest. When I fail, he's there as my advocate. He showers love on me, telling me over and over again when I least deserve it. I still love you with an everlasting love. And he says, and I'm not going to be satisfied until you're fully blessed, till all your troubles are over and I can just shower love and all my blessings on you forever. Without any hindrance, he said, Then I'll be satisfied. It says in the end of the prophet Zephaniah, it says, He shall joy over thee with singing. He will rest in his love. So let me just quote that verse again. Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, my father, Thou art the guide of my youth.

You won't be sorry if you seek to make him the guide. You'll have to renew it over and over again because Satan won't leave you alone. But every time you say over and over again in your life, Lord. Give me grace just to accept thy will. Give me grace to follow Thy will. You'll always be glad that you did.

La Mirada Conference: 1986, Our Present Help

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

Like to turn first of all, brethren, to the 12TH chapter of Hebrews. And verse 27. And this word yet once more signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a Kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming. Fire. And then shall we turn to Proverbs chapter 29? Proverbs chapter 29 and verse 18. Where an old vision is, where there is no vision, the people perish. But he that keepeth the law, happy is he. And if you'll turn over to 1St Corinthians chapter 10. 13th verse. There hath no temptation taken you, but such as is common to man. But God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. And in first Peter chapter 5. Verse 6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour, whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world, but the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus. After that ye have suffered a while. Make you perfect, establish strength and settle you. To Him be glory and dominion, forever and ever. Amen. Well, there's some other scriptures I'd like to look at, but what was on my heart this afternoon to speak about was how God allowed the same circumstances to come in our lives as He often allows in the lives of unbelievers, but that we have something that unbelievers do not have in the midst of these things now. That is, they have no one to stand with them and comfort them. They have no help from above like the believer has and they. Have no glorious future ahead. And I believe that this is what sustains us, brethren, in what we are called upon to go through. It is that which makes us a testimony here in this world too. It's the only thing that will

give stability to our walk, who will cause our faces to shine, and also will give us a hope laid before us, a sure and certain hope. And so in the first passage that we read, it tells us that everything that can be shaken is going to be shaken. Yes, all the things that seem stable that God has set up in this world are all being shaken today. And I don't think anyone would question that because we see the business world, we find the our health is being shaken too. We find homes are being. In fact, we find even assemblies where trials are coming in, people are let go by friends, and all these things come upon us in our pathway here. But isn't it very blessed that you and I have one that we can turn to? And this is what Christianity really is. It's to know the one who has come down into this world because the Lord Jesus, the Son of God, came into this world. In order to reveal the heart of God, it tells us no man has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared him. Yes, there is One who came down into this world to tell out what was in the heart of God. When God created man, it tells us that His delights were with the sons of man. He surrounded him with everything that was for his good and happiness there in the garden. But man chose to rebel. Adam sinned, Eve's sin. They chose their own way and they decided that they were going to take over things here into their own hands. And we see that instead of things improving, as the Bible says.

And the end approaches. Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. Yes, everything committed into the hands of man breaks down, but where we began there it says that we have a Kingdom which cannot be moved. Everything that is ours in as a result of our faith in Christ is absolutely sure. We are sure of our salvation because it doesn't rest. Upon anything in us, it rests fully and only upon that glorious work accomplished by the Lord Jesus upon the cross of Calvary. I'm not going to be in glory through anything that I have done. It's all because of what the Lord Jesus did. All the promises of God in him are Yeah, and in him Amen to the glory of God by us. So it's all sure. And then too. To have that assurance that the Lord. Jesus gave to his disciples before he left them. He appointed a place and met with them in that mountain in the end of the 28th chapter of Matthew. But it tells us there when he was about to part with them, he said, and lo, I am with you alway even unto the end of the age. Whereas another translation puts it, and lo, I am with you all the days. And then how good it is to know that we're waiting, as we have been reminded, for that? Blessed moment when we'll hear the shout and all that we have talked about and sung about will then be a reality. The things that we have been talking about in the meetings will be in that very place where all is perfection and all is eternal joy. As someone else said, if the path of the Christian were 10,000 times harder than it is, it's worthwhile. Because we have something that the world does not have. If there's anyone here who doesn't know the Lord Jesus as Savior, I'm sorry for you. You don't know the blessedness of having salvation, of having Christ in your heart, having the Holy Spirit indwelling you, that love shed abroad in your heart, having a constant resource that you can come to the Lord at any moment and find grace to help in time of need. And then too, that blessed prospect that soon, very soon, we're going. Going to see our Savior, the captain of our salvation, face to face. I say, if you don't know him, you don't know what you're missing. And the only reason that you don't see it is because the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not. Has someone else said you couldn't help but trust him if you knew him? But Satan doesn't want you to know him. He doesn't want you to know what a wonderful savior he is. He doesn't want you to enjoy those things that belong. To the one who believes in Christ. And so I just want to bring this before you, that we have a Kingdom which cannot be moved. If you're in business, it's not very secure. Your home life may not be very secure. Your your health may fail, but what you have in the Lord Jesus Christ is secure, is secure a Kingdom which cannot be moved. And then the practical result is that we want to serve. As it says, with reverence and godly fear, He gives grace for that. But there is a little warning there in that passage. Our God is a consuming fire, and I just want to warn anyone who hasn't received the Lord Jesus. It's not only what you're missing, but oh, instead of your future being bright and glorious, just think of meeting God as a judge. Just think of hearing those words depart from me. He cursed into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. I hope no one here will hear that those words from the lips of the Savior this afternoon. If you haven't heard it before, He's saying, come unto me. Well, Anna tells us in that passage we looked at in Proverbs where no vision is the people perish or cast off restraint and that is if Satan can hinder us, who are Christians from having a vision of that coming glory. If you can get us bowed down with present things that my job is uncertain, my health is going giving way. There's a lot of troubles in the assembly. Our home life is uneven. We can just get you. With all that, then you lose the vision, you lose that hope before you. And that's what he delights to do with us who are Christians. He can't rob us of the glory that's secure. We have a Kingdom which cannot be moved, but he does his best to keep us from enjoying our portion. He knows very well that he can't rob us of it, but He'll bring all kinds of things into our lives so that we get occupied with them instead of with that altogether lovely.

On the Lord Jesus, the Savior, the Friend, the home that awaits us. Well then we also turn to the passage in First Corinthians. It says there is no temptation taken you but such as is common to man. And I say that because I believe it's important to remember that there's no promise that because you are saved, that you're going to be exempted from those things that we have been talking about. Yes, you might lose your job. Yes, you might have problems in your home. The assembly where you live might get upset or your health may give way. Some friends may let you down. Or even the nation in which we live, which, thank God, is. Quite stable at this time there are those who love the Lord Jesus are living in countries where everything's very unstable, yet they love the Lord, but no temptation taken you, but such as is common to man. We have to expect that those kind of things that the world has to meet, we meet too. But I say again, for I want to bring home this point to my own soul and to yours that the difference between the person of the world. In ourselves is that the person of the world has no help, as King Solomon said in Ecclesiastes. He said he beheld the oppressions that are done under the sun and the tears of such as were oppressed and on the side of their oppressors there was power and they had no comforter. They had no comforter, no one to turn to. Oh yes, you can turn to psychology, but you know very well that when the real point comes by, just trying to think positively is not the answer. It doesn't really lift you, but. There is a person, there is one, and he's right there. He holds your hand when you go through the fire, when you're in a difficulty that no one seems to understand. He says I understand, He knoweth our frame, He remembereth that we are but dust. And then too, how many unsaved people, when they get into these difficulties, it's all darkness ahead. Many there are many more suicides in their. Were because people think that's the way out of trouble, but it's not. It's not. To end your life here if you don't know the Lord as your Savior is only to have something far, far worse. For in this world there are many tokens of God's goodness and kindness. It was said to the rich man who lifted up his eyes in hell. Thou in thy lifetime received thy good things, and likewise Lazarus, a believer. Evil things. But oh, it has all changed around. After he was comforted that his Lazarus was comforted, he died in faith. But the rich man lifted up his eyes in hell. What was all the comforts? What did they all mean? Those comforts that he had in life when he died in his sins, Oh how terrible he. And what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? But I want to say again, if you're facing some trial as a believer, remember that you and I get the same diseases. We have the same problems, we have the same temptations as those of the world. But God shows what He can do in sustaining us and comforting us and in giving us the assurance that it's only but for a moment. Elohim says. But for a moment, this valley of sorrows. Yes, it's only for a moment. And a man who had perhaps more than the average share of trouble, said, our light affliction, which is but for a moment worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. He had these afflictions, but his eye was on the glory, he said, having a desire to depart and to be with Christ, which is very far better. Then we also looked there at the passage in Peter. And in this passage in Peter, it says casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you. Yes, he cares. It's very nice when you're in a trial, you

sometimes say, and I guess we've all said it, nobody is talking to that person. They just never understand. They never seem to see themselves in the position that I'm in.

But there's a person who says these wonderful words. They're so precious to me, He says trust in him at all times. Pour out your heart before him. Isn't that lovely? There's not a person in the world, I don't think that you can fully pour out your heart to that fully understands that fully cares. But isn't it wonderful that the creator of this universe who upholds all things by the word of his power, who has, as it says, all power in heaven and earth says just come into. My presence and you can tell me everything. You can just pour out your heart because I know all about you. I know your weaknesses, I know your friends, I know your business, I know your home. Yes, that's the one. He says pour out your hearts before him, casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you. But then he goes on to tell us that we have to watch because the devil doesn't like us to do that. And he likely says in our ear when we're in trouble, He says, why, if God loves you, would he allow that? The Bible doesn't tell you because your Savior not going to have those troubles, He tells you will have them in the world. Ye shall have tribulation. Jesus said unto you, It is given in the behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but it sucks. There is no temptation taking you, but such as it is common to man, the same afflictions are accomplished. In your brethren that are in the world, God doesn't promise you and IA smooth path. But I've often said I'd rather go over a rough Rd. in good company than over the finest Rd. in poor company. And if your Rd. is rough, you'll have good company if you have Jesus. Those two on the road to Emmaus were feeling pretty rough. They had lost the one in whom all their hopes were he had been crucified and they didn't know he was risen. They didn't know they had a living Savior. And the Lord Jesus came said, why are you sad? There was a Savior right beside them. The Creator, the upholder of all things was there. And so we have the same afflictions as those that are in the world, but it tells us here in first Peter it says. Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil, is a roaring lion, walketh the boat, seeking whom he may devour. That is, Satan doesn't want us to enjoy our portion. And sometimes I've heard the application of science of of Satan as a roaring lion in connection with persecution. But as far as I can see in the scripture, Satan is spoken of as the roaring lion in discouragement. I don't know of a scripture that speaks of him as the roaring lion. In connection with persecution because. When Paul and Silas were persecuted and put in prison for the name of Christ, they were singing Satan didn't get the victory, God got the victory and they were just rejoicing because the Lord was with them and the jail keeper got saved and his household got blessed that night. So Satan didn't get the victory. But I want to tell you if Satan succeeded in getting you discouraged, if you're sitting in your seat here this afternoon and saying. Everything's gone wrong in my life and the Lord doesn't seem to help me. Satan's got the victory, He's got the victory. I want to tell you He's there to help you. He's there. He wants to lift your spirit. He looked unto him and were lightened, and their faces were not ashamed. Sometimes we need to talk to ourselves like the psalmist did in the 42nd Psalm, he said to himself. Why art thou cast down all my soul? And why? Why art thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in God, for I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance. And perhaps you have noticed that in the same Psalm He got some help from the Lord's countenance. And if you read the last verse of that Psalm, there is another verse that is slightly different, but it's very beautiful. A difference it says in the last verse. Why art thou cast down all my soul, and why art thou disquieted in me? Hopefully thou in God. For I shall yet praise him. Listen, who is the health of my countenance and my God. Moses went up onto the mountain pretty discouraged. The people had fallen to the worship of the golden calf, and they were rejecting him. And he felt pretty badly. And I think when he went up there he must have been pretty sad, but he wasn't when he came down.

40 days with the Lord, and the Lord telling him how he had made provisions so that the people could come into His presence. He came down and his face was shining so much that the people had to tell him about his shining face. He didn't know it himself, but they had to tell him. So he put a veil over his face that was shining so much. Oh, you couldn't be in the presence of the Lord without it reflecting in your own countenance. We all with open face beholding. The glory of the Lord are changed into the same image. In our chapter in Romans 12, we've been talking about that. It says be not conformed to this world. Don't think like them. They just get down and they have no one to lift them up. But it tells us be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. And in His presence we are transformed. Brethren, it's the same word that's used for the Mount of Transfiguration. And the Mount of Transfiguration, the Lord Jesus, the Man of Sorrows, was transformed, and his face shone as the sun, and he gave the disciples a little vision of the coming glory. That's what He wants to do for us. He wants to give us a little vision of the coming glory. Well, brethren, I'd like to look at a few passages that have to do with the breakdown of things here. And perhaps the corresponding thing of how the Lord can help us. First of all, let us look at the Prophet Habakkuk. And the last chapter, perhaps I could refer this to business? Because I would like you to notice that God lets us go through all kinds of things where their business failures, the job is terminated, that job or you were banked everything on it. And then finally you get noticed that your job has failed or the business has failed. It's quite a let down. But listen to what Habakkuk says here in the last chapter and the 17th verse. Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines, the labor of the olives shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat. The flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls. Yet I will rejoice in the Lord. I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength, and He will make my feet like hind's feet, and He will make me to walk upon mine high places to the chief singer on my stringed instruments. Quite a few farmers here, and I'm sure that if everything collapsed as badly as this, the fig tree, the vines, the labor of the olive, the crops didn't come and the flock was cut off and there's no herd, you'd say that's a complete collapse of all that you had counted upon for your income. Well, did this make Habakkuk feel totally cast down and say, what's the use? My God doesn't care about me or he wouldn't have allowed. All this to come upon me. What does he say brethren, I'm sure you're thrilled as you read it. He says yet I will rejoice in the Lord. The Lord hadn't failed, business had failed, everything that he had counted on for income had broken down thought, isn't this lovely yet I will rejoice in the Lord. I will joy in the God of my salvation. How could he do it the. Lord God is my strength. Oh, isn't that lovely? He'll give you the strength if you look to Him, if you just look away from those circumstances and know that the one who has allowed those circumstances is the possessor of heaven and earth. All power is given unto Him and heaven and earth. He hasn't yet taken that power, but He'll give you present help in that situation. And what's more? Will point you on to another day. There's another passage, I believe it's in the end of Zephaniah, but it says He will joy over thee with singing, He will rest in His love. Now that is, there's a a day coming when you won't depend upon the crops, you won't depend upon the herd, when you'll be in His blessed presence, and all these things will be matters of the past. But is He sufficient for this time?

Time. Well, I say we have two things the world doesn't have. We have a present resource and we have a prospect, a home above from all defilement free. And when it says he makes my feet like Hinds feet, I like to think of it like that little hind, that little deer. When it comes to an obstacle, you've probably watched it. It comes to perhaps a fairly high fence or Bush or something. You don't have to remove the obstacle for that. That little animal, it just has enough spring in its back feet to just go right over it. Yes, it's got Hines feet and a wonderful spring. Well, you know, that's what the Lord is, enables us to do. He may not remove the obstacle. The oil may fail. Maybe there is no herd in the stall. He doesn't promise that he's going to put them back there, but he says, I'll give you the strength to rise above it. To us, that strength. And so we see perhaps we could say the collapse of that which we might call our income or our business. There may be some right here. And perhaps

you say, well, I just got noticed that our company is going to fold up or something's happened and you're really upset because you don't have a real security in your job, but you have the Lord. And he'll give you the strength and then more. He'll give you a prospect for an old vision is the people perish, but you and I have a vision, a vision of coming glory that is as sure as God himself because those promises are yeah and Amen in him. Well, then perhaps we could turn to another one that perhaps would represent the family, and that's in the book of Job. I don't think I need to read all the verses here about Job because probably most of us are acquainted with it. But. The 13th verse of the first chapter. And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house, and there came a messenger unto Job and said the oxen were plowing, and the *** is feeding beside them. And the Sabeans fell upon them and took them away. The 16th verse While he was yet speaking, there came another, and said, The fire of God has fallen from heaven, and had burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them. 17th verse. While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away. Yeah, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword, and I only. Am escaped alone to tell thee. While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house. And behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young man, and they are dead. And I only am escaped alone to tell thee. Then Job arose and read his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, and said, Naked came out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. I don't think there could be a greater family collapse than that. I don't think any of us can hardly visualize such a thing happening as losing all your wealth and worst of all, all his ten children in one day bad enough to lose one or two. Lost all his ten children in one day. All you say there's so much trouble in our family. This one, that one was you just had so many troubles. Job lost, oh, his family in one day. On top of this is wealth. Did he have any support in this? Must he say, as Satan said he would, that he would curse God and die? Or even, sad to say, his wife said to him that he should curse God and die? There was no use, He said. God had turned against him. God hadn't turned against him. God had greater blessing in store for him.

And I say, if there's anyone here and you're going through home problems, think about Job. Ask yourself if it's quite as bad as what happened to Job, and just think the Lord has allowed it. I think this is most wonderful. What Job could say, the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Paul was a prisoner in a Roman prison, and this is what he said. I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ. He didn't call himself the prisoner of Nero or the prisoner of the Roman government. He called himself the prisoner of Jesus Christ. He had a presence, support. He even said later on, though he slay me, yet will I trust in him. He had one to lean upon, and so are you. You will never get lower than the everlasting arms. They're always underneath. The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. And what was this hope? I know that by Redeemer Liveth, and I shall see him in a latter day. Mine eyes will behold him for myself and not another. Was he supported? Did he have help? Would you have the same person? And you really know him in a better way than Job did because he's been revealed in a much fuller way in Christianity. So if business has failed, something's happened and you just feel so distraught and cast down about your family, just think God has recorded this. It's common to man didn't just happen in your family, it's happened in other families too. But you have someone to support you, and you have a glorious hope ahead, a hope that you're going to see that one. And God blessed Job in the end. And it tells us that God gave him twice as much as he had before. And then it tells us he had ten children here, and he just had ten children afterwards. Why didn't God give him twice as many children? Well, I think I'm going to meet the whole family of job and. Heaven, I really believe so and so 10 just went ahead and the other 10 followed afterwards. I believe that when God brings things, it's wonderful. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved and thy house. Don't count on yourself for your own training, count on God. Seek to be faithful, but remember the blessing comes from Him. Then let's turn over to something that might happen in the assembly. 3rd Epistle of John. John is addressing here what he did to the assembly, the ninth verse of the Third Epistle of John. I wrote unto the Church about the atrophies, who loveth to have the preeminence among them receiveth us not. Perhaps, you say, I wouldn't like to live in an assembly where there was a dominating person like that. Perhaps there is an assembly that has a kind of a dominating person was gay as to give up, because this was the condition. Let's notice that the first here in the third verse. But I rejoice greatly when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth. Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren and to strangers. I'm just reading this, brethren, because I think all of us have a little tendency when things develop in the assembly that become very distressing and upsetting. We we sort of feel like giving up. We say it's no use, but I think it's very lovely to see in this assembly where there was a domineering character called the Autrophies, that here was a man who didn't get discouraged by it. He sought to go on and bring up his family. And John could say, I rejoice, your children are walking in the truth. Remember, I may say this to fathers. If you get discouraged, your children are going to get discouraged too. But if you show a spirit of rising above the situation, it's going to be a blessing to your children. I don't like to speak about my own home, but I can say that about my father, that no matter what happened in the assembly, he rose above it in his soul. And I believe that's the secret. Brethren, there's many assemblies that are having difficulties and troubles today, and they're quite depressing too at times. But may we not give up going on for the Lord? And do it. What present hope do we have? Well, I like that verse. In the second kings, we haven't time to turn to it, but when a division came in, in the time of King Rehoboam, the Lord gave a very reassuring word. He said, I'll preserve a light in Jerusalem for my servant David's sake. And that's always been an encouragement to me. Brethren, difficulties come, divisions come.

How is the testimony preserved? We have a faithful God. Count upon him. Look to him in the midst of trial and he won't fail. He is going to have a light. For whose sake? Well, we know David pictures the Lord Jesus, and for his beloved son's sake he's going to preserve a testimony. Not because I'm faithful, because I'm not always faithful, but for my servant David's sake, he said alight. There, and he's going to preserve it. May we not get discouraged when the difficulties come. And do we have a vision? Yes, I love that passage in Ephesians 5. The church will be presented A glorious church without having spot or wrinkle or any such thing. And next time you feel just cast down about those situations that trouble you and cause you sadness. And just look on and think how the Lord is going to rejoice when he has the whole. Redeem company around them, and not one fault in the whole company. A glorious church without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. We have a vision, brethren, a vision of coming glory. Well then, our health might fail. Let's turn to Romans chapter 8. Verse 22. And we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together. Until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves grown within ourselves. Waiting for the adoption to with the redemption of our body. For we are saved by or in hope. But hope that is seen as not hope. For what a man seeth whiteth he yet hoped for. But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it. Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities. God has allowed a lot of his people to get sick, very serious sicknesses, and as we hear about them, our hearts are bowed in sorrow because remembers one of another. But are we like the world? When the world faces sickness, they don't have someone to turn to. But I think this is so beautiful. The Spirit helps our infirmities. He helps and doesn't say he'll remove them, but He helps them. And so in the midst of these infirmities, why we can get help. And it's very lovely to see a person who is going through something where the Lord doesn't remove the infirmity and what is sustaining. What is making them happy? They're getting help. They're

getting help. And so it says the Spirit helps our infirmities. There may be somebody sitting here in the meeting this afternoon and you feel just miserable as far as your health is concerned. But I'm sure that if the Spirit of God has occupied you with the Lord Jesus and reminded you that he's there and He knows all about your problems and He's there to help you, that it's helped you. To rise above that weakness of body, He helps our infirmities, and He makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. That sympathy isn't awfully nice. When someone comes that you feel really understands how you feel, enters right into it with you, well, you have such a friend. You have such a friend, one who's above, who walked through this world. Felt sorrow like no other person ever felt sorrow. Felt pain like no other person ever felt pain. And that's the one who says he's he's there to supply grace to help in time of need. So we're in trouble. The world's in trouble too, even with health. But we have help, we have support. We have one who understands the document. I understand the Lord does, the Lord does. He knows our frame. And do we have a promise of deliverance? Do we just have to look forward to death? No, brethren, we're waiting for the redemption of the body. As our brother said here a few moments ago in the other meeting, it might be this very afternoon. That every sick believer will have a body of glory. Fashioned like Christ's glorious body. They're not going to see any of those ones that have gone before who have passed away because of a weak body that was completely worn out under suffering and trial. I'm going to see them in all the likeness of Jesus that day.

What a prospect. Isn't it worthwhile to be a Christian? Isn't it wonderful to belong to such a Savior and to know what do we have more than the world, you say? We share the same sicknesses, we share the same problems, but they can't share what we have. Help in the midst of it all, and the assurance that it's not forever. There's a final deliverance that is coming. Well, then we might have friends that disappoint us, perhaps you. Just look at that for a minute in Psalm 55. Verse 12. For it was not an enemy that reproached me then I could have borne it. Neither was it he that hated me, that did magnify himself against me. Then I would have hid myself from him. But it was thou. A man mine equal, my guide and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together and walked into the House of God in company. Has some friend let you down? Somebody you really counted on? You never thought that friend would fail you? Well, there's another friend that will never fail you. That's the Lord Jesus. God lets us go through these experiences. Earthly friends may prove untrue. Doubts and fears assail. 1 still loves and cares for you, and he will not fail. That person who is the friend that sticks closer than a brother and who does more, who calls you his friend. That's one of the greatest thrills to me. I can easily talk about myself being a friend of the Lord Jesus, but that He should call me His friend is almost beyond anything. I can understand that. He would call me His friend and He'll never fail. He'll never. Even our failures don't change that loving care and concern that He has for us. And then what a glorious day it will be. When all those who are his friends are introduced into the. Father's house, listen to these words. Behold I and the children which God hath given me. Just as though when we entered heaven, the Lord introduces us into that glorious home and says, Here are my friends, These are the children that God has given to me. Well, it does hurt when some friend lets you down. The Lord Jesus felt it terribly when Judas was so untrue and when Peter denied him. But oh, how blessed for us. He'll never leave us nor forsake us. Well, and we know too that nations may fail. I won't turn to the scripture. We know a nation shall rise against nation and Kingdom against Kingdom. We can expect to see the breakdown even of nations and see those nations that once were considered stable see things beginning to crumble. But all there's a day coming when the Lord Jesus, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords has. Place. But what does our present help? Do we have to try and arrange some kind of a way of stabilizing the government? Oh no, brethren, the most high rules in the Kingdom of man, you and I have one. Is the government being a little unstable? Do we feel sometimes that things that are allowed or that pass are not just what they should be? Well, isn't it lovely to know that there is one who is above and he sees all that? And he's in control. He's in control. He said, all power is given unto me. And heaven on in earth, there's not a law can be passed. There's not a ruler can assume his place without the Lord knowing. And when difficulties come like they did in the time of Daniel, and he was put in a position where he was expected to do something that he felt he couldn't do. Why he? Continued But he counted upon God, and God took care of him. God took care of him, and he's able to take care of us too. He'll never leave us. He made us go through the fire, but he'll be with us in the fire. And is there a day coming when everything will be set right in the nations? Yes, the Lord Jesus is going to reign. And you read in the end of the 21St chapter of Revelations. That all the nations will come up to Jerusalem to worship the king. Oh, there's. Wonderful day coming. Everything's going to be set right.

Every problem, whether it's in the home or whether it's your health or whether it's in the assembly or whatever the problem may be, everything's going to be set right another day. That's our hope. But more than that, brethren, let's not forget it. We have present hope in every one of those situations. And if there are any who find themselves in some of these situations, perhaps your business or your health or the assemblies in problems or. Some friends let you down or something like this. Remember, you're not without a true friend, a true helper. May we turn to him with that confidence of faith. And I just want to give you that verse I mentioned to the young people last night in Hebrews 1035. It says cast not away there for your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. I often say I marvel at that because. I I wondered that the Lord would reward me for being confident. It's only what I should be. But he says I value that confidence and if you'll just trust me, I'm actually going to reward you for trusting me. It's all that we should do, but there will be a reward. Well, may the Lord encourage us brethren, to go on in the pathway of faith. He's not going to fail us all the way.

Los Angeles Conference: 1964, Our Place Inside the Vail and Outside the Camp

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

Hebrews, chapter 10. Again at the first verse. For the Law, having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never, with those sacrifices which they offered year by year, continually make the comers thereunto perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered, because that the worshippers once purged, should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. The 11TH verse. And every priest standeth daily, ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices which can never take away sins. But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God, from henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified, whereas the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us. For after that He said before, this is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them, and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now her remission of these is there is no more offering for sin. Having therefore. Boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus. By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us through the veil, that is to say, His flesh. And having an high priest over the House of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed

with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, for He is faithful that promised. And let us consider one another to provoke unto love, unto good works. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another. And so much the more as you see the day approaching. It's on my heart to night to speak about what we have here in the 10th chapter of Hebrews, and then also what we have in the 13th. In the 10th chapter of Hebrews we have our place inside the veil. In the 13th chapter of Hebrews we have our place outside. The camp, when we speak of being inside the veil, it's the place that's ours before God, through that finished work of Christ, our perfect place of acceptance. But when we speak about being outside the camp, it's the position that we have in connection with all the ceremony and ritual of which Christendom is filled, that which is carried over from Judaism. And so we see here, first of all, God presents to us in this chapter that one. Wonderful place of acceptance that we have been brought into a place that was never enjoyed by those who lived before the cross. It was impossible for them to enter in to enjoy the precious things that we can now enjoy because the work of redemption has been completed. So it tells us here in the opening of this chapter, the Law having a shadow of good things to come. We spoke a little last night out of the shadow of good things to come, and how those beautiful garments of the High Priest bring before us the Lord Jesus in his present priestly work for us up there at God's right hand. But the law also had a shadow of many other good things to come. And even though the people could not enjoy. The place of nearness that we enjoy. It was set before them in shadow. It was set before them in type. And now God would have us by His Spirit to enter into these things and enjoy them. Just like our children, we like them to enjoy conscious liberty in our presence. We don't like them to feel at a distance from us. We don't like them to feel afraid of us. We want them to enjoy a place of nearness. Well, how wonderful that through the work of Christ, the believer has been brought into such a place of nearness so that he can enjoy the place that's ours through the finished work of Christ. Well, the reason they couldn't enjoy these things in the Old Testament is it tells us here was because the sacrifices then could not put away sin. In fact, the word atonement that is used so often in Leviticus means to cover that is it didn't actually take away sin. It was something that God provided for the time being. Just as if there was a pile of dirt and you covered it, it's out of sight.

But it's not removed. And in the Old Testament, God provided a way by which he could go on with an erring people, and the sacrifices were the means that were accepted to make an atonement or a covering for that time in view of the finished work of the Lord Jesus on the cross. But those sacrifices could not take away sin. They didn't remove it. But oh how grand it is. And to know that through the finished. Work of the Lord Jesus. It's not merely that our sins are covered, but our sins are gone. The Lord Jesus has exhausted the judgment. There is no judgment left for us because he bore it and he cried. It is finished. And so complete, so glorious is his work before God, that not one charge could be laid against the believer. And not only has God been satisfied, but, as we often say, he has been glorified because his whole character has been made known. If I owed some money to a creditor and a friend of mine paid the debt for me, well, I've got the receipt in my hand. Mark paid in full. I'm not afraid of my creditor, but I haven't learned my creditor's heart. I haven't learned anything about what's in his heart. I just have the knowledge that the. Paid. But oh, how wonderful it is in Christianity that not only has the debt been paid, but it was the Father who sent the son to be the savior of the world. Supposing that creditor had said to his son, and now Mr. Hagel has a debt, would you be willing to pay the debt for him? Would you be willing to pay this out of your own money for him? And then when he hands me the receipt, it's marked. Paid in full through the kindness of my own beloved son. Oh, what a different feeling I have toward him now. I know his heart. I know what's there toward me. And all I want to tell you tonight now, that that's what happened at Calvary, that God himself sent his son. And when the Lord Jesus was there upon Calvary's cross, it was the heart of God telling itself out, and it was God Himself. That placed our sins. Upon the head of his own spotless son. And the Lord Jesus cried. It is finished. The heart of God has been told out, all His Holiness has been vindicated, all his love has been made known, and the way of blessing has been opened up for us. And so in contrast with all this continual offering of sacrifices, when we come to this 11TH verse, it says. And every priest standeth daily, ministering and offering. Oftentimes the same sacrifices which can never take away sins. But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever sat down on the right hand of God. That is, there was something that there didn't exist at all in the Tabernacle, and that was a seat. There was no place for the priest to sit down. He was continually offering sacrifices. But when the Lord Jesus offered one sacrifice for sin, then it says forever sat down at the right hand of God. The Lord Jesus is never going to rise up again to take. The question of sin, because that has been settled for the believer, When he rises up again, it will be upon judgment, in judgment upon those who have rejected His grace. But now he is there as the one who has so completely glorified God, so completely settled a question of sin, and that God now is eternally satisfied with what Christ has done. So it says in this. 14th verse By one offering He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified. It was a dear lady back in the East, and she accepted the Lord Jesus as her Savior, and she was filled with joy at the knowledge that her sins were forgiven. But after a little while she began to realize that she hadn't always done what she should. But she had. She had sinned even since she was saved. Allow believers. Do not want to sin. Sometimes we do fail, even as believers. And so we find. And she found out that she had sinned even since she was saved, and she was greatly troubled about it. She said I knew all my sins up to the moment of my conversion were put away, But what about those that I have committed since I've been saved? What about them? That's what bothers me. And perhaps there's someone like that here tonight.

You say, well, I know all my sins were put away. But I've sinned since I've been saved, and perhaps the devil is whispering in your ear that you're lost now and you must be saved again. Well, this one to whom this lady made that remark, he said to her, He said, how many of your sins were future when the Lord Jesus died? Why, she said, I suppose they were all future. Well, he said, is the Lord Jesus going to die again? She said no, I know he's not going to die again. Well, he said if the Lord Jesus didn't settle that question once for all on Calvary's cross, when is it going to be settled? And dear friend, I want to impress that upon your mind because this verse doesn't say by one offering. He hath perfected until you sin again. But isn't this wonderful? And this is the truth of God. By one offering you have perfected forever them that are sanctified now. This is the truth of God. God wants to make it good to your soul tonight, that when you accept Christ as your Savior, God has brought you into a new standing before Him. And those words are true of you. Perfected. Forever perfected forever, you say. Even when I've sinned, I'm still perfected forever. Sin in the believer's life does not change his standing before God. It hinders the enjoyment of it. And many dear Christians are not enjoying communion with the Lord because of sin allowed in their lives. But the standing is always in uninterrupted perpetuity through the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Nothing can interrupt that because. God sees us accepted in His. Beloved son. You know, some people will say, oh, but that's dangerous doctrine. You tell people that you're just encouraging them to sin. Oh no. If you lay hold of that in your soul, it will make you want to please the Lord Jesus in a way that you've never done before. Why? When you think of love like that, why, it'll make you want to please him. And I might say indeed, that that's the only kind of service the Lord wants. He wants the service that flows from love. And if somebody held a gun in your face and said, if you don't love me, I'll shoot you, would that make you love you? The person what'd you feel? Well, I must love them now. No, you'd just be afraid, wouldn't you? And you'd never feel like doing anything for a person like that. And yet I know people that tell you that if you don't keep on, always do what's right, the Lord will stop loving you. But all how good it is to know that he says I love you, I always will love you. I've settled the question of your sins once for all, and I want you to do what you do because you know. What I have done for you, we love him because he first loved us. And any kind of service that just flows from

fear is not acceptable service to the Lord, nor the feast days in Israel on the 23rd of Leviticus. It says Thou shalt do no servile work therein. Thou doesn't want what we do for him to be servile, because we have to. That's the principle of law, and man failed under that. But God wants the service of your heart as being one for Christ. It says, the love of Christ constraineth us, because we thus judge that if one died for all, then we're all dead, and he died for all. That they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him who died for them, and rose again. Oh, may the Spirit of God press these precious words home upon your heart. It's the truth of God, my friend. It's the truth of God's own word. By one offering yeast perfected forever, forever them that are sanctified. Perhaps you might hesitate and say, well am I one of the sanctified ones? While the 10th verse says, by the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. So you can see that being sanctified is not by some experience that we go through, and that is not as to our standing, but it's that which is consequent upon the work of Christ. The believer is set apart from being under condemnation and judgment and set apart for glory. And how did that take place? By the offering of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all. And when you are set apart, how long are you perfected for?

Forever what a standing the believer has been brought into. And so it goes on to say whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us. That God has sent down His Holy Spirit to make these things good in our hearts, and He wants to make this good in your heart tonight. If you have accepted Christ as your Savior, if there should be anyone here tonight who has not accepted Christ as your Savior, why? Know that there may be doubts in your mind, but if you have accepted Him as your Savior, this is your standing, and the Spirit of God wants to make it good in your heart tonight. And so it says here. Their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now a remission of these is There is no more offering for sin. How could God require another offering after that one perfect sacrifice of His beloved Son? Now we come to what we spoke of at the beginning about inside the veil. It says there having therefore brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus. Well, you know, in the Old Testament there was that beautiful veil that hung up of blue and purple and scarlet and fine twined linen, the cherubim wrought in it, and that veil separated between the holy place and the holiest of all. And the people could never go into the holiest of all. The high priest, only once a year could go into the holiest of all. But when the Lord Jesus died, it says that the veil of the temple was renting twain from the top to the bottom. The reason it was from the top was that it was from God's side. God was showing that this was His doing. So that there would be entrance into his very presence, a thing. That was never enjoyed in the Old Testament under Judaism was now to be enjoyed in all its preciousness in Christianity. God came out and all the riches of his grace, and we go in in perfect acceptance. And so it tells us we have boldness. Oh, isn't that wonderful? If you or I have been writing this, we would never have chosen such a word. We wouldn't have used the word boldness, but God uses it because. He wants us to come with that perfect confidence, just like a child coming in the door of its home. Did you ever watch a child? Doesn't matter whether it's a poor home or a grand home. When the child comes home, it comes in the door with confidence. And it has the knowledge that it's accepted there and how blessed it is that the believer can go into the very holiest of all. Oh, isn't this lovely to know that all the light and holiness of God's presence can only show that we are perfectly fit to be there? That lovely verse in first John one and seven says if we walk in the light. As He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin. That is, God brings us into the unsullied light of his presence, the very holiest of all. And then he said, you're perfectly fit to be here because I see no spot upon you. You have been cleansed in that blood that cleanses from all sin. Now if I was going into a very brightly lighted room, my clothes were dirty, I'd feel conscious. But if I was sure that my clothes were spotless, they were Immaculate. I wouldn't care how bright the light was, it would only show I was fit to be there. And that's where God has brought us into the holiest of all. And what gives us this boldness? Oh, you say I look in and I feel so unworthy. But God says the only ground of your boldness is the blood of Jesus. And is that not enough? Will you have any better title in heaven? Will you be any more accepted in heaven than now through the finished work of Christ? Why? The theme of the redeemed in heaven is, Thou hast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood. And so we as believers have boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus.

And that's why when we gather on Lord's Day morning to remember the Lord. Lord Jesus, we often sing that lovely hymn the holiest. We enter in perfect peace with God, through whom we found our center in Jesus and His blood. We don't have a special class of people that are the only ones that can have a place of special nearness. Every believer has the same place of nearness. Every believer is equally a priest and accepted and able. To go into the very holiest of all in perfect acceptance. And so that's the contrast. The law had a shadow of good things to come, but not the very image, because only the high priest went in once a year. But now the veil has been rent and we go in in perfect acceptance. And this is true of every believer. Paul said here, for I believe it was Paul who wrote Hebrews, it says. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, and then it says by a new and living way. We have remarked about it being new, but something that. Was not known and enjoyed in Judaism. But it's a living way. Why is it called a living way? Well, you know, a man didn't have to be born again to enjoy the ritual of Judaism. And you don't have to be born again to enjoy stained glass windows and robes and vestments and music and all kinds of decorations. You don't have to be born again to enjoy that at all. Any natural man can enjoy those things. But I'll tell you this, that you have to be born again to enjoy. Being simply and consciously in the presence of the Lord. And that's why it's called a living way. A living way. And so sometimes people will drop in to one of the little meetings where we gather in simplicity around the Lord and they'll say, well, this is certainly dull, no music, and the place is so plain. Well, dear friends, the reason we gather in such simplicity is because we don't. Don't want anything to attract us, but the Lord Jesus himself, He is the one who is there. This is a place for those who are enjoying the presence of the Lord Himself. And so it's a living way. Again, I say in Judaism, new birth was not necessary to enjoy the ritual and all that God gave. Perhaps someone might say, but why did God give? Those things in Judaism, because in the Old Testament man was under trial. And if it was possible to improve man and make him worship God by external means, then God gave the very best external means that could be given. If a religious building would make a man a worshiper, then God gave the finest that that grand temple. If good music would make man a worshiper, then when the temple was dedicated, there were 120 of 1 instrument alone, besides the great many others. Well, if these things would really make a change in man's heart, God gave the best means to produce it. But when the when they crucified the Lord, then the Lord said as it were, well now the veil is rent. There's a way into my presence. But it's not going to be by anything that appeals to the flesh. I just want you to be there. Enjoying My presence by the Spirit because you have a life and nature that's suited to my presence and the blood has made you fit to be there. Oh, how lovely. That is a new and living way. But all. What did it cost, brethren? He consecrated us for us. Through the veil, that is to say, his flesh. Little him puts it nicely Himself He gave our poor hearts to win. Was ever a love Lord like thine from the paths of folly and shame and sin, And fill them with joys divine?

Oh, isn't it not, isn't it lovely when we come into his presence and know that we have been accepted there? Than to think of what it cost him to bring us there. We think of how he gave himself Christ loved the church and gave himself for it. Oh, he wants your heart and mind. When the bride asked the bridegroom in the Song of Solomon, he said, and she said to him, Tell me where you make your flock to lie at noon all he replied, he said, If thou knowest not. O thou fairest among women, he said. Follow the footsteps of the flock. And feed thy kids beside the shepherds tents. He seemed grieved that she didn't know where she would find him. He said, you'll find me in the midst of the sheep. Oh, how

lovely this is. That's where you'll find the Lord in the midst of his own. Why? In that glory the Lamb will be in the midst of the throne, and that's where he delights to be even now in the midst of his own. He was grieved because the bride didn't know. And he said, If thou knowest not. Oh how lovely it is. He wants us around himself. And then it serves on having an high priest over the House of God. The list is brought in here because the priestly work of Christ is to maintain our souls in the enjoyment of our standing. We spoke a little last night of the work of Christ as our great High Priest. And the reason I spoke of it is because we're always prone to lose the enjoyment of what we have in Him, and so he's up there to maintain our souls in the enjoyment of it. We get discouraged and we allow things to come in. Perhaps a doubt about one's security, perhaps a doubt about his love, perhaps a doubt about the wisdom of God's ways. And then perhaps when we try to do something, we get occupied with how. Itself there is in it, and so it spoils the enjoyment of the place that we have. So we have a high priest over the House of God, not to offer a sacrifice again that's done once for all, but to maintain our souls in the enjoyment of the place that we have been brought into for the present priestly work of Christ. Is not to again settle the question of sin, that. Has been settled. The priestly work of Christ is to maintain our souls in the enjoyment of it and to keep us from failure. And that would get us away from the communion with the Lord, because He wants us to enjoy His presence. And then it says, let a strong ear with a true heart in full assurance of faith. Full assurance of faith. Isn't this beautiful too? That is. We're always prone to allow doubts to come in, but it says here God wants us to draw near in the full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience. That is, what is it that removes sin from the conscience? The blood of Christ. The heart sprinkled from an evil conscience. So once for all that blood has been applied, and when the enemy would seek to say, well, you're not worthy to be in his presence, I can reply and say, oh, it's only through the blood of Jesus. It's only through his finished work. For it's the believers standing that is in view here, not our state. It's our standing. And the standing is perfect. I might mention that is the reason that we don't have the advocacy of Christ in Hebrews. It comes in in John where we have the family, but in Hebrews where it's the one sacrifice of Christ contrasted with the many sacrifices of Judaism, then that sacrifice is so complete that the believer is to have no more conscience of sin. When it's the family, then we might lose the enjoyment of the relationship. And so it's brought in in John's epistle. But here I say the priesthood of Christ is to maintain our souls in the enjoyment and the heart sprinkled from an evil conscience, as the blood of Christ applied once for all.

The blood is never applied the second time, only once, once for all, and our bodies washed with pure water. Now this is what is referred to in the 13th chapter of John. The Lord was going to wash the disciples feet. And Peter said why? He said wash me all over. He said not my feet only, but also my hands and my head. And the Lord said he that is washed need is not saved to wash his feet, but is clean every whip. And saw the body washed with pure water is not as I mentioned before, it is not connected with failure in the Christian's life. It's the fact that when 1 is when one is cleansed in the blood of Christ, he is pronounced clean every wet. And the washing of the feet has to do with our being restored when we have failed.

Burbank Conference: 1973, Better Things for Us Replacing Judaism

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

Like to turn to the 10th chapter of Hebrews. Hebrews chapter 10. The beginning of the first verse. For the law, having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never, with those sacrifices which they offered year by year, continually make the comers thereunto perfect for them, would they not have ceased to be offered, because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins? But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take. Sins. Wherefore when He cometh into the world, he saith, sacrifice and offering. Now would it not but a body hast Thou prepared me in burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin? Thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come in the volume of the book. It is written of me to do Thy will, O God above, when He said, sacrifice, and offering, and burnt offerings, and offering for sin, Thou wouldest not, neither had pledged. Therein which are offered by the law. Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God, he taketh away the 1St, that he may establish the second, by the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily, ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins, but this man after. He had offered one sacrifice for sins, forever sat down on the right hand of God, from henceforth expecting till His enemies be made His footstool, or by one offering He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified, whereas the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us. For after that He had said before, This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts. And in their mind will I write them, and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now her remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He has consecrated for us through the veil, that is to say, His flesh, and having an high priest over the House of God. Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance. Faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, for He is faithful that promise. And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and a good work, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as a manner of some, is but exhorting one another. And so much the more as you see the day approaching. Can we also turn over to the 12TH chapter? And the first verse. Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed to boat with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. Enemy. The 10th chapter and the 10th verse we have an altar whereof they have no right to eat, which serve the Tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come by Him. Therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually. That is the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But to do good and to communicate forget not. For with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Well, it has often been remarked that the characteristic expression in the book of the Hebrews is better. And the Spirit of God brings before us how much better everything is in Christianity that it was in the tights and shadows of Judaism. The glory of the person of Christ is brought before us as being far, far above the prophets who spoke to them, or the angels whom God used to communicate His mind in the Old Testament. Now He has spoken in Son. How much better the glory of that person.

Than all that went before. And then we find too, in regard to the priesthood, why they were types and shadows, the Aaronic priesthood, the Melchizedek priesthood. But oh, how much better In the Aaronic priesthood, sacrifices had continually to be offered in the priesthood of

Melchizedek, Why we find a shadow of that one who has now gone up on high and who can dispense blessings because the work has been accomplished. And then we find in these chapters how? That God has even something better in store for us as believers. Israel had an earthly hope, earthly promises, but we have something far better, God having provided some better thing for us. That is, you and I, who have been saved now, who are part of the body of Christ, are going to have a more wonderful place than any of those who lived before the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Oh, what? A place of blessing we have been brought into. And in the 10th chapter of Hebrews, it seems to me he brings a sort of a summing up so that we might be brought into the liberty of all this and the enjoyment of it in our souls, and also that it might have its practical effect in our lives. And that's why I've read the other verses in the 12TH chapter and in the 13th chapter because. We find in this 10th chapter, and also in the 12TH and 13th, those two little words. Let us. And I think this is the most beautiful. Now that is that you and I might be brought into the liberty of this, and walk in the blessedness of it. Man thou shalt, and thou shalt not. But what holy liberty belongs to the Christian now, just as you might say to a friend, Well, let's do this, or let's do that. God by His Spirit has brought us into the place of blessing to enjoy it, I should say, that has been one for us through the work of Christ. And then He exhorts us in this lovely way now, that we might be in the enjoyment of it and in the practical. Of it in our daily lives. In the end of the 10th chapter of Hebrews, we have brought before us the Day of Atonement. And you know there were two goats on the Day of Atonement. Now the first one, the the goat was slain and its blood was brought into the holy of Holies, sprinkled on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat, and that provided the ground by which God could bless the people, and He brings it before us. The 26th verse of the 9th chapter to show us now that through this glorious work of Christ there is a ground that God will put away sin and that looks on beyond this present time. It looks on to that marvelous time when there will be a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness, as we look around in all the confusion of the world today. Isn't it grand to know that a work has already been done? One by which that one who is the Lamb of God will take away the sin of the world, will bring in that glorious scene. I say again, where, as we often sing, all taint of sin shall be removed, all evil done away, and we shall dwell with God's beloved through God's eternal day. Doesn't it thrill your heart and mind amid all the wreck and ruin that we see in the world, to know that the work has already been accomplished, the grown work, if I could. Put it that way, has been laid by which all this has been brought about, and the Spirit of God points us to the person. Just as John the Baptist looked at the Lord Jesus and as he saw sad results of sin and the condition of the nation, He said there's the one that's going to set everything right. Isn't it blessed for you and I to have our eyes upon Him, to know that one, and to know the glorious work that he has accomplished. And then in the 28th verse, he brings before us the other goats. Now that is, there was the second goat, if I could speak in that way. That the things of the people were confessed over that goat, and it was led by the hands of a fit man into a land not inhabited. Well, the first one brings before us propitiation. Now that is, the groundwork has been laid. The blood is on the mercy seat. So I can say to.

Center Christ died for you. The way of blessing has been opened for you. Now God invites you to come because the blood is on the mercy seat. But it's only true of believers that we can say that the Lord Jesus bore our sins in his own body on the tree. And that's why it's careful whenever it speaks of that side of the work to say. He bear the sin was once offered to bear the sins of many. Oh, I trust that each one here is among the many who can not only say, I know the blood is on the mercy seat, but can say I know that my sins were placed upon the Lord Jesus. I know he exhausted the judgment for my sins, and my sins are gone. They're gone, as it were, into a land not inhabited. They were carried out of God's fight altogether because the Lord Jesus has borne the judgment of those sins and exhausted it in fact. Translation of this 28th verse. It's remarkable that it says Christ was once offered to exhaust the sins of the many. Now that is, the judgment of those sins has been exhausted. The Lord Jesus has borne all a judgment. 1 is often thought of a very solemn thing, that as we hear those precious words of the Savior, it is finished. We rest upon those glorious words and know the Lord Jesus has exhausted. Judgment of God against sin. But I've often thought of this. Those are three words a Sinner will never be able to say in a lost eternity. He'll never be able to say it is finished. God tells us that the judgment of those who reject the Lord Jesus Christ is eternal because it was only one who could exhaust the judgment. Thank God he has exhausted it. And all what those words mean to our souls when we think that right here and now we can say all the judgment of my sins has been exhausted. It thinks there's nothing left for you and I because the Lord Jesus is born at all. But oh, if there should be 1 here, that's not saved. I warn you that if you should find yourself in a lost eternity, you'll never be able to say those words because you'll never be able to exhaust the judgment of God against sin. Only one can do it, and thank God He's done it. Only God grant that each one of us may enjoy this in our souls. And then he's coming back again without sin. That is, He's not going to take up the question of sin again. That's been settled. Isn't it wonderful that when we gaze into the. Of our precious Savior in a coming day. The question of sin being charged to us will never be raised, and it's all been settled. The Lord Jesus has soulfully glorified God about the question of our sins, that when we look into His blessed faith, why not one shadow will cross that blessed faith that there's anything between US and Him. It's forever gone. And we wait for Him the second time without Him not to take up that question again because it's been settled. Unto salvation. God will be with Israel when they too are brought into blessing. What a marvelous thing it will be for them to see when they look on that one who may Pierce, and to know that He settled the question of their sins. That's why it tells us in the end of the book of Isaiah that it mentions before she traveled, she brought forth. And then he says, who heard such a thing? That is, how could it be a child would be born. For travail. How could that be? He says, but he said that's what Israel is going to find out when they pass through the travail of the tribulation. Then at the end of it, they're going to look into the face of the one who is a man child. He was already born for their deliverance. He already accomplished their deliverance and they didn't know it. And he says you never heard such a thing, but it's true. And when Israel looks upon the face of that blessed one who may tears, they'll see that he was the sent 1 he was. One who accomplished that glorious work. When we come to this 10th chapter, it says the law having a shadow of good things to come, but not the very image of the things. We need to remember this that the Old Testament is full of beautiful types and shadows, but not the very image of the thing. That is, It didn't bring before us the full blessedness, but it did have the shadow. And the reason he mentions this is because there was a danger with these Jewish believers after they were saved, to go back to these types and shadows. And he wants them to realize that now that the substance has come, now the shadows have been fulfilled.

They were not to go back to those types and shadows, and they were to live in the enjoyment of that which was the fulfillment of all those types and shadows. That's the meaning in the 6th chapter of Hebrews about going on to perfection. It doesn't mean perfection in the flesh. There'll never be such a thing as perfection in the flesh, but going on into perfection is going on to the enjoyment of this perfect work that has. Been accomplished by a perfect Savior that gives the believer a perfect standing before God. That's what's going on. The perfection is how many there are who are looking in and wondering if they've gone on to perfection. Old friend, look to Christ and then you'll see a perfect work accomplished by a perfect Savior that has given you a perfect standing before God. What a blessed thing it is. But the Lord had the shadow, but not the image. And so He tells us. And that if it had been so that the shadow was sufficient, as then they wouldn't had to continue offering the sacrifices, he says in the second verse for them, would they not have ceased to be offered for because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of Samson. That is, if it was possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sin, and then it wouldn't be necessary for them to continue offering these sacrifices because? It would have been enough, but all those thousands and

thousands of sacrifices never put away sins. It does say in the scripture that they were accepted to make an atonement, and the word atonement comes from a Hebrew word that means to cover. But when we come to Christianity we find something very blessed. The blood of Jesus Christ His Son, cleanseth us from all sins. To put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. So that God has not only, he has not only shown us in the type and shadow that there was something that was accepted for the time to cover sin, but He has shown us that a glorious work has been accomplished by which sin has been put away, put away in God's blessed sight. And what a thing for you and I to know that this work that the Lord Jesus has accomplished. Has put away sin, and so that God doesn't see sin before him in the believer. It tells us in two Corinthians 5 in the last verse, He hath made him to be sin for us who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. God sees the believer in Christ. He was the one who was made sin by his blessed work and by his precious blood sins. Been put away and now the believer is in a perfect standing before God and no more sacrifice for sin is needed. When we when we gather to remember the Lord Jesus and his death, it's not a sacrifice for sin. We know that there are those who speak of a continual sacrifice of the Mass now that shows that they haven't laid hold of the fact that this work the Lord Jesus did was once for all. It's not to be repeated. When we gather, I say to remember the Lord Jesus. We must always bear this in mind. It's a remembrance of something that has been finished, has been done, and so we remember it. This do in remembrance of me. And then he goes on in this fifth verse. Wherefore when he comes into the world, he says, sacrifice and offering. Thou wouldest not but a body. Hast thou prepared me? What a remarkable thing. The Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, came down into this world and took a body capable of death, not subject to death. Your body and mind under normal circumstances is subject to death and will pass through death if the Lord doesn't come. But with the Lord Jesus, his body was not subject to death. It was necessary for him to dismiss his own spirit because of who he was. And so he said, no man taketh it from me. I have power to lay. And I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my father. But just think of him taking a body. And then too, isn't it lovely, brethren, to think now that He didn't come down and go straight to the cross?

If it was just a question of putting away our sins, that was accomplished in what the Lord Jesus did in those three hours of darkness when he suffered for sins and His precious blood has been shed. But His blessed pathway from the Manger to the cross was a pathway of perfect love and obedience, and it's an example to us, and it's also a reason by which He can be a merciful and faithful high priest. All those years of His blessed pathway here, he was a perfect example for us, I'd say, and He was entering into all that we have to pass through sin apart, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest, but it was not during his life that he was suffering for sin. It was not during the first three hours that he was suffering for sin, but it was when forsaken of God that he was suffering for sin. Bearing the judgment that was necessary to put away your sins and mine. And now when it says I come in the volume of the book, it is written of me. This carries us right back into our past eternity. God had these eternal purposes in his mind, and long before this world was made, God had a purpose and that purpose was. And that his blessed Son would glorify him as man here would accomplish that work, and that he would remain a man and have the company of redeemed men. And you and I would be part. That company and so this was the way back in the councils and purposes of God and he, I might say, as we probably all know that these verses are quotations from the Psalms. Now that is what he is bringing before these Hebrew believers was at least there's no new thought in the mind of God. He said even while you were going on with those sacrifices. God had something else in view. He always. Had his blessed son and the work that he would accomplish before him. And so, as we often sing in a little hymn. Center of two eternities, which look with wrapped adoring eyes, onward and back to thee now That blessed work that the Lord Jesus accomplished on the cross was the center of two eternities. Well, perhaps that you have wondered why it says sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings, an offering for sin. Thou wouldest not, neither had pleasure therein. When we think of all these sacrifices, and we think of how God asked them to offer these sacrifices, or perhaps I should say, commanded them to offer these sacrifices, you might say, why? Now then, does it say in the Psalms that He had no pleasure in them? Well, because they were only a shadow. And perhaps I could say more, God had no pleasure in the death of all those animals. It was made necessary through man's sin. It was made necessary. The whole lore creation has had to suffer as a result of man's sin. As soon as man sins, God made coats of skin and the lower creation, men began to suffer as a result of man's sin and all sacrifices that were offered. Where a constant reminder of the seriousness of sin, that death must take place, blood must be shed so that God could be propitiated. But he didn't have pleasure. And perhaps you've read some time about all those thousands of animals that were slain at the time when Solomon dedicated the temple. And you wondered. Well, here it tells us. In burnt offerings and. Offering for sin thou what is not? Neither had pleasure therein. God looked upon them, God commanded them. But it was pointing on to the cross what the Lord Jesus would do and when He would accomplish that work once and for all. So it tells us in the ninth verse. Then says, He Lo, I come to do thy will, O God, he taketh away the 1St, that he may establish the second. Now there those animals were offered. It wasn't any willing thing on their part. They were taken and offered as necessary sacrifices, but it wasn't any willing thing on their part. But think of 1 Coming into this world. Whose? Delight. What's to do with Father's will? Every step of His blessed pathway. It was his joy and delight to do His Father's will. And then, when it was necessary to glorify God about the question of sins, we find that blessed One fulfilling what his Father desired in making that sacrifice, in doing that blessed work upon Calvary's cross. And so it says, He taketh away the 1St, that he may establish the second, that is, the whole of the 1St.

Was. Perhaps I could say, uh. A mixture, that is, a God, demanded something of man, and the law was never withdrawn, but He provided under this, under the sacrifices, a way by which he could go on with the people until all the claims of the law would be satisfied. The one sacrifice of Christ would be accomplished. So, if I might put it this way, the people were never under pure law. If they had been under pure law, it would have been certain condemnation. How about without withdrawing the law, God provided the sacrifices, and this looked on to the cross, where there would be one who would settle all those transgressions under the first covenant, who would glorify God about them, so that we might be dead to sin, but alive to God through Jesus Christ our Lord. And so the Lord Jesus came to do his Father's will. And now, if I can put it this way, not a mixture of the. God is not going to have part of that old order of things and the new. No, the old order of things has been set aside. He taketh away the 1St that He may establish the second. Now that is, there is One who has so perfectly and completely glorified Him now that now it is no longer necessary to offer those sacrifices. It isn't necessary that they should go on with all that ritual, because it's all been fulfilled and we have become dead. To the law by the body of Christ it's most important that we should see now that we have been completely brought out sanctified means set apart and so it says by the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all that is we're completely set apart from all an old order of things and brought into a new order of things in Christ Oh how blessed it is now that this is so and that we can. Now be in the enjoyment of these. Thing and this sacrifice the Lord Jesus offered is once for all. So it says we're sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily, ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices which can never take away sins. Notice this. Never take away sins. Those sacrifices did not take away sin. They were accepted to make an atonement, but they did not take away sin. And so there was one article of furniture. We have quite a few in this room, but there were none in the Tabernacle. There were no seats. There were no seats. He stood. And why? Well, he could never sit down because the sacrifices never came to an end in Judaism. They had to be carried on year by year, continually. And

when you think of all the failures of the people. Why? What a great what a vast number of sacrifices. Were offered. In fact, I don't think anyone who's read carefully all those instructions in the book of Leviticus hasn't thought, well, how could they ever find enough animals to provide for all the sins of the people? Well, God was seeking to show them that sin was so serious in his sight that nothing less than that which those things pointed on to could meet his holy requirements. The precious word of Christ would be once for all. They offered those sacrifices and there was no seed for the priest to sit down. But how different here it tells us of 1 and it says, But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sin forever sat down on the right hand of God. That is, having offered this one sacrifice. Now he'll never, never have to rise up again to offer another sacrifice. And he died. He died under sin once, and now this afternoon, he's a glorified man seated at the right hand of the majesty on high. All the majesty and glory of God's throne has been fully upheld and vindicated in this work that he has accomplished. And what he is waiting for now is the time when everything will be set right. If falls will be made his footstool. But this 14th verse is precious for us, isn't it? For by one offering he has perfected forever them that are sanctified. Isn't this grand? Doesn't say by one offering He has perfected till we sin again, but by one off. And He has perfected forever them that are sanctified. Now that one work the precious Savior has accomplished has been so glorious in the sight of God the Father, and that He has seated him.

The right hand of the majesty on high and it says we are perfected forever. And that's your standing. If you're a believer this very afternoon. You don't have to do something to get this. You just accept it by faith. You believe it. The sacrifice has been made. Oh, you say, am I one of the sanctified ones? Well, the tenth verse says by the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And so if you have put your trust in the Lord Jesus, then you're one that is included in this number because it says. That He has perfected forever them that are sanctified. I might say that this is really positional sanctification. Now in John 17 we have practical sanctification, but this is positional. I think we mentioned a little illustration before that would perhaps make this clear. Supposing you go into a store and you want a basket of apples, we'll say, and there are 10 baskets sitting there on the floor, and you purchase one of these. And you say to the storekeeper. Welcome back in an hour and pick this up. So you put your name on the handle, you pay the price. It's yours. It's really set apart in his mind for you because you have paid the price. But a little while afterwards, someone else comes in and picks out the same basket. And he says, well, that one's been sold. I can't sell that one to you. A little while later, another person picks out the same basket. And so he takes it and he puts it out in the back of the shop. Well, it wasn't any more sanctified. When it was in the back of the shop than it was when it was sitting there with the rest, as far as he was concerned. But there was a little confusion by it being mixed with the other nine. But when it was out in the back of the shop, it was practically set apart as belonging to you. And now what God is seeking to produce in your life and mine is practical sanctification. But let us not confuse this with positional sanctification. This is ours through the offering of the body of Jesus. It's by His will that were sanctified through what Christ has done, and it's once for all perfected forever. And so then, God has not only told us these blessed things, but the Holy Ghost is a witness to us. God has not only borne witness to the work of his beloved Son, but he has sent down the Holy Spirit to bring our souls into the good of death. And so the Spirit of God here on earth is to lead us into the enjoyment of these things. The love of God is shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto. To us again, because ye are sons God has sent forth is the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying ABBA father. Oh, how wonderful it is then that the Spirit is a witness to us. I don't speak here in a particular context. The covenant has to do with Israel, and God will fulfill the covenant that has been made with Israel, that new covenant, and He is going to bring them into blessing. As believers. Now, we're not the subject of the covenant. But if we come into the blessing of the work, the same work that will be the ground of Israel's blessing is now the ground of ours. And we enter into the enjoyment of this because God made a covenant with Israel to get blessing on a conditional basis, and they forfeited every right to blessing on that ground. So God says a new covenant is necessary. Now they must have a new covenant so that they can be brought into blessings, not on some basis that depends on them. Thought that which depends upon the work of Christ and so that covenant will be made with Israel in a future day and they will be blessed through the work of Christ. But we weren't under the first covenant and a covenant hasn't to do with a Gentile. God blesses us though on the ground of what Christ has done and that's why it says the Holy Ghost is a witness to us. He brings us into the good of these things beforehand because that work as we have noticed is. Ground of all blessings, all blessings. There is no blessing for fallen man apart from that one glorious work accomplished by the Lord Jesus Christ.

So it says in their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now her remission of these is there is no more offering for sin, no necessity to have any further sacrifices, because this sacrifice has laid a ground and has been accepted by God the Father, and He has seated them in His right hand. He has sent down the Holy Spirit to lead our souls into the enjoyment of it. And now there are some exhortations here that follow. Notice this 19th verse. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus. Has blessed the way the Spirit of God brings before us the fullness of that work. And brethren, is 1 glorious work. Now that is, He was made an offering for sin. The veil was wrapped, his blood was shed. It's all one glorious work and the Spirit of God would have our souls to lay hold of the largeness of this the one offering. For sin has glorified God about the question of sin. But it was necessary also that we should be brought into a place here, that we could be in the very holiest of all. And so the veil must be rammed, and the blood has been shed. And so the type has been fulfilled in the Lord Jesus. And so we have here. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, you know the high priest only entered into the holiest, and that but once a year. And he had to bring the blood of animals into that place, because there was no other way that he could come into the presence of God, except as God provided through the blood and with the incense. And so he went in once a year. But isn't this lovely? When the Lord Jesus died, the veil of the temple was renting twain from the top to the bottom. Now that is from God's side. That's why it says from the past right to the bottom, so that every believer now has access into the very holiest of all. And isn't this word lovely? Boldness? I love that word because the high priest, I'm sure, went in with fear and trembling. But boldness? Is it possible for us to go into the very holiest of all with boldness? When I read that word, I think is the way a child comes into its own home. Watch a child coming home from school. Does it hesitate? Does it wonder if it's accepted? No, it just comes in with perfect confidence. And isn't it marvelous that the Spirit of God should resort to such a word as this, that tell us that we can come into the presence of God without one question as to our acceptance? Because as a little hymn, says his precious. Blood has spoken there before and on the throne, and his own wounds in heaven declare the atoning work is done. And so our place of acceptance and our place of worship is in the very holiest of all. That is where the believer has been brought before God, and we have title to be there through this blessed work that the Lord Jesus has accomplished. And that veil? If you recall, it was blue and purple and scarlet and fine linen. It represented the various glories of the Person of Christ. I believe the blue represents to us that He was the heavenly one. In second. Man is the Lord's in heaven, and then the purple represents royalty. He was the one who was Israel's rightful king. It was there was a scarlet because He is the only one who has any right to human glory, a man who claims a lot of human glory for himself. But there was one who had a right to human glory, the Lord Jesus, and in His life that fine twined them, and that perfect practical righteousness that ever shone out in His blessed life. But what did that veil say? Before it was rent. Oh, if you looked at all those beautiful colors, what it really said is no entrance. And the Lord Jesus here in this world, by his life only condemned it only said. You can't measure up to this standard, and so you're outside. But when the Lord Jesus died, for it says the veil, that is to say, his flesh to them, the

veil was wrapped. And now the believer can go in, God can come out. For in the Old Testament he dwelled in the thick darkness. But God has come out now, and he's told all that's in his heart, and he's brought us in. And so we're in there in perfect acceptance. And so through the work that Christ has accomplished, we have been brought in. And so that light.

Faith, which would only condemn them, was given upon the Cross, and now, through that precious blood that He shed, we have access into the very holiest of all. What a place we have been brought into. And now the 20th verse, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us through the veil, that is to say, His flesh. Now this was new because it was never sold in the Jewish ritual. Why when King Uzziah tried to go into the Temple, why he was smitten with leprosy. The high priest alone once a year could go into the holiest of all with blood and incense. But isn't this lovely? This is something new, every believer. In the very holiest of all, what a place we've been brought into. But now it says it's a living way. Why is that? Well, under the ritual of Judaism, it wasn't necessary to have a new life to go on with those things. Now that is how they could go on with all the ritual of Judaism without being born again. And that's why people like to bring ritual into Christianity, because the flesh can enjoy it. It tells us in the 9th chapter it was a worldly sanctuary. Perhaps you wondered sometimes why God gave that grand building and why those robes and why that music and all that sort of thing. Well, if it was possible for man to be improved by ritual and ceremonies and that kind of thing, then God gave everything that was appealing. The very finest of music, the very finest of robes, the grandest building. People will say, well you had a grand building. I might feel like going. If you really had a good orchestra, I might feel like going well now. Under the ritual of Judaism, God gave all those things. And after man had had all those things, what did it prove? It proved that all those external things didn't change his heart at all. It never improved the flesh. And you'll see in these verses that now what God is doing is a living thing. And he has arranged an order of things in Christianity, if I can put it this way, that you can enjoy unless you possess a new life. And that's why a person who has not been born again thinks, well, what is there that's interesting about this? Because he doesn't possess a new life, about this new order of things in Judaism, in Christianity, as the Lord Jesus said, the new wine must be put. A new bottle, that is. The new joys of Christianity could not be contained in the old bottles of Judaism. And so we have been brought into this place, and I'm quite sure. That if you came into the meeting and you're not saved, why there's nothing that is particularly appealing, but if you really love the Lord Jesus, how it appeals to your heart that in simplicity, one after another can open his mouth in the liberty of the Spirit and give thanks and praise and adoration to the Lord Jesus can think of his sufferings and death and you're not thinking of whether. They're building is wonderful or whether. The singing is grand, or whether the people that sing have robes. It's a person that you have come to be occupied with. It's a new and living way. That's Christianity in contrast with Judaism. And then it says and having an high priest over the House of God, isn't this lovely? And you and I might lose the enjoyment of all these things. So God says the person that died for you is going to live for you up there to maintain your soul in the enjoyment of it. And many of us have been saved for a good number of years, and we just know that it's because we have one who's there at God's right hand is our great high priest and our advocate that we're still in the enjoyment of these things. Here he is a high priest over the House of God, not to offer another sacrifice like the high priest in Israel, but to maintain our souls in the enjoyment of the place that we have been brought into. Now let us draw an ear with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Azariel from the side of the Lord Jesus, there was the blood and there was the water. And the blood brings before us the fact that sin has been put away by what Christ has accomplished, and God looks upon the blood and he has been propitiated. And so it says, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience. And isn't it lovely that we can sit in his presence and say. The blood has so completely removed sin from God. Website that I don't have to sit here with it on my conscience. I can know that the work of Christ has put it away. It's not the question here of our state, but of our standing. There may be hindrances to our enjoyment of these things by something allowed in our lives, but the point here is our state and God has removed sin from the believer's conscience by the work of Christ. And it says in full assurance of faith, That is, we rest upon the value that God has put upon the work of His beloved Son and upon the precious blood that he has shed. And so isn't it lovely to sit there on Lord's Day morning and know? Now that the blood has so completely answered to God that you can say, well, I don't have to have sin on my conscience, because the Lord Jesus has settled the question of sin and the worshippers once purged, have no more conscience of sin, That's the believers standing. And then it says our bodies washed with pure water, while the water has spoken of in Titus is the washing of regeneration. That was a little difficult to just get this thought, but perhaps I could bring before you what the Lord said to Peter. He said he that is washed. Is clean everywhere, that is. Peter didn't have to be washed all over again. He was now not only cleansed by the blood as before God, but he has looked upon as being in a new standing before God, that is. Now you are clean through the word that I have spoken unto you. Perhaps I could use a little illustration. Supposing I was a thief and I stole $100 from someone and he forgave me. Well, I'm very grateful that he forgave me. But I must confess I wouldn't feel too much at ease in his presence because I'd always think, well, he looks on me as a forgiving thief, I'm sure. There's no question in my mind that he's forgiven me, but still I'm in his presence, knowing that I've been forgiven, but not for liberty. But supposing he said to me, Oh, I want to tell you something more. I've not only forgiven you, but every time I look at you, I'm going to look upon you as though you'd never done this thing. And I'm going to look on you in all the favor and acceptance and love that I have toward my own sons. Now the believer has been placed before God, not only with his sins gone in the blood, but this is where the water comes in. We are now before Him in a perfect standing, washed all over, so that we are seen in Christ and before Him, accepted in the Beloved, and that is why we have the blood. The heart sprinkled from an evil conscience and the water are new standing, so now I can say. Well, I can feel at home now in the presence of that person, because I know he doesn't look on me as a forgiven thief. He loves me. He loves me just as much as he loves his son. Oh, you say, but he must think about that. Although he said that I wouldn't, that he wouldn't remember it anymore. And that's what God has said. Your sins and iniquities I will remember no more. Isn't it a wonderful whom, brethren, that said in his presence in this way. I've often thought of it as we have in 1St Corinthians 10, where it tells us that we are at His table as members of His body. We're not just there as forgiven sinners, although we are that, but we're there as though he were looking at us and saying, thou it all fare, my love, there's no spot in me. What a place then. Well, that's what faith lays hold of then in the 23rd verse. The correct translation is hope, so I'll read it as in the other translation. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He is faithful that promise, because the three things that are brought before us here are faith, hope, and love. And so faith lays hold of what Christ has done, and then we have a hope. What is the hope?

Well, Israel had a hope of getting blessing that was conditional, but we have a hope that is founded upon what Christ has done. And so we hold it without wavering. Because we're faithful. No, because He is faithful. Isn't that lovely? He's faithful, you say, Oh, but if you sin, you might lose it. Oh, but he's faithful. He not only settled the question of my sins, but He's the captain of my salvation, carrying me through. And he's not going to lose. Of his arm so you say well I'm afraid I'm unfaithful remember those words. He is faithful he is faithful and that's why we're told a whole fast the confession of our hope. We've made a confession that we're going to be with Christ in glory. Oh and someone says but I assure you'll attain well we say he's faithful he's faithful he's going to carry us through isn't that lovely That's our hope and so we have

faith and hope and now. This 24th verse and. Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good work. Here we have now provoked love. So we have the third thing we have faith and hope and love and so wouldn't it be lovely, brother? And if we. More to fulfill this little exhortation, I often think of it. It speaks to my own heart. Let us consider one another to provoke unto love. We can look at one another and see failures in one another, and I'm sure you see failures in May. But isn't it nice to look at one another with this thought? What can I do to encourage that person to love the Lord Jesus more? That's what it means. Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and the good works. My father told me one time about when Brother Heaney, an old brother, used to be with us. I visited a sister in Ottawa and he said to the sister, do you provoke the same sister? Well, she said, I hope not. It's better healing. But he said you should. Why don't you get nodded, man? He said, Well, we should provoke one another unto love and to good work. Let me know what's easy to provoke our brethren other ways. And I'm afraid we often do things that provoke them. But wouldn't it be nice if we provoked them the right way, that we stir them up? So they want to do a little more for the Lord. They want a lot more to please Him. They want to walk more in the enjoyment of His love. Well, let's think about one another in this world and as we see one another. Perhaps someone drifting and getting cold? I want to be nice to say to ourselves, what can I do to revolt that brother to love and good work? What can I do to encourage him or her to follow the Lord Jesus more so isn't this lovely? After bringing before us the standing has been brought into we have here 3 exhortations sounded unsafe and hope and love faith that energy into and enjoys all this because God has said it. Hope that and knows that it's also secure. Because He is faithful and love that is like the lubricant that keeps us going on together for His glory in the little time that remains to us. Briefly at the others here I I just like to mention them in the 12TH chapter. And this first verse, it says, let us lay aside every weight. And the sin which does so easily beset us. And let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Here we have we're running in a race. And there are things that are hindrances in this race. And they may not be wrong in themselves. A weight isn't necessarily something that's wrong, but it's a hindrance. I might have a pair of heavy shoes and they may be very fine for some occasions, but they're no good in a race and if I was going to run a race I'd take them off because they're a hindrance in the race. And perhaps I hear someone say, well, tell me what's wrong about this or what's wrong about that. Well, it may not be wrong at all in itself, but it wouldn't be better to say, I wonder if this is hindering me from following Christ. And even if it's not wrong in itself, it can be a hindrance in following Christ. And so if there's anything in your life or mine that is awake, it's just sort of dragging us down. It's hindering us from running after the Lord Jesus. Now let us just put it aside. Let's just put it aside. Then there are other things that are positively sinned and we're told here. To lay aside the sin which does so easily beset us. And there may be something that's a positive sin. I believe here it prefers primarily to the sin of unbelief. But I think each one has some particular sin that is a particular snare, and we need to watch.

Sin in a believer's life can hinder fruitfulness. How many a person has ruined his life because he has given away some secret sins and that has spoiled his life and testimony. It's hindered him from following Christ. And so it says, let us run with patience or endurance. The race now that is the Christian race is not 100 yard dash. It's a race of endurance. Now that is we need to go on. It's easy to make a dash and start out, but somehow it takes constant looking to the Lord, constant dependence on Him, just to go on from day-to-day. Run with endurance the race that is set before us and we look to Jesus. He ran with endurance to race. He started it and He finished it to the glory of His Father in everything in his life. He had His Father before him and He is the exempt. For us, others have run in the race and we can imitate their faith, but there was only one that ran it perfectly. So don't follow me, because if you followed me, you might make some mistakes, but if you look at the Lord Jesus, you will follow. You'll find one who was always perfect. He began and He completed the path of faith. Now let's turn over to the 13th chapter. Now I'd just like to make a few brief comments about this. We have spoken about our place inside the veil now, that is, we have been brought into a marvelous place of nearness in Christianity. But how does this place fit in regard to all that which might be called a carryover from Judaism that has been introduced into Christianity? Paul christened them today, has taken on the character of Judaism now, that is, they have built these buildings, they have introduced robes, they have introduced ritual, they have introduced all kinds of singing entertainment, and all this kind of thing has been brought in now into Christianity. It is really the carryover and the brilliant end of that which was the shadow into Christianity. Now we do. Have the place in the holiest of all through the blood of Christ. But as regards all that which has to do with the old order of things, we recognize that as being the camp of Israel, and our place is outside. And then He goes to show us that just as that blood was brought into the very holiest of all, and sprinkled there and provided. A way by which God could go on with the people, then he said, But we must. Also remember that when that was done, the body of that animal was taken and it was burned outside the camp. Now he says, and the Lord Jesus by his glorious work has rent the veil and by his precious blood we have access into the holiest of all about if we want to be identified with the person, he's outside the camp, he's outside the camp. And now we have those two little words again. Let us go forth therefore unto Him without the camp bearing His reproach, and to take our place outside of all this that has been set up and organized in Christendom, which is really a mixture of Judaism and Christianity, which the Spirit of God is condemning in this epistle. It's a new thing, it's a better thing, it's a living thing. It's not an improvement on the old order. The old order was a shadow. So it's now an entirely new thing. The new wine must be put in new bottles. And where do we find ourselves? Outside the camp, gathered to a rejected person? And there's no mixture. He says we have an altar of our love. They have no right to eat, which serves the Tabernacle. Now God is not mixing the two systems together. He is bringing us into a new place. And may you and I enter into this blessed privilege. Now this brings reproach, because for a Jew to step out from all that old order of things and identify himself with a rejected Christ brought recruits, and in a similar way today. When we take our place apart from all that man is organized in Christendom, and go out to a rejected person, we bear his reproach. Isn't that lovely though his reproach? May the Spirit of God give us to value this privilege, because separation in Christianity is always to a person. Go forth unto him without the camp.

And so in separation is enjoined in Corinthians it says. Come out, and I will be a father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. But as you might say, we had a city though, and God placed his name in that city. Well, he said, we don't have a continuing city here. We meet around the Lord Jesus as a rejected Savior here. But we do have a city. We seek one to come. We're going to be in the heavenly city. We're going to be in Jerusalem, which is above. We're going to be with that vast company of Saints in that glorious city above. And that's what we're looking for. But here we're. Pilgrims and strangers, all that you say. What about sacrifices? Well, we offer the sacrifice of praise, the fruit of our lips. Oh, how well can you play the instrument? Well, God is looking for what comes from the heart, and so he says, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name. And so you can see that now in Christianity the shadows have been fulfilled. It's a new way, it's a living way as to nearness. It's inside the veil. But as to our position in Christendom, it's outside the camp. It's to a rejected Christ, and we don't introduce physical things. We don't have to build an altar because Christ himself is our altar. We don't have to glory in some particular city. Sometimes people say to you, well, where's the center of this movement? The head is up there in heaven. That's the city that we were waiting for, the city and the heavenly Jerusalem. Because you're coming to the mountain Zions, the heavenly Jerusalem. That's the place that we have been brought to. Well, what kind of sacrifices do you offer? The fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. And then this love flows out to do good and to communicate. Forget not, our hearts get filled. We're so filled with what he has done for us, but then it flows out. In the seeking

the good and the blessing of others. Because the truth of God will never make us selfish and self-centered. It's impossible for the Lord to fill your heart and mind that it doesn't overflow. Our hearts are just too small to contain all that He wants to put in. And so whenever He fills our hearts, there's always an overflow. And I've often been struck, brethren, at the similarity between. Worship and service, and I've enjoyed it more and more as I think of it. That in worship we present Christ to God in all the excellence of his person and work, and in service we present Christ to the Sinner in all the excellence of his person and work. God delights to have us occupied with his beloved Son, speaking well of him. Well May God grant that the truth of these things may grip our hearts. And then that these little exhortations that are mentioned here in these different verses, let us. I haven't read them all, but let us as if we should just take the arm of another Christian and say, well, let's live more for the Lord Jesus. He's done so much for us. We belong to him. He has a rightful claim over our hearts and it's a privilege that we can have now. To know all that he has done for us and in response, to seek to acknowledge his claims and live for him until he comes again.

La Mirada Conference: 1985, Unchanging Friend and Precepts

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

I like to read a few scriptures first of all, and I'd like to begin by looking at one in the Song of Solomon. Song of Solomon chapter 4 chapter 5 rather Song of Solomon chapter 5. And verse 16 his mouth is most sweet. Yeah, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem. And then could we turn over to Hebrews chapter 1, Hebrews chapter 1, and verse 10. And thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of thy thine hand. They shall perish, but thou remainest, and they all shall wax old as doth a garment. And as a vaster shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed, but thou art the same, and thy ears shall not fail. And if you'll turn back with me to Malachi? And the 3rd chapter and the 16th verse. The sixth verse. Pardon me, the 3rd chapter of Malachi, and the sixth verse. For I am the Lord, and I change not. Therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. And then again in Hebrews chapter 13. Hebrews chapter 13 and verse 8. Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today and forever. Well, dear friends, we're living in a world that's full of change. On every hand we see change, but isn't it blessed for us to know that there is one who changes not? And I was thinking in connection with that verse that we read. In Song of Solomon, that I think the quality that we value most of all. In a friend whom we've learned to love and to admire and to think a great deal of is that they don't change. If they change, we feel disappointed because we like them the way they were, and something happens and they change, perhaps in their attitude as time goes on, we also change in our physical condition, too. It is a changing world. But isn't it very blessed, dear friends, that we have one who changes not? And I'd like to speak. A little bit about that because I believe that is what will sustain us in a world like this. We so often get frustrated and disappointed as we see the constant change in this world and people hardly know where they're at because the job is uncertain, friends are uncertain, everything seems to be so uncertain. Banks fail, the weather pattern changes. It just seems that we're constantly reminded of change. But isn't it very? Precious that we can sit in these seats here this afternoon and be occupied with a friend who is altogether lovely, nothing that we'd ever want to alter, because he is so perfect in everything, perfect in love, perfect in grace, perfect in faithfulness. That's what is pictured in the offering when it speaks about the fine flower. You know, when we think of friends, we usually think of a friend who has some particularly outstanding virtue. So we say that person is very generous, that person is very thoughtful, that person is very kind. We single out something in which they excel. But we have a friend who equally excels in everything. He excels in love and in grace. And if you, you and I need correction, and we do sometimes, he knows just exactly what we need and ministers that correction to us and wants us to see that it's his hand that is in it. And as we had in our verses that we read here together, and oh, how precious they are in Hebrews chapter 1, we see this world constantly in the process of change. But thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail. Whether it's a child, whether it's a young person, whether it's an adult, we can have this same friend. He understands your childhood. He understands. Even in the millennial Jerusalem, it tells us that the city, the streets of the city, will be full of boys and girls playing in the streets. It tells us, too, that when I was a child I spake as a child. I thought as a child I understood as a child. We don't always understand children. We don't always understand what's going through their minds. But isn't it lovely that the Lord understands even the child? And tells us in that happy. Time for this earth when the Lord Jesus has his rightful place as our brother brought before us in that millennial day. Then the children will be able to play in the streets and there will be no accidents. Everything will be under the Lords wonderful care. And then too, as we grow older, we have new desires as young people and we want certain things. Isn't it blessed to know that this is the kind of a friend we have?

One who understands. He watched your body and mind before it ever entered into this sea, And as a living person, because it says in 139 Psalm, thine eyes did behold my substance, yet being unperfect. And in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them. You don't have any other friend like that who knows all your physical and emotional makeup. Who understands? You perfectly, but this is the one. And isn't that verse lovely? Doesn't it touch your heart? This is my beloved, this is my friend. But he's not one that changes like earthly friends do. It says that he changes not. I am the Lord, I change not. Therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed, because you know we're changing all the time. And you know when we have a friend who changes who was close? Close to us, and then turns and isn't so close, perhaps even as our brother mentioned as some unkind thing to us. Well, then, it's hard for us to take something like that. But this friend, in spite of all our changes, he loves us just the same. 1 is often said that the assurances that are given in Scripture of the Lord's love to us were always given at times when we might have least expected it. In. In the book of Deuteronomy, after 40 years of wilderness, of murmuring and complaining, of displaying what was in their hearts, then we come to the very end of that journey and it tells us, yeah, he loved the people. All his Saints are in my hand. Those 40 years of their murmuring and complaining hadn't changed this friend. He loved them, and they were in his hand. And then we turn over to Jeremiah. And there in Jeremiah. We find the people had got so far away that God was going to have to cause them to be carried into captivity. Their state seemed beyond remedy, as the Scripture says. And so the prophet Jeremiah with tears had to warn them that they were going to go into captivity. But did this change the friend that Israel had and that we have now the 31St chapter of Jeremiah says. Yeah, I have loved thee. With an everlasting love, therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee. Then again, we come in, a little remnant has been brought back from the captivity. And there they came back and you read in the book of Malachi about the things that went on. They said it was vain to serve the Lord. They offered him the lame and the blind. That is, they didn't offer the best to him. They gave him what was second class, something they wouldn't give to the governor. They wouldn't, they wouldn't do the things that were pleasing to him. They weren't obedient to him. But how does he begin the message to them when he speaks to them? About all those shortcomings and failures. Oh, listen to the way the book of Malachi opens the burden of the word of the Lord by Malachi. I have loved you, saith the Lord. Then we come over to the New Testament and we think of Martha and we think of how the Lord had to speak to her, how she was finding fault because Mary was sitting at his feet. We might have had a kind of

an idea that the Lord had. A little more affection for Mary because she was more devoted and she sat at his feet. But when it talks about the Lord's affection to them, it says now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. Yes, Martha's name comes first. The one who perhaps would have had the last reason, the least reason to have expected that. And then after we read in those letters to the seven churches. He felt grieved that they had left their first love. And we have to hang our heads and acknowledge, brethren, that's true of us, isn't it? We have lost that fresh affection for the Lord Jesus. But in the very last one, in the letter to the Laodiceans, it says, as many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Be zealous therefore and repent. And so how precious this is.

I am the Lord, I change not. Therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. And I think many of us, and especially perhaps as we get older and look back, we can say, well certainly if the Lord's love to us was dependent on the way we had acted as believers, it would be a very small amount. But how precious to know. This is my beloved, this is my friend, the one who doesn't change. I am the Lord. I change not therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Then we read also in the 13th chapter of Hebrews there, and the Lord is speaking about their leaders who had spoken to them the word of God, and he had to add that little word whose faith follow. My father used to often say, remember it doesn't say whose failures follow and you know we we do see. Failures in ourselves, and perhaps in one another too. And sometimes we follow somebody else that has done something that's wrong. But it says whose faith follow. But then it tells us that there is a person whom we can follow implicitly. There's one who never fails. And so after telling us that we could imitate the faith of those who had sought to instruct us in the things of God, that he points us again. To this unchangeable friend Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and today and forever. Surely, brethren, when we think of this, it is so encouraging to our hearts. And I believe that this is important not only to know this Blessed One, but also I believe that He has laid down in His Word that which we need for our pathway. We are living in a world of constant change. And the way we arrived here, I suppose if we look back 50 years ago and none of us would have arrived in the same way that we did today. Some arrive by airplane, some arrive by cars. It's a changing world. But let us remember that moral and spiritual values do not change. And that is God has certain standards that He has established in His precious word. And it gives us peace, knowingness, unchanging friend that we have, that the counsel he gives us doesn't have to be brought up to date. Anybody that's working in the business world today knows very well that constantly the planning and the way things are done is being changed, and new bulletins are being issued about constant changes. But isn't it lovely that we can take up a book like this and know? That although the last part of it was written about 2000 years ago, it's still perfectly up to date. It gives us just exactly what we need to live in 1985 and soon in 1986. If the Lord leaves us here. It doesn't have to be brought up to date. It's suited to us. And I say to those who are young, and I say to those of us who are old, how important it is that we go by this blessed book. The path that God has marked out, this wonderful friend that we have, this unchanging friend has marked out a path for us here in this world. And going by it as it tells us in Proverbs, her ways, our ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. And I want to encourage you and I want to encourage my own heart to be like that little remnant that we read of in the last chapter of Isaiah. It says. They trembled at God's Word. They were afraid, you know, and we're traveling along. Why we are not always acquainted with the area in which we travel. And we watch the signs very carefully and we're just afraid sometimes we're going to miss a sign because it isn't always easy to get your way back sometimes if you have missed that sign. Why, you can go miles out of your way and it was just because you weren't whiteful. Now those signs were set up for our good. And brethren, God has written His word for our good. His divine power has given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness. We don't have to seek the wisdom of this world in moral and spiritual things. We may be due in those things that have to do with the way we travel.

And the way business operates and so on. But morally, we have divine standards, and I trust that each one of us will realize this. And I say this to you, dear young people who are present today. I know that you're being told that the older folks are outdated, they have certain stringent ideas, and so on. But I ask you to search the word of God and to go by this blessed book. Informing the pathway of your life and you'll find that. There's a real blessing in walking in that path that God has marked out in His Word, and He hasn't left anything that is of importance without some direction for us. I like to look at a few verses more if you'll just turn with me now to Jude. Jude chapter Well, there's just one chapter in the. I'll read from the first verse Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called mercy unto you, and peace and love be multiplied. Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation. It was needful for me to write unto you and exhort you that she should. Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the Saints. Well, here we can see that God is setting before us the faith that was once delivered to the Saints. There has been a book written by Brother Charles Stanley, and it's called The First Years of Christianity. And what is the Church? When he wanted to bring before us as the Lord's servant that which God has shown us in his Word, what Christianity really is and what the church is. Why he went right. Back to that which God established in the beginning. And here we find Jude in the day of breakdown and apostasy. He didn't say, well, now we have to adopt a few new ideas because things are changing and there's a great deal of compromise and there's a lot of people giving in on this and that. Instead of this, he says that it was necessary for him to write and exhort them that they should earnestly contend. For the faith once delivered unto the Saints, and I believe this is so important for us in all the matters that have to do particularly I speak it now as to the assembly, I believe we need to go to the word of God. The assembly doesn't operate on tradition. We know that that came into Israel and the traditions of the Pharisees became so important that sometimes the word of God was set aside so that they. Could carry out their own tradition and here we find that the apostle Jude, he brings before the Saints the very great importance of the faith which was once delivered unto the Saints and so we need to read those epistles that have been written over and over again because they give us divine instruction as to the person and the work of Christ because. The foundation of all how very, very important that we are clear as to the person and the work of the Lord Jesus Christ. As we were mentioning yesterday, the assembly is the pillar and ground of the truth. And so in these days when little things are beginning to slip in, there's a large segment of Christendom today who is actually teaching that our blessed and holy Lord Jesus could sin. They tell us he didn't sin, but that he could. And it is amazing if you knew some of the important names in Christendom who are going along. This teaching, O brethren, let's form our standards of what we believe from the Word of God, not from what is generally accepted, because in this precious book we have that faith once, not twice not renewed, but once delivered to the Saints the blessed truth of the Lord's coming. And all these precious things that have been made known to us and. Given to us in the New Testament. How should we gather? Is it just that we, shall I say, set up our own ideas of how we should gather? Or do we have instruction in the Word of God so that we would know that we are gathering according to His Word? Now there may be many, many nice Christians who really love the Lord Jesus and who want to please Him.

And we have to leave them with the Lord. But your responsibility and mine individually as well as collectively as an assembly, is to go by God's precious word. Learn it well, has to be well acquainted with the truth of God's word, so that we would gather according to the word of God, that we would gather to the precious name of the Lord Jesus only that we should gather as members of the body of Christ. Early apostle was very much concerned in this day of breakdown and ruin that there would be that exercise and I say to each one of us. And I speak to

those who are a bit. Older. Sometimes I think that we who are older tend to forget that there is constantly a new generation coming up and they see things being done and they don't know why. They don't know why. I remember a young person in one assembly gathered to the name of the Lord Jesus. She went and broke bread someplace else and some brother mentioned that she had broken somewhere else and made the comment. Oh. She knew better than that and I said to the brother, well. I think that she knew the brethren disagreed, but I'm not sure that she knew why for herself. Now you and I should know why for ourselves. We need the faith once delivered to the Saints. We need to know what it is to be gathered according to the Word of God, and if we have learned that blessed and precious truth of the one Body and gathering as members of the body of Christ. Oh, how precious it is to our hearts and so that. We find in the Old Testament they didn't build a wall around Jerusalem until they had first built the temple. And when they had built the temple and afterwards they built the wall, what would separation mean if they didn't have a temple? But once the temple, that place where it was to speak of the Lord's glory and His presence among His people, then the wall of separation came after that. Well, there are so many things that I could speak of. And oh, brethren, I believe they're important. And there's another thing that we find that creeps in, and that is the teaching about free will. Well, you know, many people don't stop to realize that in teaching that that system of things, that they are really supposing that there is some good in man. Because if man of his free will would receive Christ, then there must have been something good in him to make a good choice. Now it's true that man is responsible. And the Bible says the Bible says. That everyone is responsible before God and will give an account of himself to God. But if you and I were left to ourselves, we would never choose Christ and God had to do a work within us. I think of a simple illustration that was given by Mr. Darby to illustrate this. He said, supposing I put in front of a person an apple and an orange, and he hates apples and he loves oranges. And I say to him. Now you have freedom of choice here. You can choose whichever you like. That's true. I give him the freedom of choice. But how is he ever going to choose the apple? He hates apples. What will ever make him choose the apple? Why, I would have to do something inside of him, wouldn't I? Or he would never, never choose that apple. And you know that's what God does. No man can come unto me except the Father which has sent me draw him. Brethren, I believe we need to realize the total ruin of man. There's nothing good in man from his will onward, you and I, as the Scripture says, in me, that is, in my flesh dwelleth no good thing. And so man goes on in his willful way until God intervenes. And there had to be a work of God for my sins at Calvary, and there had to be a work of God in me, or I would never have received the Lord Jesus as my Savior. This doesn't in any way destroy responsibility. Man is responsible before. God, just as a man who breaks into your house is responsible. If you offer to pardon him and he refuses the pardon, that doesn't mean that all of a sudden he's no longer responsible. And God offers to pardon man, but his will is so bad that he refuses the pardon and he's still responsible. And he's going to have to answer to God as a responsible person. But oh, you and I.

Have learned something of the grace of God that has picked us up and saved us. Well, I just mentioned these few things because I believe we have to watch in these days that we remember that it's the faith once delivered to the Saints. Oh, let us hold that precious deposit of truth that has been committed to us. Well, I'd like to turn to another verse in Matthew chapter, Matthew chapter 19 and the third verse. The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? And he answered and said unto them, Have he not read that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife? And a twain shall be 1 flesh, wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together? Let not man put asunder. In the ninth verse, And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, accepted be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery, and whoso marieth her which is put away, doth commit adultery. Well, I believe these things are written in God's Word as a message to us of the importance of marriage and the solemnity of the marriage union. And in these days, when it's looked upon very lightly, and there is perhaps a tendency for even Christians. To be affected by the light attitude that the world has toward marriage. I believe, brethren, that we need to get back to what God said. What did the Lord Jesus do? He took them right back to the beginning. He said if you want to know God's mind about it, you go back to the beginning because the Lord doesn't change. And so He takes them right back to the very beginning. And I believe that we need to receive these things today. We know that sometimes the relationship isn't as happy as it should be, it sometimes strain and certainly every effort should be made to promote love. What is often said that for a happy marriage the husband needs to be 100% for his wife and the wife 100% for her husband and together 100% for the Lord. I believe that's why it says. A threefold cord is not quickly broken and. We know that that is what God has planned. That is what he has ordered. But you know, in this day and age when people look on it lightly, say, well, those are old fashioned ideas now, it's a much easier outlet than just to divorce and remarry. But oh, I believe it's very, very solemn. And I believe too, and we think that this marriage relationship is a picture of Christ and the church and that the woman. Position represents the Church. And and the husband in his position represents Christ who is the bridegroom of the church. What a responsibility. And that's the pattern that is brought before us in the scripture. Husbands love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave him self for it. So we have what God has given. Now I know if you talk to people. They have all kinds of change in opinions. I heard even a Christian say one time, well, I couldn't live with that person if he didn't love me. Well, instead of recognizing that there's a way to overcome even where there's a lack of love. Why that was her attitude about it. But it's not the Scripture. The scripture is that a responsibility has been taken on. And I believe it's a solemn responsibility before God. And so I mentioned this because. I believe that all these things are the work of the enemy to try and destroy the divine standards that which God has established in His precious Word. And let us go by this, that God has sat down in His Word, and I believe that there's blessing in it. When we think of the kind of a church that Christ loved, oh, how wonderful. His grace toward us. Did we always love him like we should? Did we always respond to his claims like we should? But did he cease to love? No, he's ever the same. So it says, be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. Well, I believe that this brings before us the responsibility of the marriage. Then in First Corinthians 11, First Corinthians Chapter 11, and the third verse.

But I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is the man, and the head of Christ is God. Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonored, he said. But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head, for that is even all one, as if she were shaved. Well, there's another thing that we see that's changing in society. There is a complete changeover in the idea of the place that God intended the man to occupy and that he intended the woman to occupy. I've often said if I as a man decide that I'm going to be the head, I have no more right to it than my wife. But if God put me in that place, then I have a responsibility. And that's the difference when people set aside the Bible and they say, what right does the man have to that place any more than the woman? But it wasn't man that chose that place. It was God who ordered this. And so I say to those who are men, it's a tremendous responsibility to fulfill the place that God has given to the man, to give that leadership in love and in kindness and in understanding. It doesn't. Mean that he is not to accept any advice from his wife. The Lord had on one occasion to say to Abraham, Hearken unto the voice of Sarah, thy wife, in all that she saith unto thee. And sometimes it's very important that we listen to the advice of the partner whom God has given to us, because the partner is not at all inferior. But God knew that the man could never fill a place of leadership properly alone. So he made a helpmate, not inferior, but one who could share in every way and help him to fulfill the place in which God had put him.

You know how lovely this is. And anyone who has experienced this in their home would say why? I rely a great deal on the help that my wife gives me. I feel a responsibility to give godly leadership. So you see, God has planned this then too if the. Woman is not filling the place in the home. The man is unable to fulfill it. She can go out and fill a place in the business world, perhaps, but on the other hand, the man is unable to take the place that she has left vacant. And that's why it tells us in Isaiah. As for my people, children are their oppressors and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err and destroy. The way of thy paths. Once God's order is set aside, by then the home is spoiled and the children grow up to be just what it says, oppressors, because they have no proper leadership in the home which God intended the mother to provide. And so we see how that men try to change the things that God has given. But you and I are to go back to the very first principles that God has established. And may I say it? Kindly to the boys and to the girls to hearken to what God has said, to realize the responsibility God has given to you as a man and the responsibility he has given to the wife as a helpmate. And how beautiful it is when it's carried out in God's order. How wonderful to see that plan carried out. What happiness there is because God didn't form Eve from. Head or from his feet, but from his side to be his support and his help meet you know what a happy order God has established. Well, pardon me, but I'm saying these things because in this changing world we don't realize how much what the world is doing and what it says is rubbing off on us, affecting us so that we're not careful to follow the instructions of God's word in the assembly. We're not careful to. Recognize what a very, very serious thing divorce is and how God says that he hates it in Malachi. He says I hate putting away. And then too that is we see the disruption of this order that God planned. Why all the happiness and joy that God planned when a husband and wife are in their right and happy relationship? Oh how it's all spoiled. Brethren, we have God's book. We have the one who changes not.

But and then turn to Ephesians chapter 6, verse one. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor thy father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise, that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. Here when God is talking about honoring father and mother, why he says it's the first commandment with promise. In other words, he goes back to show that he had established something in connection with that relationship. And in the book of Proverbs, perhaps you have noticed that the whole 1St 7 chapters are all taken up with the father and the mother giving instruction to their family. Read those chapters for yourself. And you'll see they all every one of the chapters begins with my son or hear the instruction of a father and forsake not the law of thy mother. It's the whole plan that God had for the instruction of the children in the home. And then too, that they should learn to honor father and mother. And as someone who's perhaps a little bit older than some who are young here, I can say this that in my. Observation I have never seen the blessing of God on children who didn't honor their father and mother. I believe that when you see children who honor their father and mother, they come into that special blessing that God talks about. And I want to say to you, dear young people, I was a very imperfect father. And perhaps some other fathers will say the same, that they weren't always the father that they should be. But nevertheless, I believe that God still would have you to. Honor them, and perhaps the day will come when you'll be a father and mother if the Lord doesn't come, and you'll be an imperfect father and mother too. It's it's important though, that we recognize that God has set up and established an order. And so I just want to say to children and young people, never speak disparagingly of your parents. They may not be perfect, they may make mistakes, but always honor them. Honor thy father. Mother and I mother and that's something why you're not under their authority after you're married, you still ought to honor them. They still are in that place that God has put them in. In other words, God has set up something in this world, something that doesn't have to change with changing times. And when man bringing all these changes, why what do they do but only spoil that which God had planned for man turned to Romans chapter 1. Romans, chapter 1. And verse 25, who changed the truth of God into a lie and worship and serve the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. To read all the verses in this chapter, but I'm sure that many of us who have read these verses realize that this is a picture of what took place in heathendom when they gave up what revelation God had given to man and they changed everything and it says they changed the truth of God into a lie. The Bible shows us that man is a triune being. Spirit, soul and body. And one is often said that we always ought to make every decision in our lives in that order. The spirit, which is the intelligent God conscious part of our being, the soul, which is the seat of the appetites and desires, and the body is the physical. And whenever you're going to make a decision whether it's the line of work that you're going to take up. Always get before the Lord and ask Him. And then to make it intelligently as looking on into the future and making a little planning, you may get into something where you won't be happy or where you can't fully honor the Lord. Think that out and get before the Lord and pray about it and search His word. You don't want to get into some unequal yoke or something dishonouring to the Lord. So the first thing is the spirit and then the soul. You say, well, I like this. Well, you know, the Lord Jesus could say the good pleasure of Thy will, O God, is my delight. And you'll find that if you're in the path of the Lord's will, you'll like it because the Lord's not going to put you into something.

That you. Won't be able to enjoy if you are in the path of his will. And so then the last thing is the physical men reverse the order. They usually say body, soul and spirit. So everything in their minds is planned in the very opposite direction of the way God intended it to be. Now in this first chapter of Romans we see that God gave up man. He gave him up as to his spirit and he worshiped idols. He gave him up as to his soul. And all his horrible desires displayed themselves in all kinds of lustful things, and then their bodies suffered because their body was given over. Their whole being was given over because they changed the truth of God into a lie. They worshipped and served the creature more than the creator. And that's what's coming in today. And I ask you, dear young people, and for all of us when we're making decisions, whether it's where you're going to live, whether it's the partner that you choose or. The line of work that you're going to follow always think of first of all, can I honor the Lord? In that can I give him his rightful place? Will I be in something that's not according to his word? And then if you find that he directs you in that, then you say, well I can enjoy it because I believe it's where the Lord wants me to be. I believe it's his will for me and your body takes you there well and we find that man didn't want God's plan. He changed the truth of God into a lie and he worshipped and served the creature more than the creator that's. What's coming in known as humanism today to replace the wisdom and the direction of God's Word. And so this is what took place in Pagan Christianity. Now, I'd just like to say a few things in closing, if you'll turn with me to First Chronicles Chapter 12. First Chronicles Chapter 12. And verse 32 And the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times to know what Israel ought to do, the heads of them were 200 and all their brethren were at their commandment. You turn over to Acts chapter 13. Acts Chapter 13. Verse 36. For David, after he had served his own generation, by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption. Ecclesiastes, Chapter 7. Verse 10 Say not thou what is the 'cause that the former days were better than these? For thou dost not inquire wisely concerning this. And one more passage in Two Corinthians, chapter 3. Second Corinthians. And verse 17 Now the Lord is that spirit, and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty, but we all with open face, beholding as in a glass. The glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. Well, here we find perhaps what we could say our own attitude in a day like this tells us in that verse in Ecclesiastes not to inquire why the former days were better than these. You know, we can spend a lot of time saying, oh, I wish things were like they were five years ago or two years ago or 10 or whatever. Or we can say, the Lord is going to give me grace. If I look to him to live to please him. To find the path that's pleasing to Him in 1985 and in 1986, you and I must press on, brethren. We have to live in this generation, and the Lord is able to give us grace to serve our

generation by the will of God. I believe that that's needful for us and we don't, and as I say, we cannot change the conditions in this world. We may not be. Able to change a lot of other things that we'd like to see very different maybe your job is very trying maybe your home situation is not easy maybe a school where you go is very difficult too and there may even be trials in the assembly. But I want to assure you that this wonderful friend that we talked about at the beginning this is my as he says this is my beloved and this is my friend he's sufficient for you he.

Life with peace and joy in the midst of a world that's constantly changing, full of unrest, full of uncertainty. He has a way by which you can live and serve your generation. I like that little word. Serve because none of us liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself. If you seek to live to please the Lord Jesus, you are going to serve your generation because other people are going to look on and they're going to. See in you a person that has found victory in a generation where everything seems to be going to pieces. Oh, I plead with you, I plead with you. It tells us there about those men of Issachar. It's a very interesting feature if you take time to read in that chapter, it speaks about the ones from the different tribes who came out to make David king. And in every one of the 12 tribes it gives. A certain number of people who came out to make David Cain. I hope we're making the true David, the Lord Jesus supreme in our lives. But it's the most interesting thing to me that the only one of the 12 tribes that it doesn't tell how many there were is the tribe of Issachar. And in that tribe, I read the verse to you, it says there were men. I think it says 200 in that. Tribe who were men of understanding. To know what Israel ought to do, and all their brethren were at their command. And may I just pass on a little word to some of us who are getting older. May the Lord help us to have an understanding about the time in which we live. I believe that. I believe that the young people will listen if they feel we understand. You know, there's two things that the human heart craves and its understanding and love. If you talk to somebody and you talk for 5 minutes, you, you just say, I know it doesn't understand. He just can't enter into what I'm saying. You feel frustrated and you perhaps don't say anymore. But if you feel that person loves you and that person understands your situation. Then perhaps you'll listen. Perhaps that person can help you. And may I say to those of us who are getting older, may the Lord give us more of that understanding and love. I believe if we do that, we can be a help. It's been mentioned often in these meetings that our dear young people are in a generation and in a situation that some of us older ones hardly know very much about. But I believe we should have an understanding and a love and here in that tribe of Issachar. It tells us about these heads of the people who had this kind of understanding, and all their brethren were at their command. They weren't looking back and saying, oh, it wasn't like that when I was young. No, they were. They weren't inquiring why the former days were better than these. They were trying to encourage those living in the very time in which they lived, when things were at a state in Israel that were perplexing and trying. And what is the final remedy of it all, brethren? It's to have arise upon the Lord Jesus and then we can change the situation. But isn't that verse lovely that we closed with there in 2 Corinthians 3? We all with open face, beholding the glory of the Lord are changed. The Lord doesn't change. The world has changed, but sometimes because we have had part of the world rub on us. Why we need to change more into His likeness. He's the unchanging 1. And how is it going to be? Oh, it's by occupation with the Lord Jesus, that wonderful Savior, that wonderful friend. This is my beloved. This is my friend. He's not only mine, He's yours too. If you know Him as your Savior, He can do for you what He has done for others. And so I just pass on these few thoughts to you in a world. Where there is so much change we have in the word of God that help, that instruction, those firm things that God has established so that we can go on in pace, having divine direction from the person whose name is his name is wonderful counselor, the mighty God, the Father of eternity, the Prince of Peace. May we turn to Him, may we have our eyes upon him, and the result will be. A change take place. In us to make us a little bit more like the one who changes not.

Conference: 1973, Comfort in the Unchanging One

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

I'd like to turn first of all to the 8th chapter of Luke, the 8th chapter of Luke and the 22nd verse. Locate verse 22 Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples, and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake, and they launched forth. But as they sailed, he fell asleep. And there came down a storm of wind on the lake, and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy. And they came to him and awoke him, saying, Master, Master, we perish. Then he arose and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water, and they ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they, being afraid, wondered, saying one to another, what manner of. The man is this, or he commandeth even the winds and the water, and they obey him. Now would you also turn with me to Malachi? The last book in the Old Testament, Malachi and the 3rd chapter and the fifth verse. And I will come near to you and judge to judgment, and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false wearers. Against those that oppress the hireling in his wages the widow and the fatherless, and the turn aside the stranger from his right. And fear not me, saith the Lord, For I am the Lord, I change not. Therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. We turn also to Hebrews chapter 1. Hebrews chapter 1 and the 10th verse. But thou and thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the works of thine hands. They shall perish, but thou remainest, and they all shall wax old as that the garment, and as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail. And then in the 13th chapter of Hebrews. Hebrews chapter 13. And verse 6 so that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you, the word of God, whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and today. And forever. Now one more passage in Matthew chapter 24. Matthew chapter 24, verse 35. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. For older, young people, in reading these verses this afternoon, what I had before me was that this is the time of change. But it's a wonderful thing to have something that doesn't change, to have a person who doesn't change so that we might know what to do in a day like this. We know that the world is full of uncertainty because they see these changes coming and they don't know what is the answer to their problems. They're turning here and there trying to find an answer to the problems of life. But it's a blessed thing that whether it's a crime of change or not, God's Word doesn't change. The Lord Jesus is the same yesterday. And today and forever, everything in this room might change. And yet the lights be exactly the same. And the fact that the lights were the same would illuminate whatever condition existed in the room. Whether it was a group of happy believers is this afternoon, or whether it was a group of whirlings wouldn't change the character of the lights. All that the lights would do was illuminate the situation. And isn't it a wonderful thing that in a changing world like this in which we live, we have that which is stable? Now that which we can rely upon, if we didn't have that, we would certainly be in uncertainty. It tells us about men of the world in such times. It says men's hearts failing them for fear and for looking after those things that are coming upon the earth. And we can see that today men's hearts are failing them. They just wonder what is ahead. But all I must say, dear young people, how thankful you and I can be.

To have the precious living word of God. And I was thinking of 2 verses in the 119th Psalm 1 is the 89th verse forever? O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven. And then another verse. I've just forgotten the verse in the chapter that says. Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee. There is nothing that happens in this world, and it is a surprise to God always known to Him beforehand. And His word was prepared for this very time in which we live, so that we might know the way in which we should walk. It says in the 142nd Psalm, When my spirit. Within me was overwhelmed then. Wall knew us, my path, and perhaps there's some young person here this afternoon and you say that's true of me. My spirit is overwhelmed. I just hardly know what to do. There are situations coming up in my life that I just don't know what to do. Isn't there a lovely second part to that verse? Then at that very time, then thou knewest my path. And so you can turn to one who. Know your path and He not only knows your path, but in His Word He has given you instruction and wisdom for your pathway. Oh, how many very young people erect their lives. They try to find out things for themselves apart from the wisdom of God's word. We think of how men began on the earth and sin came in in this very way. God told Adam and Eve not to eat of that one tree of the garden. He knew that it wasn't for their good to do it. He was testing their obedience to him, and he put that one to a bit prohibition. To test whether they would rely upon him and believe that he really loved them and thought they're good. But what did they do? Well, they reached out to try that one thing that had been forbidden. And as another has said, how often does one forbidden thing hide from her eyes? 1000 blessings. Because there's something that we say. Well, I want it. I'm going to have it. And it doesn't matter what anyone says or thinks. Oh, what a solemn thing it is to make such a decision. Or that you say we're young and we have to learn by experience. Yes, Adam was young in that sense. He had just been placed in the garden. His wife was young, and they were there to enjoy life. Because when the foundations of the earth were laid, God's delights were with the sons of men, and he made a partner. Adam for his good and for his happiness in a natural sense. But they thought they must try this. And as we often hear the expression, I'll try anything once, That's all they did. They tried something once. But we know the sad results of this decision. We know what it brought upon themselves and upon the human race and their young people. How serious it would be if you should try something that would just ruin your life as it would spoil it for the rest. Now I know that the Lord can restore your soul. I know he can bring you back. One time we know that King David took a look at someone who pleased him very much. He thought he couldn't live without this girl, and so she was brought into his life. But it was to his own sorrow and to his own loss. Because of that sin, God said, the sword shall not depart from thy house forever. And David had a course of sorrow in his life because of that one sin, that look, that desire unchecked, which led him to a force that was to the spoiling of his life. Now you say. What wasn't David restored? Oh yes, David was restored. Some of the most beautiful. Forms were written after David's restoration, but he didn't escape the government of God. He didn't escape that which he brought upon himself by doing it. And as I look into your faces, dear young people, I think if the Lord leaves us here of you having life before you, and what happiness God wants to bring to you, and what blessing you can be to others, if you will just walk in the light and wisdom of God's Word.

Faith said to Abraham, I will bless thee, and thou shalt be a blessing. And so it's God's desire to bless you and to make you a blessing. Now, when we speak of blessing you, I don't mean that He necessarily promises you all the material things that you and I might seek after, but are those really the things that bring happiness? The Scripture says the blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich and he addeth no sorrow with it. And perhaps you have noticed in the J&D translation there's a little footnote on that verse and it says this, that it could be translated. The blessing of the Lord it maketh rich and toil addeth nothing to it. We the natural things, we work hard to get the things that we really want. And we've heard people say, well, I worked hard to get that car, I worked hard to get that home. I worked hard to fix up my garden like that. Yes, I'm sure you did because we always have to work for anything materialistic. But the blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich. That's the true riches and toil adds nothing to it. Why doesn't toil add? To it well, because as we had this morning, every spiritual blessing is a gift. The Torah was through our Savior's work. It's because of what he did and to be in the enjoyment of what we have in him, his true riches. So it adds nothing to it that is, we can work for material things, but for the spiritual things they're a gift and we're just given the privilege of enjoying them in the path of. And you know, I just like to look at this little portion in the 8th chapter of Luke that we read as a little picture. First of all, I'd just like to read the 18th verse of this 8th chapter. It says, Take heed therefore how ye hear. For whosoever hath to him shall be given, and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have. And so this is a little word for a song, isn't it? Take heed how ye hear. Because it isn't just hearing my voice this afternoon that's going to do anything. It's my desire that you would hear the Lord's voice speaking to your heart. Now, my voice may be just like a sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal to you, but my desire is that you would hear the Lord's voice speaking to your heart. And if you hear His voice speaking to your heart, I'm sure you're going to get a blessing because He wants to bless you. He wants to encourage you in the pathway. And it says, Whosoever hath, to him shall be given. It's a wonderful thing to have the privilege of being brought up in a Christian home. It's a wonderful thing to sit under the sound of His word, as we have in these meetings, and as we have so much from Him. He delights to give more, as the little hymn says, For out of His infinite riches in Jesus, he giveth, and giveth, and giveth again. But then it says. Whosoever hath not from him shall be taken, even that which he seemeth to have. There may be some young people here who seem to have something. Perhaps your parents think you're saved. Perhaps your friends think you're saved. But you only seem to have it, and the task is going to come in your life sooner or later as to whether what you seem to have is real. In other words, whether you really have it or just seem to have it, that test is going to come. And you may lose even the things you seem to have today. Yet as we have seen, dear young people who have sat in the seats in the meetings, they seem to have a great deal. But today you'll wonder what they do have because they have lost the things they seem to have. And why? Well, just because of what follows here. Change has come, and they weren't prepared for those changes. Because they didn't have the Lord in the boat. They didn't have the Lord in the boat with them. And that's the only way that we can be prepared for the changes that come in life is to have the Lord in the boat with us. So notice this 22nd verse. Now it came to pass upon a certain day that He went into His ship with His disciples. Isn't that lovely? He went into a ship with His disciples. Your life and mine is like sailing over the sea of time. We're like little ships going over the sea of time. Time Oh, I ask you, dear young people, have you got the Lord Jesus in the boat with you? Do you really know Him as your Savior? Are you really conscious of His presence too, with you?

Well, He entered into a ship with His disciples, and He said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. This was what I had in regard to change. It seems that in these last few years that the Lord has been saying, as it were, that we have to go to the other side of the lake. That is, things have gone along very stable. Things went along in a fairly even keel, but I suppose we could say there has been more change in. 10 years than perhaps in any other time of the world's history, tremendous changes have taken place in all kinds of things, in people's ideas of what is right and wrong in the scientific world. Or you can hardly think of anything that we have known in the past to be somewhat stable that hasn't gone through a period of great change. And isn't it nice that the Lord can be with us in these changes? As we sail across the sea of time to the other side, as we sail toward the time when the Lord is about to intervene in the affairs of this world, isn't it lovely to hear him say, but let us go unto the other side? O dear young people, have you heard his voice speaking to you in this way? That in the midst of these changes, instead of listening to all the voices of man that will say, Oh well. They used to think that was wrong, but you

know, people's ideas have changed today. Here's the thing that you shouldn't go here or there, but you know, we're living in a changing time. I ask you, in the midst of these changes, are you conscious of having the Lord with you? Because He's the one that changes not. He's the same yesterday and today and forever. And He's able to steer us through all these changes that come and are going to come in this world in which we live. He said, let us go unto the other side of the lake, and they launched forth. We can't stop the movement of time. We can't stop these changes because they must come. But as I say, the Lord is with us in the midst of this changing world, and He is able to direct our little ship. He is able to lead us in paths that are pleasing unto Him. But it says as they sail. He fell asleep. Well, I just look at this in a sort of a figurative way now, that is, does it seem as though the Lord were asleep as to all that's going on to these changes, perhaps it does seem to us sometimes you say, well, I've seen young people do this and that and everything seems to work out for them. I think the Lord must be asleep for his things would be different. And perhaps that's the feeling that you have in your heart. You say, oh, the Lord must be. In the midst of these changes, all near young people, it may seem that he's asleep, but he knows all about the situation in which you and I find ourselves now. That is, he knows about the cause and he knows about the effect, because the cause was the wind and the effect was the storm. Yes, he knows about the cause of every situation. I remember hearing of a brother who left the meeting many years ago. And perhaps 30 years afterwards, he said to somebody, well, I'd still be in the meeting if it wasn't for that particular brother. And he mentioned a name, should I still be in the meeting if it wasn't for him? And his brother said to him, yes, he said, but God put that man there. All you say, does God really allow the storms? Is he the cause behind everything? Why? If you read in the Psalms, I think it's the 107 Psalm. It tells us in that Psalm, He turned their hearts to hate His people, to deal subtly with His servants. Does the Lord actually control people's attitudes toward us? Yes, He does. Yes, He does. Why did He allow that to take place? Well, He wanted to stir up the nest of the children of Israel. They were just a little too comfortable there in the land of Egypt. They would have just enjoyed looking at the finished product of those. Fine. Cities that they were engaged in building, if the slavery hadn't been so hard, but the slavery was such that they cried unto the Lord. The pleasure of building those treasure cities was absolutely lost in the slavery of trying to build them. And isn't that just like what the world is today? You worked so hard that when you get the thing you say, I wonder whether it was really worth.

All the effort, yes. The Lord turned the hearts of the Egyptians to hate his people and to deal subtly with them, to make their burdens heavier. And why? Well, because he didn't want them in Egypt. He wanted to bring them out of that land, and he allowed this so they wouldn't be comfortable there. And you know, if the Lord has some lesson to teach me, he might use a very strange means. He owes Job's friends to say some things that weren't very kind about him. Come about, God blessed the latter end of Job more than the beginning. And I want to say to you, dear young people. That if things have gone wrong, if there's a cause, and you can perhaps point your finger and say, well, that brother or that sister, you just don't know how they acted or what they did. Yes, but God did and God allowed it. It would never have happened if he hadn't have allowed it. And he's not a slave. He may seem to be asleep, but he's not. He has a blessing in store for you, just as he had for Job and when the children of Israel. Had finally entered the promised land. And they didn't look back and say, oh, we wish that we had been more comfortable in Egypt. We would have stayed there. No, when they finally entered the land, they said, there hath not failed one word of all his good promise. And so we see that this storm that had come up on the lake, the Lord was behind it all, and he allowed them to come to the point where they were filled with water and were in jeopardy. He could have stopped it when the storm had begun to progress. Sometimes when we're driving and a storm comes up and then it kind of lets down a bit, we think, isn't that wonderful? The Lord stopped it. But the Lord didn't allow this storm to stop. He just kept on getting worse until their bullet was just about full and they realized that they just couldn't get along without Jesus. They just couldn't get along without Him. And dear young person. That's what the Lord wants to teach you and me. We just can't get along across the sea of life without Jesus. We need to have Him. And in one sense, he's always with us because he says I'll never leave thee nor forsake thee. But we can easily lose the enjoyment of His presence, the sense of His presence. And so isn't it nice what they did here? And they came to him and awoke him, saying, Master, master. We perish. Yes, they were brought to extremity and they turned to Him as though he didn't know the situation and all. I ask you, in your extremity, have you really cried out? Master, Master, we perish. Have you really come to the point where you find out that He is the only one who can direct your life? Right? Well, what did the Lord Jesus do? When they cried out, then he arose. And rebuked the wind and the raging of the sea, and they ceased and there was a calm. Now, as we've been having in the meetings, the Lord doesn't promise to remove all the difficulties. But what happened here was that He stopped this storm and gave them peace, as another place says. And it says here there was a calm. Another scripture says there was a great calm. And now without the Lord removing the difficulties for us. For I apply this in a spiritual sense. He can give us a calm in our soul. And that's what we find in the 4th chapter of Philippians. There it tells us about all difficulties and all the things that we find so hard to overcome. And then it says, Let your requests be made known unto God, and the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. The Lord may not stop the storm, but He can. Give you peace in your heart, and it's a wonderful thing to go through life without peace in your heart. That realization of His presence and His company and that is each difficulty arises just to hear Him within whisper those lovely words. Peace be still, peace be still. Yes, dear young person, He can give you that. And I know when you come to meetings like this, there are a lot of conflicts that go on.

There are a lot of things that we face in a very special way of such meetings as this, as regards friendship and as regards things that mold our lives. I believe young people go away from meetings like this having made decisions in their hearts in a marvelous and a remarkable way. I believe that the result of these meetings very often can be a turning point in your life, either to go on for the Lord Jesus or perhaps to say. No use, I think I I'm going to give it up and perhaps our turn aside into the world and to worldly things. Well, may the Lord speak those words to your heart. May you hear Him say to you this very afternoon, peace be still. He controls the 'cause He controls the effect. Both the wind ceased, which was the cause, and the waves too, which was the effect, and He can control the whole situation. All this go on here and notice in the 25th verse and he said unto them, where is your faith? Well that is, could they not trust him? Could they not have confidence in him. Can I ask my own heart and I ask yours. Can we not have confidence in him that he is overall that he is able to work everything out and if there's something that is troubling you at this very moment. If there's some situation that seems. Overwhelming to you. He knows your path, he knows all about it, and he wants to whisper in your ear right now. Peace be still. Oh how lovely it is to have Jesus in the boat, to know that he's with us, that he's not going to forsake us. And I can I say it may seem that he's asleep to your situation, but he isn't. And if you think he is, just speak to him and he'll reply. Just speak to him and you'll find that he's ready as a little. Says he'll speak peace to your soul at this very moment. And now I'd like to turn to that verse we read in Malachi, Malachi chapter 3. And the fifth verse. And I will come near to you to judgment, and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false wearers. And against those that oppressed the hireling in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, and the turn aside the stranger from his right. And fear not me, saith the Lord. For I am the Lord, I change not. Here there was a condition of things, and that is described here in very solemn words. And as we read them we think of the very days in which we live, the description of all kinds of things going on. And as it tells us here, God wasn't interfering, but He said He would, said the time was going to come when He was going to set things right. But for the time being it seemed as though He

were not interfering. But was that because He had changed? No, it wasn't because he had changed. He said I am the Lord. I change not isn't that a comfort to your heart and mind? And then he says, therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed, and that is where poor failing things at best. Oh, how often we fail. And here I think in this chapter we have described A moral condition of things such as we find in the world, and what is the thing that is the stay of our souls is that the. The Lord doesn't change, and I just like to say to you, dear young people, to be very careful about accepting the ideas of the world today as to the change of moral standards. God hasn't changed. It tells us, you know, in His Word quite often. In fact, the word same is one of the titles, one of the names of God himself. He doesn't change, and his thoughts about sin are just the same now as they always. Were, and I beseech you dear young people, not to allow the current thoughts of the day to affect your mind in these things. We need to have God's standards because when He judges, He judges according to his own standards and not the standards of man. It says all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. It isn't according to human standards, but according to the word of God. And we can certainly see that the fear of God is disappearing, but he changes not. And then it says, therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Now you know, Jacob was a poor failing thing. Many of us are well acquainted with the life of Jacob, and all the strange things that he did to try and scheme his life for the very best advantage for himself.

But those schemes of Jacob didn't really get him anywhere in the end. Those schemes brought a lot of trouble on him, but the things that he was seeking after God had promised to him In any case. He had said that he would take care of him and bless him and bring him back to his own land in peace. But he schemed to get all the things that God had promised to give him apart from his scheming. But did he change in his feelings toward Jacob? Oh, this is what I want to impress on you, dear young people. The world may change. Its standards may change. The condition of things all about us may seem to change, but here's one who changes not. And we change because we are affected by the spirit of the age in which we live. But he doesn't. And he says therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. All how patient he is. Perhaps there's a young person here today and you say, well, I've made a mess of my life. I'm afraid I've ruined my life. For all he's not going to. Seeing you, he still loves you. Come back to him and you'll find his heart is still the same. You'll find that he hasn't in any way changed in his love towards you. He tells us in the 13th chapter of John having loved his own, which were in the world. He loved them unto the end. And when we have failed as believers, Satan likes to come and say to us, well, it's all up with you now. You're no use anymore. Oh dear young person, you are of some use. The Lord can restore you and bless you. You may still have to suffer like David did in the government of God. But also, some of the lovely utterances of David in the latter part of his life showed that the Lord hadn't changed, that he was still precious to his heart. And He can be to yours too. And He can encourage you even in the midst of failure. Now let's turn over to Hebrews chapter 1. Hebrews, chapter 1. The 10th verse. And our Lord in the beginning hath laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of thine hands. They shall perish, but thou remainest, and they also wax old as doth a garment. Well, here we find. The material things, the universe all about us, we even this is going to pass away. In the passage in Malachi, we see moral values had changed, but the Lord hadn't changed. Here we find that even the material universe is going to be taken away. They shall perish. And we see a little bit of the material things failing even today, the present oil shortage. The energy shortage. Men are beginning to realize that things just are not going to go on in this world without some change forever. They realize that material things are going to change. And if the Lord leaves us here, we don't know what material changes may be ahead even in this country when hardships we may have to face. But in the midst of all this, there is a one in whom we can turn to whom we can turn. And isn't this lovely? But it says here they shall perish, but thou remainest, they all shall wax the oldest of the garment, and as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed. But thou art the same, thou art the same. And so there may be someone here, and you have suffered some kind of a material disappointment. Maybe something that you held dear has been spoiled. Perhaps you've lost your health. All may these words ring in your ear today. Thou art the same. Now there's one who can be with you. There's One who can sustain you in the midst of all this. And he is the same. And his years won't fail. And we don't know what is ahead in 1974 if the Lord doesn't come. But his years don't fail. He loves his own to the end. And he's sufficient for you in. 1975 If He should leave us here, He's sufficient for you. If it's next year or the year after, and we can count upon Him, His years don't fail. How lovely it is to them that there is one who changes not. Now let us turn to this other passage in the 13th chapter of Hebrews and the sixth verse. So that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God, whose faith follow considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today and forever.

Business ground that we can boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. And then it speaks here of those who are the leaders of the guides. It says, whose faith follow. And may I just mention here what my father used to very often say to us. He used to say, remember. Boys, it doesn't say whose failures follow, it says whose faith follows. Perhaps some older person, perhaps myself. I've been a disappointment to you. Well, the Lord isn't a disappointment. And perhaps there's someone that you may have looked up to and he has disappointed you because it tells us in the Psalms I have seen an end of all perfection. The the 11TH chapter of Hebrews gives us the history of a large number of faithful ones, but they weren't without failure. God gives us in the assembly those who. Take our good, but they're not without failure. But they point you to Christ. And today I want to point you to the Lord Jesus. When they spoke against Paul in Corinthians and said his bodily presence was weak and his speech contemptible, what was his reply? He said we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord. How may you look beyond even those who should be the guides and. May you see the Lord Jesus, he's the same yesterday and today and forever. So we see there may be a moral breakdown, there may be the turning away from all those standards that God has established. But he says I am the Lord, I change not. There may be a breakdown of all kinds of material things, but it says thou art the same, and thy ears shall not fail. And those who have been guides may at time. And disappoint us, we may see failure in them as you see in me. But what a privilege to point to the Lord Jesus, Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and today and forever. Oh dear young people, I want to say to you that if you make him the guide and the object of your life, you will have in your ship one who is able to lead you across to the other side. One who is able to take you through all the storms, One who will never fail you all the way. And oh, it's my desire that you might realize this in your youth. And if you have never stopped to think of this before, may you realize that he has said, let us go to the other side. He has allowed this change that's taking place in this present period, but he also wants to guide you and direct you and bless you. And I just like to close, if you will, for a moment by looking at at Habakkuk the. Last three The last three verses I think it is of the prophet Habakkuk. I think it's the 5th last book in the Old Testament. The 5th last book in the Old Testament. And I just like to read here the last three verses. Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines. The labour of the olives shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat. The flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls. Yet I will rejoice in the Lord. I will joy in the God of my salvation. For the Lord God is my strength, and He will make. Feet like Hinds feet and he will make me to walk upon mine high places to the chief singer on my stringed instrument. Isn't this a beautiful ending to this prophet here he says no matter what goes wrong, he enumerates a lot of things and says supposing everything fails, supposing everything goes wrong. He said that doesn't touch my portion because he said yet. I will rejoice in the Lord. I will joy in the God of my salvation, and that's the one to whom I want to point you this afternoon, dear young people, that you might joy in the God of your salvation. And just a little comment again. We mentioned this the other day, but perhaps it will

bear repeating. The Lord God is my strength and he will make my feet like Hinds feet. As we were traveling out here, we saw one of those little Hinds, one of those young deer and.

As it came to a fence, oh, it was so nice to see that little deer take that spring and go up over the fence. It was so graceful. They didn't have to open a gate like they would with a cow, nor that little deer. It just took such a nice spring and went over. But you know, I've always enjoyed what it says here. It says and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. When that little deer took that spring, it came down on the other side. But the Lord says you don't have to come down on the other side because you might feel well, I've come to the meetings and somehow I think I have got up, but I'm afraid I might come down on the other side. It might be quite a bum. Well, isn't this lovely? The Lord says you don't have to come down on the other side. He says you can walk on your high places. And that is he says, I'll take you up and I'll provide a place where you can walk right above the whole situation. All the rest of the way. And so he can make the wind cease, he can make the waves cease. And he can say to your soul and mine this afternoon, peace be still. He can be with us and so and have a cup. Thought about this. He turned to his chief singer and he says make a song out of that. Put this to music. He said this is worth thinking about. And dear young people, this is worth singing about. The world's songs pass away. But if you and I. Find a sure and blessed resource in the Lord Jesus that we'll say to the chief singer on my stringed instrument, I've got something to sing about now because I've got the one who's the same yesterday and today and forever. And I know that He's in control and He's going to guide me through all the changes. Guide me safely home. May the Lord give us more of the joy and sense of His presence all the way.

Walla Walla Conference: 1969, What Is Man

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

I'd like you to turn with me tonight to the book of Job and the 7th chapter. That's immediately before the Psalms. Job Chapter 7 beginning at the 11TH verse. Therefore I will not reprain my mouth, I will speak in the anguish of my spirit, I will complain in the bitterness of my soul. Am IA sea or a whale that thou settest to watch over me when I say, my bed shall comfort me, my couch shall ease my complaint. Then thou scares me with dreams. And terrifies me through visions so that my soul chews a strangle. Death rather than my life. I love it. I would not live always. Let me alone, for my days are vanity. What is man that thou shouldest magnify him, and that thou shouldest set thine heart upon him, and that thou shouldest visit him every morning and try him every moment? How long wilt thou not depart from me, nor let me alone, till I swallow down my. I have sinned. What shall I do unto thee, O thou preserver of man? Why hast thou set me as a mark against thee, so that I am a burden to myself? And why dost thou not for pardon my transgression and take away mine iniquity? For now shall I sleep in the dust, and thou shalt seek me in the morning, but I shall not be. I'd like to turn over to Hebrews and the second chapter. Hebrews, chapter 2. Beginning at the sixth verse, but one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man? That thou art mindful of him, or the Son of man that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little lower than the angels. Thou crownest him with glory and honour, and did set him over the works of thy hands. Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him. He laughed nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him, but we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man, For it became Him for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory. To make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one. For which 'cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee. And just one more passage in Isaiah chapter 53, Isaiah chapter 53 and verse 5. But he was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon him. And with his stripes we are healed all. We, like sheep, have gone astray. We have turned everyone his, his own way. To his own way, and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. The 11TH verse. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied by his knowledge. Shall my righteous servant justify many, for he shall bear their iniquities well. Dear friends, in the 7th chapter of Job. And also in the 2nd chapter of Hebrews you find that expression. What is man? And I'm sure that you have wondered, why should God be concerned about us? You know, in these times when men are thinking of going to the moon and probably will be able to get there, when they talk about traveling through space and to the planets, it's true that man looks very small. He's a very, very small part of God's vast creation. But you know God has his eye upon man. As it tells us in this chapter, He is the preserver. As another translation puts it, He is the observer of man. He is looking down upon this world, and He is observing you. You are not a stranger to Him. He knows all about you. There's not a secret in your life that is not fully known to Him. The Bible says all things are naked and open unto the eyes of Him.

With whom we have to do. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus when he was here and when he stood under the tree. I don't suppose he ever thought that he got up in the tree that the Lord would ever notice him. But the Lord stopped under the tree, called him by name, and said, Zacchaeus, make haste and come down. When the Lord Jesus talked to that woman in the 4th of John, she thought he was just a Jew, a stranger to her. But what a surprise to find that that person knew all about her, could open the page of her life and tell everything that had ever happened, everything that she had done. She said, come see a man that told me all things ever I did. And what I want to say before we begin this meeting is that although you may feel very small and insignificant and you may feel that you're not noticed in this room, the eye of the. Creator of this vast universe is upon you, and he's looking down upon you tonight. And there isn't a sin in your life that he doesn't know about. There isn't a sorrow in your life that He doesn't know all about it. And He's fully acquainted with everything that you've said and done and thought. And my dear friend, does this make you afraid? When Job was talking about it, we can see that this was a source of great trouble. To him that God should be observing him, he said. Why should it be? Oh my friend, God is observing you because he wants to bless you. He wants to bless you. The most marvelous truth in the whole Bible is that God should look down upon this world of sin, send his Son here to die and save people from this earth to be companions. Of His beloved Son in glory for all eternity. And he's looking upon you tonight. He knows your name and I trust that you'll realize that He has a message for your soul. What a wonderful thing it would be if you should have to do with Him tonight. It says, acquaint now thyself with him and be at peace. Well, let us notice a little of the details here in this 7th chapter of Job. It says in this 11TH verse where we began. Therefore I will not refrain my mouth. I will speak in the anguish of my spirit. I will complain in the bitterness of my soul, that Job had been a very wealthy man. He was a man that had more than most people, and God had taken away all his wealth. He'd had a nice family of 10 children. God had taken away his children. He had had good health and God had taken away his health. And it may be that you have come into difficulties like this and you say, well, I don't know why so many mishaps have come in my life. I can't understand why. God should take any notice. In fact, perhaps you say I don't believe that he's concerned about whether I have wealth

or haven't, or whether I have good health or whether I have not. I don't believe that he takes any notice. And your soul is filled with bitterness as to why you have had so much trouble. Well, in this message, especially for you, this was exactly the position in which Job was found in this chapter. And God has written this book. It's often a marvel to me as I read it. 42 Chapters about the sickness of one man and what he said, what his friends said, how he was finally brought to repentance and how in the end God blessed him. Wouldn't it be very interesting to you if God should write 42 Chapters in His Word about your life and about some sickness and trouble that you had? You might say, well, I didn't know that he'd be so interested. In things like that, dear friend, the Bible has an exceedingly personal message. Perhaps you've often heard the speaker say you know the Lord Jesus as your personal Savior, your personal Savior. Many people know about Christ prophetically, and they know about him historically, but they've never had any personal dealing with him.

They never have received him and just to know about him. Historically will never, never save your soul. Perhaps you say, well, I believe in Christ. Do you believe in him historically or do you believe in him personally? You know, when I went to school, I learned that Christopher Columbus came over and discovered this country in 1492. I never doubted that. I believe it's a fact, but it doesn't mean a thing to me. That's just history. But I found out in my Bible that God's beloved Son came down here and died for me, and that means everything to me. I believe it, but I believe it personally. It is the thing that has brought to me the knowledge that the One who created me, who gives me life and breath and all things, should love me enough that His own Son left heaven above. So that I might be up there as his companion for all eternity. Isn't that wonderful? Well, now here God has recorded the feelings that Job had in his trouble, and perhaps you have said much the same thing. First of all, he didn't think he would say very much. But now he said, I'm not going to refrain, I'm going to speak out. And he speaks out and he complaints against God. Why should God have allowed all this? Have you ever done that? Has some trouble come in your life and you started by blaming God? God, it's nothing new, my friend. It's the very thing that Adam did away back in the garden. He blamed God for giving him Eve to be his companion. He said the woman who now gave us to be with me, she gave me of the tree and I did eat. He blamed God for the companion that he had given to him. And perhaps you've often done the same thing. You've complained in the bitterness of your soul. And the 12TH verse he says am IA sea or a whale that thou settest to watch over me. Well, a whale is a very large fish, as we know that swims in the sea. And he said, has God got his eye upon me because I'm like a whale, that I'm someone big. All he has is eye upon you, not because you're a big object that has attracted his notice, but he has his eye upon you because he loves you. God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. And then in the 13th verse he said, My bed shall comfort me, my couch shall ease my complaint. So when the day came to an end. And all his troubles and sorrows bothered him through the day. Well, he said. Perhaps I'll go to bed and I'll forget all about it. And maybe you've done that. You've gone to bed and you've said, oh, I'd just like to forget all about my troubles, and I'd like to forget all about God having anything to do with those troubles. Well, Job tried this too, and he thought I'll lay down and I'll go to sleep and just forget all about it. But he said then now scares me with dreams and terrifies me through visions. Oh yes, sometimes God does speak through dreams. Perhaps there are boys and girls here and you've had dreams, perhaps dreams that the Lord Jesus had come, perhaps dreams about this or that that have been used of God to speak to you. For it says in the 33rd chapter of Job, God speaketh once, yeah twice at man. Perceiveth it not in a dream when deep sleep falleth upon man, then he. Years of man. And so God speaks in that way. And Job thought, well, that dream is just a chance. I'm just scared by it. Oh no, my friend, God speaks in different ways. And if you don't listen to his voice in one thing, he may speak a little louder. In that 33rd chapter of Job, it speaks of how God first speaks through dreams. Then it goes on to say that he speaks through sickness. And then it goes on to tell us why he does it. It says in that 33rd chapter of Job that he might withdraw a man from his purpose and hide pride from man, that he might deliver him from going down to the pit because he has found a ransom. And if God has spoken to you in a dream, that's a very gentle way. Perhaps the next time he speaks, it'll be a little louder.

When your mother wants to get your attention and you don't. When she speaks softly, she may speak a little louder the next time. And the next time, perhaps you'll have to catch you by the arm. But God doesn't want to have to speak loudly to you. He wants to speak gently to you. He wants to speak to you in love. And perhaps as you sit on your seat tonight, you're enjoying good health. Well, he doesn't want to have to allow you to have a car accident where you're smashed up. He doesn't want you to come into some terrible calamity before you listen to His voice. He wants to speak to you tonight. Boys and girls, he wants to speak to you, to them tonight, friends, that you should turn to him while you have your health and strength and receive this great salvation that he has. But he does have an interest in you. He cares about you. And so he says, so that my soul choose a strangling and death rather than life. Here was a man so discouraged, he said, I'd like to die. And there's a great many people, and they're not only old people, there's a great many young people that are thoroughly frustrated. They say, what is life all about? It's hardly worth living. And I wish I could die, all dear friends. It would be no kindness for you to die in your sins. If you're still alive tonight, thank God for it, because as long as you're alive, there's hope for you. While you're still here in this room, drawing your breath, you can be saved. But once you have passed beyond the portals of death, it's forever too late. There's no hope. Then it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this, the judgment. The number of suicides are constantly increasing. Because people think that by putting an end to life, that's the end of everything. But oh, if you die in your sins, it's far worse after you'll leave this world than while you're here. That man in the 16th chapter of Luke, when he had died and he found himself in the next World, was it easy? Was it pleasant? Could he look back and say, well, he moved all my troubles now? People say when you when you die, you're dead a long time. You ask, your body may lie in the grave a long time because if you die in your sins it won't be raised for at least 1000 years. But that's only your body my friend. Your soul will not be there. It says in the 16th chapter of Luke the rich man died and was buried. His body perhaps was under 6 feet of ground and perhaps his friends were saying he's going to be a long time dead. But his spirit wasn't there. His soul wasn't there. And he was in a place of conscious torment and he was wishing that he had the opportunity that you're having tonight. And more than this, he asked that a message would be sent to his living relatives that they might not come to that place of torment. Wouldn't it be a terrible thing to think that tonight if you have a relative that died unsaved, that perhaps right now in hell? He's asking that you would hear the gospel. And that you would be saved. Isn't that a tremendous thought, that right at this moment, while we're having a gospel meeting, there may be somebody in hell that's asking that you won't come to that place of torment? Oh, friends, these are realities. God has told us in his word about these things. He doesn't hide the facts from us. Sometimes people don't like to face realities. Why are people taking dope? And why are they going? All the funny things they're doing today, they don't want to face reality. They don't want to face up to the fact of what life really is, and so they're trying to find some way of escaping the realities of life. The question is the only one who is able to face up with the realities of life, and why? Because he knows the one in whose hand his life and his breath is, and he knows that person is his father. Oh, isn't that Graham? The person who holds my life, who gives me help or takes. From me who gives me money or takes it, from me who gives me my family or takes them from me? That one is the one whom I can look up and say he's my father. He gave his son to die for me. He has an interest in me. And so the Christian can face reality. He doesn't mean to do something to escape reality, because God has told us these things in his Word and he has brought us.

Relationship with himself. Well, poor Job, he chose death rather than life. But it's a good thing he didn't die then, because he lived to thank God for all these troubles. If you go to the end of the book, you'll see that in the end he said that he repented and abhorred himself and dust and ashes, and that God blessed the latter end of Job more than the beginning. And someday you may thank God for some of the troubles that you have. You may not realize them now, but someday, perhaps you'll thank God. I remember talking to a man who had a broken back down in Kentucky many years ago. Perhaps some here might have known him. His name was McDaniel, and this poor boy was in a wheelchair for 20 years while I visited him just after his back was broken. And this is what he said to me. He said God had to break my back. To save my soul. There he was in that wheelchair with a broken back. He was a cripple the rest of his life, but he had no complaints against God for that broken back. He thanked God for that. Another man wrote a little poem, A shattered reckoner. Am I enjoying now a chair to sit and sing the whole day long to him who placed me there? Contend A shattered wreck to be because my God. It pleaseth they. Why could he talk that way? He was saved by the accident that put him in that wheelchair. Ah, dear friend, but God has his way in troubles, and don't turn against him. The greatest victory of Satan is to get people to turn against God when trouble comes. The Bible says the people turn not to him. That smiteth him. You know I'm a father. And I'm sorry to say that I've had to punish my children and I never wanted them to turn. Away from me, when I punished them, I always wanted them to turn to me. I always wanted them to know that I did it for their good. I always wanted them to know that I did it in love. I remember one time I punished one of them and she turned to me and she said, Daddy, do you still love me? It nearly broke my heart because I wanted her to know that it was not in love. And when she questioned the fact that I had done it. In some other way and that I didn't love her because I had. Punished her. It just made me feel terrible. And I took her and hugged her and assured her that I did love her. And dear friend, that's what God wants to do to you. He wants to take you up in His very arms tonight. And He doesn't want you to ever entertain the thought that if troubles have come into your life, it's because He's against you. He's for you. And if you won't listen to the still small voice, He may speak louder, but it'll be to do you good at your latter. And notice what he goes on complaining. He said I loathe it. I would not live all the way. Let me alone for my days are vanity and truly as far as our days here are concerned, they are a vanity if we don't have Christ. God allowed one man to have everything he wanted. That was King Solomon. You know, he actually said I withheld not my heart from any joy. There wasn't a single. Thing that he wanted that he had to say, well, I can't have that. I don't have enough money. I don't have enough influence to get it. Whatever he wanted, he could have. Perhaps there are young people here and you think, well, that would be wonderful if I could just have everything. If there wasn't a thing that anybody said no, and that I could just have it and enjoy it, why I think I really would be happy. Well, God let this man have all that he wanted of everything he wanted. And when he had it all, you know what he said? He said all his vanity and vexation of spirit, it didn't satisfy him. And then in the New Testament, he allowed a man to be saved, and he took away from him all the things that he might have wanted as a natural man. And he found himself in a Roman prison under the most cruel emperor that ever sat upon a throne mural. Deprived of all the material. Things that constitute happiness and man's natural life. And there in that prison he had happiness. He held up his hand in front of King Agrippa, who was a great king. And he said, I think myself happy, King Abraham. And when King Agrippa said to him, almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian, he said, I would to God, that not only thou, but all would hear me this day.

Were both almost and altogether such. As I am, except these bonds, the man that had everything said all his vanity and vexation of spirit, the man that was deprived of everything could be so happy that he could stand in front of a king and say, I wish you had what I have, dear friend, material things will not bring you happiness. It's true that life is vanity. It's a it's just a a bubble that bursts and. As you get older, you realize it more and more. Life just goes by like a Weaver shuttle, as as another said, it passes away. And if you don't have Christ, it's just full of frustrations. It's full of mysteries. It's full of disappointments. And here is a man and God has allowed it to be written in his word so that you would realize that the experiences that young people are going through and older people are going through today are nothing new. They're the. Answers of man on the Earth all through history. This world cannot satisfy. God has made your heart and mind so that this world is not enough to fill it. He has made our hearts so that He alone can fill the heart. The one who made your heart can fill it, but no one else can. And all the material things of life cannot. For my days are vanity. And now he says, what is man? That thou shouldest magnify him, and that thou should have set thy heart upon him. Now you know we're living in times when many people say that God is dead. Some people will say, well, we believe there must have been a supreme being who created everything, but as to him having any interest in individuals or men or what they're doing on this earth, but we believe that he doesn't have any particular interest in men. Now this is really the thought that he's brought up, brought out here. He says, well, he recognized God as Creator, but he said, what is man that thou shouldest magnify him? Thou should have set thy heart upon him. In other words, to put it very simply, he said, Well, what is man of God? The Creator should care about him. What should he care about him? All he cares about you because he wants you to be his companion in glory. If there's somebody in this room tonight that you love, you care about them. You care whether they're happy, you'll care whether they're sick, you'll care about everything that's concerning them if you love them. And dear friend, God cares about you, He cares about you and. Think that man, although he's such a small part of God's vast universe, he is not an object of interest to the heart of God. Because, as we shall see shortly, God has proven His interest in man in that he himself became a man in the person of Christ. I heard about a missionary and he was talking to some of the heathen about God coming down as a man in this world, and they couldn't quite understand it. It was a little fly crawling across the table, he said. How could I show any interest in that fly? He brought his finger down, and then, of course, in a moment, the fly flew away. Why, I suppose that to the fly it looked like a giant. And this man's hand coming down immediately he was afraid. And he said if I could become a family, I could go up to that fly and it wouldn't be scared because I've come to it just as it is. Oh, isn't it a marvelous thing, dear friend, to think that the creator of this universe? To show his pleasure. Man, he became a man, and the Son of God was born to this world, a baby in Bethlehem's Manger, and at his birth the announcement was made. We bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. So when it says here what is man, God has shown his interest in man. In that he himself became a man in the person of Christ and died that we might be saved. Let us just go on for a moment and see a little more of how he complaints, he said in 1000. Shoulders visit him every morning and try him every moment.

Perhaps you say, well I have experienced a lot of days like that. It just seems that Sundays everything goes wrong as though God were trying me every moment. Not one thing in the whole day seemed to go right. It just seemed as if God allowed everything and people say well that was my bad day or something. Oh friends, God's hand is in everything that happens. And even we as Christians, he wants us to realize that we can't pass one day happily independent of him. Independent of him. God has not given us a life that's independent of him. He has given us a life that is constantly dependent upon Him. And so, as it was said to Nebuchadnezzar, which I already quoted. The God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy. My way cast thou not glorified you and I have a dependent life. There's a verse in Job that says if God thought only of himself and gathered unto himself his breath and his spirit, all flesh should perish together and man should return again to the dust. Yes, God has given man a dependent life and you have a life and that is sustained of God. And you need to know that one. You need to know His love. Love to find happiness. There's no happiness apart from him. And so it goes on, and it says, How long wilt thou not depart from me,

nor let me alone, till I swallow down my spittle? What a terrible thing do you want God to depart from you? I'd like to quote you a verse in Hosea. And it says, Woe unto them in that day when I depart from them. Would you like God to depart from you? Would you like him to leave you alone? Would you like him to stop troubling you and bothering you, scaring you with dreams and letting you hear a gospel preacher like you're hearing tonight that makes you feel uncomfortable? Would you like him to leave you alone? Oh dear friend, it's a terrible thing when you have such a desire that you would like him to depart from you. There's a day coming, and it speaks of it in. Gospel of Matthew, when God will have to say to some, depart from me, ye cursed into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. And if you say depart from me, and you don't turn in repentance and receive Christ as your Savior, I want to warn you solemnly that someday you'll have your desire and God will have to say to you, depart from me. And you'll find what it means to be shut out from the presence of God forever. What a terrible choice. But such is the heart of man away from God. But all he's seeking you from. The very first words that God spoke after sin entered were Adam, Where art thou, where art thou, and tonight. He's asking you that question. Where are you? Are you hiding from God? Are you running away from God? God all, he's seeking you, He's wanting to bless you. Now notice in the 20th verse, I have sinned, what shall I do unto thee, O thou preserver or observer of man, why hast thou set me as a mark against thee, so that I am a burden to myself? And why dost thou not pardon my transgression and take away mine iniquity? He said, I know I have sinned, but why doesn't God overlook my sin? Why is he concerned? About my sin, all friends. This brings in the wonderful truth of the gospel. God is a God of light as well as a God of love. God cannot Passover sin. God cannot treat sin lightly or indifferently. When His own Son was bearing sin upon the cross, God turned away his face. And it tells us that in those hours of darkness, while the Lord Jesus was suffering for sin. Now that he cried out, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Oh, friend, God cannot pardon your sin except through the work of His Son. And if you just think, well, God should just forget about the fact that I'm a Sinner. I know I'm a Sinner, but why should that concern me? Why should God be concerned over that? Oh friend, He is concerned about it, and he's so concerned about it that He loved you enough to send His Son to make the payment for your sins. It tells us in Hebrews 2.

Every transgression and disobedience must receive a just recompense of reward. And I want to tell you, as our brother said last night, God will not Passover one sin, not one. Every sin must be punished. But we who are believers can say that our sins were punished upon the head of our blessed spotless substitute on Calvary's cross. And that's why I read that in the 53rd of Isaiah it says, the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isn't it grand? I've often said, if I had to confess all my sins to have them forgiven. Why I couldn't remember them all? I couldn't remember all the wrong things I've done, and more than this, I'm sure there are things that in God's sight are sin that I might not realize are sin. I would be in a very helpless position if I had to recall all my sins, have them all forgiven. But what happened at the cross? Oh, God himself, who knew the whole record, He is the one that put my sins on Jesus and the Lord Jesus for the full punishment for those sins and said it is finished. And the reason that I'm going to be with Christ in glory is not because I've remembered all my sins because I couldn't, but because God himself. Put my sins upon the head of the Lord. Jesus and punished him in my place. And so He has forgiven my sins. He hasn't just passed over them. He took them. He laid them upon Christ. And tonight I can tell you that for me, judgment is past. I have told this little incident before, but it's with joy that I look back at the time I went to see a dear Christian man who was dying in the hospital in Ottawa. And the very last time I went to visit him, he was so weak that he could hardly speak above a whisper. And he looked up with a smile on his face in his weakness. And he said, Gordon, isn't it lovely to know the judgments behind you and not ahead of you? Ah friend, that's what I want to bring before you tonight. When the Lord Jesus died, he died for our sins, and those who have trusted him as Savior can say judgments behind. Don't just take this vague idea that God in some vague, uncertain way is going to just forget about your sins. Sin must be punished. But if you take Christ as your Savior, you can look back to Calvary's cross and say it was all settled there. It was all settled there, all glorious. In fact, oh, how many people would just like to say, well, why does God bother about me? Why is he concerned that I'm a Sinner? All friends have cost him more than I can tell you to be concerned about the fact that I was a Sinner. The Lord Jesus sweat great drops of blood over my sins in the Garden of Gethsemane. It concerned him that I was a Sinner, but he loved me enough to go on to Calvary's cross and die. And I'd like to turn over to those verses we read in the second chapter. Of Hebrews that bring this out so nicely. Hebrews chapter 2 and verse. 6 But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man? That thou art mindful of him? Are the Son of man that thou visitest him? Now you remember how Job said, What is man? In other words, why should God be concerned about man? They're such small creatures in his vast universe, why should he be bothered about them? Or does it concern him that they're in trouble? While here we read about a verse that says what is man and then it talks about another man. Who is the man that is talking about here? Well, I'd like to quote another verse about this man and it's in Acts chapter 13. It says, Be at moon unto you men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sin. And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from the which he could not be justified by the law of Moses. Here was a man down here in this world. Who was that man? He was both God and man. He was God the Son in manhood form down here in this world. What was he here for? Well, it tells us. Notice this the the seventh verse. Thou madest him a little lower than the angels, but thou crownest him with glory and honor.

And then the 7th, the ninth verse. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, that he, by the grace of God, should taste death for every man. Oh, isn't this marvelous? This person became a man. What for? To show God's interest in man. But more than this. To die as a man on Calvary's cross. And that blessed man, God's beloved Son, who was once nailed to the cross of Calvary, has exhausted the judgment of God against sin. He has borne it. He's tasted death for every man, for everything. This whole creation has been ruined. Not only has man been ruined by sin, but you haven't got to walk very far till you see everywhere the results of sin. Maybe before you get home, you'll see a dog in suffering. Maybe before you get home you'll see some blight, some trees. This whole world has been spoiled by sin. But God became a man not only to save your soul, but He is going to bring in a new creation scene of glory where there will be nothing of sin or its results. Oh, he must be very interested in men. He must be very interested in man, that he not only go to the cross and die for you personally, but that he should make a new heavens and a new earth and place redeemed man upon it to enjoy that which is the result of His finished work for all eternity. Oh friend, what a wonderful savior we have to speak of tonight. Do you know him? Are you acquainted with Him? This proclamation of pardon goes out to you, be it known unto you men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins. Wouldn't you like to be forgiven tonight? Wouldn't you like to know that that whole unhappy record of sin has been forever removed? And more than this, it says by him all that believe are justified from all things. You know, friends, justification goes farther than forgiveness. I've often used this illustration. Supposing I went into broke into a store and I stole $100, I'm a thief. Well, perhaps the man, out of the kindness of his heart, might forgive me. He might forgive me. Well, I tell you, every time I met him on the street, I'd feel very uncomfortable. I'd think, oh, he's forgiven me. But I know what he thinks about me. He looks on me as a forgiven thief, a rogue. Even Lois forgiven me. Dear friend, God doesn't look on me only as a forgiven thief. Supposing that man, when he forgave me, he said to me like this, He said, now I've got more to say than this. I not only have forgiven you. But I want you to know that every time I meet you, I'm going to look upon you with all the love, with all the affection of my own son. I'll never look on you just

as a forgiven thief. It's true you are forgiven. But I want you to know I look at you with all the affection and love of my own son. Dear friend, that's what justification is. And every believer stands before God in a life that never sinned at all. And so it tells us in Ephesians chapter 1. He hath made us accepted in the Beloved, 1 And tonight I'm not only forgiven, but I'm justified, and God looks upon me as being in all the acceptance of His own blessed Son. Isn't that good news? Is God interested in men? You say what is God concerned about men for? Friendly is concerned about you to bless you He's concerned about. To forgive you. He's concerned about you, to have you before Him in such a way that you can enjoy His presence and all His gracious provision for all eternity. Can you turn your back upon a Savior like this? The little hymn says. Can you reject such wondrous love? Can you? It's powerless. On come give your all and gratitude. Nor leave him thus alone. He died alone for you on Calvary. He bore the wrath and judgment of God alone because you and I could never exhaust it. But He doesn't want to spend eternity alone. He wants you to be His companion. And so it goes on to say that we see Him crowned with glory and honor. Where is Jesus tonight? He's not in the grave. He's a risen Savior. He was delivered for our offenses, and He was raised again for our justification. And what's He doing now?

Notice the next verse. 10th verse For it became him for whom are all things, and by whom are all things. In bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through suffering, perhaps you have taken the Lord as your Savior. But there's a long journey ahead. If the Lord doesn't come, you might say, I don't know what I'll do. In the next year, if the Lord leaves me here, well, I want to tell you more, friend, the one that saved you. Is the captain of your salvation. He died for you, but he lives for you. He lives for you. He's up in heaven tonight as our great high priest. And seeing he was once a man down here, it says he's able to succor those that are tempted. He knows all that you have to pass through. And tomorrow when you try to confess Christ to your friends and they laugh at you, he'll say, I know what it feels like. They laughed at me too, but I'll help you. I'll give you the grace, friend. He's the captain of our salvation. And how far is he going to bring us? Oh, he's an all the way home Savior. There may be people that say, well, after you're saved, you have to do the rest yourself. God has done his part. You have to do yours. But that's not the kind of a savior that God has provided. He's an all the way home Savior. When he saves you, He places you on his shoulders and He'll never let you go. Was the sheep that was picked up holding onto the shepherd? No friends, The shepherd was holding on to the sheep. And how far is the captain of our salvation going to take us? He's bringing many sons. Unto glory. That's how far He's going to take you, my friend. He'll take you all the way home. And I know this, that if I couldn't be sure of this, I wouldn't dare to stand before you tonight, because I haven't got any strength of my own even since I've been saved. But I know that blessed Savior has picked me up, and He has told me in His Word I give unto them eternal. And they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. What a blessed Savior to know what is man? What is man? Oh, you say man so insignificant, He's so small. But I want to tell you about another man. The first man certainly is very small. He crucified his very Creator when he came down here. The Bible says they crucified the Lord of glory. But what about this second man? What about this glorious man, this God man, this wonderful Savior? Friends, tonight by faith we see Him crowned with glory and honor. By faith, we look up and we see Him there. And if you need strength for the pathway, He'll help you all the way through. Let me sing again. He is and all the way home. Savior, perhaps you see some difficulties. Remember when Naaman was cleansed, he immediately. Some difficulties, he said. My master is going to expect me to go into the House of the idol. I don't know how I'm going to fare in this difficult situation, the Prophet said Go in peace, go in peace. How can he say that? Well, because when the Lord saves you, He doesn't just leave you to have to face the difficulties alone. Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world. And I know that you'll have some difficulties ahead. I have some difficulties ahead. Every Christian does. The path of following Christ is not an easy one. But we have a strength. We have a Savior. We have one who's carrying us on His shoulders of strength, the captain of our salvation. He knows every. Situation and he will carry it through all friend. Will you trust him tonight? Will you just open your heart and receive him? With loving arms he's holding them out, and he's saying, Come unto me, all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Won't you trust him tonight? Won't you yield to Him? He's done all that's necessary for your salvation. He hasn't left a thing for you to do but to just say I'm a bankrupt Sinner. But Lord Jesus, I'll take thee as my Savior tonight and he'll do it all. What a Savior. May you receive him. Trust him tonight. But all if you reject him, there's no other way. But the judgment is ahead of you, friend, judgment is ahead. And all solemn awful reality that Jesus said that if you die in your sins, you can't be there, you can't be there. Oh, don't reject him, don't spurn his love and don't say tomorrow, because tomorrow's sun may never rise to bless thy long deluded soul. Don't put it off. The Lord may come death.

Overtake you Receive him tonight. Now it's the accepted time. Now is the day of salvation. So we sing that little hymn #1 on our hem sheet. Almost persuaded now to believe. Almost persuaded Christ to receive. Seems now some soul to say, Go, spirit, go thy way. Some more convenient day on thee I'll call. I hope there'll be no one here almost persuaded. You remember what Paul said to Agrippa? He Agrippa said almost Thou persuadest me. And Paul said, I would to God, that thou Wert almost and altogether such as I am. And tonight I want you to be altogether persuaded that this Savior is your Savior, that he died for you. So as we sing this hymn, think of these solemn realities and just receive him into your heart. Number one.

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