# Job - Commentaries by Gordon Henry Hayhoe

Montreal Conference: 1965, Can Man be Just with God

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Would you turn with me tonight to job the 9th chapter? Job Chapter 9 Then Job answered and said, I know it is so out of truth, but how should man be just with God if he contend with him? He cannot answer him one of 1000 He is wise in heart. Remind me in strength pardon himself again. Comfort. And they know not, but you will return us them, and linger which taketh earth out of, and the pillars thereof. What's command sun rises not and feel about the stars. Which alone spread about the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea. Which maketh arduous Orion and Platies, and the chambers of the South. Which doeth great things past finding out. Yeah, and wonders without number. Lo, he goeth by me, and I see him not. He passeth on also, and I perceive him not. Behold, he taketh away. Who can hinder him? Who can, Who will say unto him, What doest thou? If God will not withdraw his anger, the proud helpers do stoop under him. How much less shall I answer Him, and choose out my words to reason with Him whom I were righteous? Yet would I not answer, but I would make supplication to my Judge. If I had called and He had answered me, yet would I not believe that He had hearkened unto my voice? But he breaketh me with the campus, and multiplieth my wounds without 'cause he will not suffer me to take my breath, but filleth me with bitterness. If I speak of strength, he is strong. And if of judgment, who will set me a time to plead? If I justify myself, mine own heart shall condemn me. If I say I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse. Though I were perfect, yet would I not know my soul, I would despise my life. There is one thing, therefore I said it. He destroyeth the perfect and the wicked. If the scourge slays suddenly, he will laugh at the trial of the innocent. The earth is given over into the hand of the wicked. He covereth the face of the judges thereof. If not, where and who is he? Now my days are swifter than a post. They flee away, they see no good. They were passed away as the ship. They are passed away as the swift ships, as the eagle that hasteth to the prey. If I say, I will forget my complaint, I will leave off my heaviness and comfort myself. I am afraid of all my sorrows. I know that thou wilt not hold me innocent. If I be wicked, why then labor I in vain? If I wash myself with snow water and make my hands never so clean. Yet yet shalt thou plunge me in the ditch, and mine own clothes shall abhor me. For he is not a man as I am, that I should answer him, and we should come together in judgment. Neither is there any days, man betwixt us that might lay his hand upon us both. Let him take his rod away from me. And let not his fear terrify me, then will I? Would I speak and not fear him? But it is not so with me. And just one passage in First Timothy chapter 2. First Timothy chapter 2 and verse 5. For there is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time. Well, the book of Job is full of deep interest to us, and I think it is especially interesting because it shows us God's interest in the individual. We're living in days when people are grouped together. We're living in days when individuality is perhaps being lost. But I want to tell you, dear friends, that you are an individual before God. That He has given you life and breath and all things. And that you have to deal with him. And above all things, the most glad and joyous message that God loves you. That He's looking down upon you sitting in this seat in this room tonight. And he knows all your history. He knows everything you have said and done thought. He knows every sickness in your life. He knows what your friends have said about you. He knows everything.

And yet, knowing all that, He loves you, and He not only wants to pardon your sins, but He wants to have you as a companion there in that bright glory. He wants to bless you far beyond your highest thoughts or expectations. And at great cost to himself, He has devised means that this might be so. And so I would beg of you tonight not to be indifferent and callous as I seek to present to you that precious savior, but that you would realize that it's a message for you. When the Lord Jesus was on trial before Pontius Pilate, his wife sent a message to him and said, Have thou nothing to do with that? Just man, For I have suffered many things in a dream this day because of him. And perhaps that's the thought that's in your mind because you have been troubled at times about your spiritual state before God. You are perhaps taking that same attitude. And you say, I don't want to have anything to do with these things. Every time I think about them, they bother me. But dear friend, I want to warn you that it is impossible to escape having to do with God. The advice that Pilate's wife gave to him. Was very foolish. And yet there are many people that think the very same. They don't want to have anything to do with Jesus. They want to live their lives as they wish and they don't want to feel their responsibility to answer to God and to God's beloved Son. But I want to tell you tonight that this is an absolute impossibility to escape your responsibility to God. It's not something that is optional. Optional. It is something that is obligatory. It is a responsibility that rests upon you. You are going to look into the eyes of the Lord Jesus, who is the Judge. For it tells us in Acts chapter 17 that God is appointed today in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained. For as He hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead, it also says. Passage God now commandeth all men everywhere to repent. I say again, this is not something that is optional. You may say, well, if you're interested in religious things, that's all right, No one's going to bother you. But I'm not interested in those things. But friend, you must be interested. You're going to meet God someday. The day has been set. The judge has been chosen, and. God commands you to repent. Why does He command you to repent? Is it because He wants to judge you? Because He wants to bless you? It's because He wants to save you. That's why He commands you to repent. Because it's still the day of His grace. It's still the time when He is offering salvation. Phone free to whosoever will, and He's offering it to you tonight. He wants you to enjoy peace with God. God, He wants you to know that your sins are forgiven and that you're ready when the supreme moment comes, when you leave this world, not to come to the end of your existence, but to begin an existence in another place where your eternal destiny will be fixed. And it's our desire that that destiny should be to be with Christ in glory and not with the lost in hell. God only tells us of two places. He tells us in His word, these shall go away into everlasting punishments, but the righteous into life eternal. There are only two places, and you are bound for one of those two places tonight. If you are bound for judgment, if you are still going on without Christ, it is not too late to turn, it's not too late to be saved. God has held the door of grace open till another Lord till another Saturday evening. That you might have this opportunity, and wouldn't it be a grand thing if this night, this Saturday night, was the birthday of your soul, when you receive the Lord Jesus into your heart as your own personal Savior.

Well, I say again, God has an interest in you as an individual. Just think of this book, 42 Chapters long, and it's all about one man and about a thickness that he had in his life, what Satan said about him, what God said about him, what his friends said about him and what they said to

him, and how Job felt when he lost his money. When he lost his family, when he lost his health and when his friends. Talked against him. All this is faithfully recorded and perhaps you've had some similar instances in your life. Perhaps you've had some great sorrow. Perhaps you've seen the things that you live for crashed before your very eyes and everything seemed to come to nothing. And you said, what's the use? And you didn't know that behind that scene that there was a loving God who was looking down upon your life and that that crash. What the robbed you of something that was near and dear to you? That that terrible sickness, that Doctor Who told you that you had a serious condition, that this was no accident that came in your life any more than it was in the life of Job. And God brushes aside the curtain and lets us see that he is working behind the scenes and that he was interested in this man and that he was so interested. That he took 42 Chapters. Out of His word in the whole book to tell us His dealings with this individual. Oh, dear friend, I say, He loves you tonight. He is concerned about you. And that big sorrow, that great disappointment, that trouble it has come is with a purpose, as it tells us in the 32nd, 33rd chapter of this same book. Lo, all these things worketh God. Oftentimes with man to withdraw. Man from his purpose to hide pride from man. And it goes on to say that he might be delivered from going down to the pit because God has found a ransom. And so I say tonight, I trust that this will speak to your heart because you may be in the very same position that we find job here tonight. And perhaps these thoughts that Job has expressed. In this chapter, our thoughts that are very common to many of us, perhaps these very things have risen in your mind and you have raised the same questions that Job raised and you felt they have been unanswered. But I say God has an answer. Job had one supreme wish. He said all that there were a day's man if there was only someone. That could put his hand upon God and put his hand upon me. He said all my questions would be answered in him. Oh, I want to tell you that that's the one who I have the privilege of announcing tonight, that blessed Savior, the one we've been talking about in our Bible readings today, God's eternal Son who came down that he might be a day's man, a mediator between God and man. The Man Christ Jesus. Well, our chapter begins by telling us about Job's answer his friends had said some things that. Hurt job somewhat. They had said that God deal dealt with sin and that was true. And you'll notice what Job says in this second verse. He says, I know it is so of a truth. He said, I know God deals with sin, but how should man be just with God? How can a man who his conscience tells and the word of God tells is a Sinner? How can he be just with God? If God knows everything and sees everything. If God. Of pure eyes, and behold evil. And cannot look upon iniquity. And the Bible says he is. If this is so, how can you and I, who are sinners be just with God? Well, this is surely a very important question. How should man be just with God? How can I, a poor guilty Sinner, stand up here before you? And tell you that I'm just with God all the only answer is. That God Himself has provided the ransom, God himself has provided the Savior, and blessed be his name. That lovely verse in one John one and seven says The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleansed of us from all sin. Acts 13 verse 38 says.

Be it known unto you, therefore, men and brethren, that through this man. Is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins and by him all the beliefs are justified from all things from the which he could not be justified by the law of Moses. Yes, God gives the answer to the question that Job asked. How could a man be just with God? The blood cleanses from sin and believing on the Lord Jesus. All who believe are justified. Not from some things, because if God left anything, we couldn't settle it. Because we cannot put away our own sins. It is impossible for any of us to put away sin in the presence of a thrice holy God. Because the Word of God says none can by any means redeem his brother or give to God a ransom for Him. It says not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saves. Your best friend can't do it for you. You can't by your own works put away sin. So the answer must come from God. But you know, we're slow to accept God's answer. Isn't it strange that we'll try everything else before we'll humble ourselves to accept the provision that God has made? And this chapter shows us the reasoning of the mind of Job here. And I suppose it's common, as I said to most of us, that we. That we try to. Shall I say we try to work? Things out by our own wisdom. So notice here it says if he will contend with him, he cannot answer him. One of the thousand. He says there are many things that I just can't understand. But isn't that true? Aren't there are many things that about God and about God's ways that are quite beyond us? And if God were pleased to ask us an array of questions, that he could ask us 1000 questions and we couldn't answer one of them. God knows so much more than we do. The way people speak today, they would have a God who wasn't wondered beyond their own minds. Who was nothing beyond their own ability to understand and explain. But you know, God could raise 1000 questions that you or I could not answer. He is beyond our minds. He is infinite, He is eternal. It isn't the eternity of matter, it's the eternal God. It's the one who created all things by the word of his power. And it says in the beginning. God created the heavens and the earth. Yes, it's the one who made all things and truly the one whom we bring before you tonight is one who is far greater than you or I. And yet I say he has an interest in us. To think that he could ask 1000 questions and we couldn't answer one of them. That he made these stars Arcturus, Orion and Pleiades and the chambers of the South. Who puts the sun in its? Put the sun in its place. Who did all these great things? And then to think that he should be interested in us, Little Hymn says. And couldst thou be delighted with creatures such as we, who, when we saw thee sleuthy, and nailed thee to a tree, unfathomable wonder and mystery divine. The voice that speaks in Thunder says, Sinner, I am thine. Yes, he is interested in you. It says He is wise in heart and mighty in strength, who hath hardened himself against him, and hath prospered all. There are many people who harden themselves against God. On its side, we meet it every day. Because people can't understand God's ways, because He does something that they can't understand, they harden themselves against God. Oh, I beseech you, dear friend, young or old, educated or uneducated, whoever you may be, I beseech you tonight, don't harden yourself against God.

He is your Creator. He has given you life and breath and all things. Or you say I can do as I like. Yes, solemn fact, if you want to go to a lost eternity, God may allow you to go to that awful place, but He doesn't want you to. He wants to save you, He wants to bless you. And I beseech you, don't harden yourself against him. If there's been some great sorrow in your life as there was in Job, and I think Job's sorrow probably was greater than any that any of us in this room have experienced. Flying one day. He lost all his wealth and his ten children all in one day. All his possessions. And the whole ten of his children in one day. Yes, he did, and he didn't harden himself against God. He said the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. Oh, how wonderful. Yes, that was faith that glorified God. A dear friend, even if you can't understand or I can't understand. Oh, I beseech you, if God has brought some great sorrow into your life. Don't harden yourself against God. You won't prosper. I don't mean that you may not have a good bank account and that you may not have a nice home and a nice car, but I'm Speaking of the things that really count. You may prosper in this world. The rich man in the 16th of Luke who lifted up his eyes in hell. He'd been a prosperous man in this world, and it was said to him in hell. Thou in my lifetime receiveth thy good things. And likewise Lazarus. Evil things. But now he is comforted. And thou art tormented. And beside all this, between US and you there is a great gulf. Yes, if you harden your heart against God, you may prosper in this world. You may have the best job in Montreal. You may live without much sickness. You may get along. But remember. After death, the judgment. After death, the judgment who hath hardened himself against him and hath prospered. And I plead with you tonight, do not look at things just as they appear in time, because the things that are seen are temporal, but the things that are not seen are eternal. Which removeth the mountains and they know not which overturneth them in his anger. And then the 10th verse, which doeth great wonders past finding out, yeah, and wonders without number. Oh, what a mighty God with whom we have to do. One who has such great power, who not only made all things, but sustains all things. As it was said to Belshazzar the

night of his great ball, when he invited so many guests and was having a merry time, It was said to him, The God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways. Hast thou not glorify? Yes, he was having a good time as this world turned things, but that night the decree went forth. That that night his soul would be required of him. And it was told him, God hath numbered thy Kingdom, and finished it. And it says in that night was Belshazzar the king slain. Yes, he had his good time while he was slain that night. Hardened his heart against God, the very God who gave him life and breath. And so I say tonight, God is the one who is giving you that breath that you are drawing. Tonight. Perhaps you say, I wish I'd die. Some people think that to commit suicide or to die is the end of all their troubles. But it's not So. Was it the end of that man's troubles in the 16th of Luke when he died? No. It was the beginning of far worse troubles than he ever knew here upon earth. And I want to warn you, my friend, that if you die in your sins, your friends may say nice things over your casket, but after death comes the judgment.

And all the nice words that may be said will not change the fact. If you die without Christ as your Savior. So the first thing that's brought before us here is God's great power, His great power, and you have to do with him, that one who made all things and who's given you your life. Now we come to something else. From the 11TH verse on it says, Lo, He goes by me, and I see Him not. He passeth on also, but I perceive Him not. Behold, he taketh away. Who can hinder him? Who will say unto him, What doest thou? Yes, he said God not only created the universe, but he said he passes by and we don't see him. When one of those communists went up into space some time ago, he made the comment I didn't see God in space but he forgot this verse it says. LO, he goeth by me, and I see him not. He passeth on also, and I perceive him not, but man was flying around in space in his capsule and saying that he didn't see God. God was looking at him and he passed him by as he flew through space. Yes, he saw him there and he passed him by. And God is passing you by tonight. He sees you. And the cry went forth long ago, when God the Son was here. Upon this earth Jesus of Nazareth passeth by. He didn't pass by unseen at that time. He came down that he might be seen by mortal eyes. He came to look down upon us in our trouble and sorrow. He came to die for you and I, That one who is invisible, became a man in the person of his son, and went through this world. And died and as we were reading today. It tells us in John One, no man has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared him that one has come down. And then it says, He taketh away. Who can hinder him? Who will say unto him, What doest thou? That is, God has a right to do as he pleases, and it's not for us to say, why are you doing this? We haven't the right to question his ways. We may learn by them, but not to question them. It says if God will not withdraw his anger, the proud helpers do stoop under him. And sometimes men, when God begins to deal with them, they become rebellious. But it says that if God doesn't withdraw his anger, the proud helpers or the margin says the helpers of pride stoop under him. Men have many helpers of their pride. Perhaps you have something that helps your pride. Perhaps you have good looks, Perhaps you have a good mind. Perhaps you have many possessions. These things help your pride. They make you think that you're somebody in this world, somebody very important. Well, God can take away those things. He can take away your good looks, He can take away that keen mind that you have. He can take away our wealth. He can take away anything that we have. And if God doesn't withdraw his wrath, he brings down those helpers of pride and all. How many a man has been brought down, down, down. Till he's come to the feet of the Savior and been willing to acknowledge. And he was a Sinner. Oh, God doesn't want to have to use these means upon man. He wants to bring us to see us ourselves, to humble ourselves before him as dear Job did in the end of the book and say, I repent. And abhor myself in dust and ashes. He took his true place before God. So he goes on here and says in the 14th verse, how much less shall I answer him and choose up my words to reason with him? That is, in the first part he recognized God's great power in creation, and then next he recognized that God could do as he pleased and that there was no use telling God that we didn't want to take this or take that.

We hear people say, well, I'm not going to take that. But when God begins to deal, friends, there's no saying that to God. You can't say that to God. Because if God doesn't withdraw His wrath, the helpers of pride stoop under him, and you and I can't reason with him. We can't come to Him and question His ways. We can come as sinners. And indeed, He does invite us to reason if we want to reason about those things. That he has brought before. As necessary for our souls. He gives us this lovely invitation in Isaiah 1 and 18. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord. Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Though they be red like Crimson, they shall be as wool. If your reasoning with God, and questioning His ways, why he may not answer you, he may not give an account. It says in another place. Shall strive against him free give us not account of any of his matters but if you want to raise the question of your sin and how you can have your sins put away. He asked you to come he asked you to come he says come. I want to talk this over with you. I want you to have your sins put away. I want you to be white as snow. Oh what a savior he is he wants to be your savior tonight. He wants to bless you my friend young or. He wants to bless you and He wants to make you white as snow in his presence. Well, now we find a third thing brought before us in the 20th verse. If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me. If I say I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse. Yes, when man becomes awakened, then the first tendency is to justify himself. How often we find that when we begin to talk to people, they either say that they're not concerned or they begin to justify themselves. They begin to tell us what good living people they are. And it tells us here, if I justify myself, my own mouth shall condemn me. And you know very well, if you try to contend that you are and that you're perfect and that you haven't any sins, your own mouth, your own heart condemns you. You have a conscience. You know God has taken care. In the fall, that man receives. To conscience and every responsible being before God knows that he is a Sinner, He knows that on 2 Counts. He knows it because God says it in his word, and he knows it because his conscience tells him. People that haven't seen the Bible know that they're sinners because they have a conscience. Go to a tribe if you like, in the dark places of the earth, who never saw a Bible and they have a conscience that certain things are wrong. Man does know that he is a Sinner and he has a religion away of trying to justify himself before God. But it says here if I justify myself. My own mouth shall condemn me if I say I am perfect. It shall also prove me perverse. There is no use trying to make out that you are not a Sinner. You are a Sinner. I am a Sinner. God says all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. That is you, that is me. How does each person in this room tonight? There's no escape from this verdict. When Job did speak of his own righteousness, why the Lord said to him, Wilt thou condemn me, that thou mayest be righteous? And if you say that's your righteous and that you don't need salvation? You're you're condemning God's verdict. You're as good as looking in the very face of God and saying why your verdict about me is untrue. God says you're a Sinner. He says I'm a Sinner.

He says there is none that doeth Good know not one. Well, it's a good thing to see the progress that is taking place, even although there's reasoning going on. He recognizes that he needs to be just before God. He recognizes that God has power in creation. He recognizes that God has a right to do as he pleases. And then his conscience begins to be awakened, and he says, if I justify myself, my own mouth shall condemn me. Oh, I hope that you will feel condemned in the presence of God tonight. Oh, you say you'd like to see me miserable, do you? The Bible says there's joy in the presence of the angels of God. Over 1 Sinner that repenteth. Notice it doesn't say there's joy. Over 1 Sinner that gets saved. Why does it say there's joy over 1 Sinner that repenteth? Here's a Sinner on earth, miserable. He can't sleep. His sins are bothering him and God's rejoicing. Why? All because until there has been a sense of guilt before God, man doesn't turn to Christ. He goes on his own

careless way. And I thank God tonight. If your sins are troubling you, I hope they are. I hope that there's a boy or girl here tonight. From man or a woman that's not saved. That your sins will trouble you. Because if they don't trouble you in time, they'll trouble you in eternity when it's too late to have them forgiven. If they trouble you now, there's salvation for you. But if they trouble you in a lost eternity, there's no blood, there's no salvation, there's no pardon in that place of eternal judgment. Well, then he begins to argue again in the 22nd verse. There is one thing, therefore I said it. He destroyeth the perfect and the wicked. If the scourge slay suddenly he will laugh at the trial of the innocent. The earth is given into the hand of the wicked. What? We often hear people reason like this. When their sins begin to bother them, then they say, well, there's no justice in the earth. People do wrong and they prosper and they do right and they suffer. Well, he said, I don't understand. If God is righteous and God is holy, then why are these things existent in the earth? Why is it that ungodliness seems to prosper? Why is it why? He said The only way I can see is that God laughs at the triodyn. Oh, dear friend, I want to tell you one thing that perhaps you've never thought of before. This world in which we live is not an adequate platform to display God's governmental way. We can't tell by what we see about us, God's governmental ways. God does overrule, but he does not openly interfere now in the things of this world. Oh, perhaps, you say. I wish you would. Well, I'm glad he doesn't, because if God did begin to interfere and it did begin to judge sin. Why? Where would any of us be? The psalmist said, Enter not into judgment with thy servant, for in thy sight shall no flesh living be justified. He said in another place, if thou Lord should mark iniquity, O Lord, who should stand? But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared. I say, I am glad God doesn't openly interfere. I'm glad He doesn't openly judge sin. Because he would have sent me to hell because I was a Sinner. I'm glad that this world is not the place where he adequately displays his government. He does work behind the scenes, his very dealings with Jobs shall that, but he doesn't openly make manifest these things. And I want to say to any unsaved 1 here tonight, don't judge God's ways in connection with sin by what you see in his ways with man. This earth, there is a day when righteousness will reign, but it's not now. There is a day when it says a king shall reign in righteousness and Princess shall decree justice. But you and I ought to be thankful that that day hasn't come. Every time you repeat the Lord's Prayer and say thy Kingdom come, if you're not saved, you better say in your heart, thank God it hasn't come yet. Because when the Kingdom comes.

It says He will gather out of his Kingdom all things that offend and will cast them into a furnace of fire. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. And if you say the Lord's Prayer and you're not saved, it's a good thing God doesn't answer it because it would mean judgment and a lake of fire for every person outside of Christ. Oh, I beseech you, friend, be real about these things. Job couldn't understand. He raised the question. Perhaps you've raised it. I suppose most of us have raised the same question and asked why this was. Well, it's nice that God didn't leave Job there. The 25th verse, he says now my days are swifter than a post. They flee away. They see no good. They are passed away as the swift chips. Well, he realized that time was passing. And I want to warn you, my friends, perhaps you say, well, I'd like to think this thing out, but I want to tell you that time is passing. You don't know when you may have had your last opportunity of salvation, how many a person has been cut off in the prime of health, how many a person has been ushered from time into eternity without a moment's warning. And you or I may be the next. Our days are as it tells us here. My days are swifter than a post. They flee away another place that says they're swifter than a Weaver shuttle. Did you ever watch the Weaver shuttle? Why, you can hardly see it move. It flies around so quickly. Dear friend, time is passing by. Life at best is very brief and while you're beginning to argue and reason with God about His ways. Moments are passing by, time is hastening along. Is it hasting you on to heaven or to hell? Is the tick of the clock hastening you on to eternal glory with the Lord Jesus, or to a lost eternity without Him? There's no time to be wasted. A man that's sinking at sea doesn't argue about the why the man was a little slow in throwing the life belt or why the life belt was this or that. No, he's glad if it's within his reach. He puts out his hand. And I beseech of you tonight, there's no time to be wasted. Design moments are precious. Thy time for departing from earth draw us now. All come now this moment, and He will receive you and spend your eternity with Him on high. Well, when he says in the 27th verse, if I say I will forget my complaint, I will leave off my heaviness and comfort myself. Well, sometimes the devil whispers this in people's ears too, when they begin to get troubled, he said. Oh, forget about it. You're just going to make yourself sick thinking about these things. Forget about it. And that's just exactly the point that job comes to. He says here, if I say I will forget my complaint, I will leave off my heaviness and comfort myself. I am afraid of all my sorrows. I know that thou wilt not hold me innocent. Don't forget it, friend. Don't forget it. Don't walk out of this meeting and say. Oh, I don't want to hear those things. They bother me. They make me uneasy. I can't sleep after a gospel meeting. I'm going to try to forget it all. That's a solemn thing. Young man, and one time he was troubled about his soul. He could hardly sleep. So I got out of his bed and asked God to leave him alone. God did leave him alone. He left him alone. And as far as I know, he died in his sin. Dear friend, you want God to leave you alone? Are you going to go to somebody who tells you you mustn't take these things too seriously? Just forget about them. This is too important. The way out is not to forget about them. It's to receive Christ. That's the way. That's the way to receive him. Now he comes to another step. This is his last struggle, if we might speak in that way, he says. In the seventy 30th verse.

If I wash myself with no water and make my hands never so clean, yet shalt thou plunge me in the ditch in mine own clothes, shall it ***** all he said, as it were. If I try to straighten around, if I try to do what's right, I just seem to get worse instead of better. I just seem to get worse, he said. If I make myself never so clean, God just seems to plunge. The ditch he just seems to. It just seems I'm worse. And I guess many in this room were saved tonight can say yes, I had that experience. I had it. I tried to clean up. And the harder I tried, the worse it seemed to become. Well, that was the last struggle. God blames you to that point, my friend. I hope he's brought you to that point. I hope he's brought you to the point where you've tried to clean yourself up and you've found that the harder you tried, the more unhappy, the more uncomfortable you became. But isn't it lovely to see that when he comes to this point, it's just like a drowning man? You know, when a man is drowning, they don't go and rescue him while he is. Struggling full strength. They have to wait until he's exhausted or knock him out. They have to bring him to the point where his struggles are over and he's willing to have somebody save him. Willing to have somebody save him. And sometimes people have to be almost unconscious before they come to that point. Well, isn't it lovely here that when this when? This Saul is brought to that point. He says in. 33rd verse Neither is there any days man betwixt us that he might lay his hand upon his US both all, he said. I've struggled, I've struggled, I've tried to think this thing through. Oh, he said is if there was a dazed man. I don't know a days man he said if there was one, but there isn't 1. Dear friend, there is one. There is one. There is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus who gave himself a ransom for all. I want to tell you tonight there is a days now there is someone who is just waiting to put his hand of love upon you. He's already settled with God about the question of sin. At Calvary's cross, that blessed precious Savior. Came down and died for sin, it says in First Corinthians 15. Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures. He was buried and he rose again the third day according to the scriptures. And I want to tell you tonight, there's a living Savior at God's right hand tonight. Don't despair, don't give up. There is a dazed man. There's a man in the glory tonight. The Savior who died on Calvary's cross. Whose blood cleanses from all sin. He's up there tonight, and he has settled a question of sin before God, and he wants to put his hand upon you. He's the day's man. And he wants to speak peace to your soul. He wants to speak pardon to you all. Look tonight to that blessed Savior, don't despair. Don't give up. Don't say it's no use. That blessed Savior is waiting with outstretched arms up there in the glory. He's saying, Come unto me, all ye that labor

under heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Is there a boy or a girl? Is there a young person here tonight? Is there an older one? And you'd like to have peace with God? It's not religion you need. It's not arguments you need. It's Christ you need. It's Christ you need. Jehovah's brought to the point where he said about the days man. The woman at the well in the 4th chapter of John, where it was brought to the point where every prop was knocked out, and she said, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ. Lord Jesus said, I that speak unto thee. And he, the Lord Jesus made himself known to her, when she came right to the end of herself. And if you've come to the end of yourself? The Lord Jesus is right there with outstretched hands, full of love, full of grace. He settled the question of sin. I say he wants to pardon you tonight. What are you going to do? Job said. How should man be just with God?

It says in Acts 13, which we already quoted and by him all that believe are justified from all things from the which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses. You can be just with God, you can have peace with God, you can know that you're saved. Don't let anyone deceive you into thinking that you can't know in this life. You can know it says in one John 5. Verse 13 these things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God, that she may know that she has eternal life. Or will you receive that precious Savior tonight? If he's troubled you, if he's brought you to the point where you realize you can't cleanse yourself, you can't make yourself fit for his presence, He can do it in one moment. He'll do it in one moment. Or won't you just close in with his offer of mercy? I say again, dear friends, it's not religion we're preaching to you. It's Christ. It's a living Savior. He's at God's right hand tonight. He's the Savior of many in this room. Many would be glad to stand up and say thank God. He is my own personal Savior and He wants to be yours tonight. He's holding the door of grace open. Receive Him this moment and peace shall be thine.

Kentucky Conference: 1984, The Lord's Presence

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

I'd like to turn first of all to a verse in Job Job chapter 22. Job chapter 22. And verse 21 Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace thereby good shall come unto thee. Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart. Well, what I was thinking of, especially for those who are young here this afternoon, is some passages that bring before us about the Lord's presence. And how important and blessed this is in connection with everything. In our pathway here we've been singing in our little hymn, our God the center is his presence fills that land and countless myriads owned as his round him adoring stand. And I'm sure every one of us who know the Lord is our Savior are just looking forward to that day when we'll be in His presence where there is fullness of joy. We know that that's the answer to all our souls need and that's what we look forward to. Because of what? The Lord? Jesus has done for us. But I believe, dear young people, that it is possible for us to enjoy in our measure the Lord's presence even here. And I don't know of anything sweeter upon earth. We know that when sin entered the world, we read about Cain, and Cain went out from the presence of the Lord. That's the natural heart of man. He doesn't like to be in the presence of God. He fears that because he knows that he is unfit. But as soon as we are saved, there's a change takes place. As someone has said, the Sinner hides from God and the believer hides in God. Your life is hid with Christ in God. But you know, there's always a tendency for us to want our own ways, and in that measure we get away from the enjoyment of His presence. But surely we can say in the words of the psalmist. In thy presence is fullness of joy. At thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore. And if we truly believe that heaven is going to be a place of supreme happiness, it will not be because we're away from His presence, but it will be because we're in His presence. They are to enjoy all that His love has provided for us. In the last chapter of Revelation, it says, And his servants shall serve him, and they shall see His face and his name. Shall be in their foreheads. So what a glorious future is ahead of us. Well, as I said, I'd like to look at a few scriptures and show the result of getting into the presence of the Lord in connection with different things in life. And first of all, I'd like to speak of it in regard to salvation. You turn to Acts chapter 22, Acts chapter 22 and verse 6 and it came to pass that as I made my journey and was come. Damascus About noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light about me, round about me. And I fell unto the ground, and heard a voice saying unto me, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And I answered, Who art thou, Lord? And he said unto me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest. And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid, but they heard not the voice. Of him that spake to me. And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise and go into Damascus, and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do. Well, here we have someone who got into the presence of God for the first time. We know a little bit about this man Saul of Tarsus, and how he was brought up at the feet of Gamaliel. A very religious man, knew all about the ordinances and rules in connection with God's earthly people, but he had never had any acquaintance with the Lord of glory, with Jesus of Nazareth. In fact, so much did he hate that blessed name that he received a thought. From the chief priests, and he was on his way down to Damascus to persecute those who called upon the name of the Lord. When Stephen was stoned, he kept the raiment of those that slew him, and he actually thought that he was doing right, because the Bible tells us later on he made the comment, he said, I verily thought with myself that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. He was something like what we heard about last. Last night about Naomi and the Syrian, he had thoughts, all his own thoughts, but he didn't desire the presence of the Lord Jesus. But here on his way down to Damascus, he is introduced to that Blessed One, shall I say. He makes his acquaintance with him because the great effort of the enemy is to keep souls from a true acquaintance with God. In fact, that's what repentance really is, because men and women have wrong thoughts about God.

God and it isn't until we get into his presence that we get right thoughts, and we find that alone we are sinners, He loves us, and that He has provided A Savior. And that's what Saul of Tarsus found on that day when that light above the brightness of the sun shone down upon him. He said, Who art thou, Lord? He was beginning thou to make acquaintance with that one. And his answer was, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou. Accurate us. He didn't understand, I suppose at first just what that meant, because perhaps he thought he wasn't really persecuting Jesus of Nazareth, only those who called upon his name. But you know this, Perhaps we could say this is one of the first intimations in the Bible that Christ and His church are one, because the Scripture tells us that we are members of His body, and when soil of Tarsus was persecuting those who were members of the body of Christ. He really was persecuting Christ, but here he finds him, and the result was total change in his life, completely round about. This man who hated the name of Jesus and all those who loved that blessed name, Immediately there's a change takes place. He has been brought into his presence. He becomes acquainted with him. He learns to know him from that day on as his Lord and as his Savior. And I hope for any young people. People here that don't yet know him. Perhaps you have been brought up, you've read the Bible, you've been to the meetings. You may be very devoted as far as coming to the meetings is concerned. But I ask you, have you had a personal acquaintance with the Lord Jesus? It's always a personal matter to get saved, to get into his presence, to find that

we're sinners and to find what he has done for us. But oh, what a blessed moment that is. And I say again, if there's a young. Person here this afternoon who has never yet made that acquaintance. You don't yet know him as your Savior. There's no better time than today. What wonderful, what a wonderful thing it would be if this very afternoon was the time when you made your acquaintance with him as your Savior. And you could say I know him as the one who went to Calvary and bore my sins in his own body on the tree. Well, this was the first time for this. This man, Saul of Tarsus, to become acquainted with him, to get into his presence, and later on you can see the result of it. He called himself the chief of sinners. It's always that way. And a Sinner gets into the presence of God. Maybe previously he thinks he's not too bad, he compares himself with others, but in the presence of God he has different thoughts about himself. He compares himself with infinite holiness, and he finds how sure he. He has come, and so Saul of Tarsus afterwards. Calls himself the chief of sinners. He says this is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. And you notice what he says to the Lord when he found out who he was, when he found himself in his presence, he said, What shall I do, Lord? What shall I do, Lord? Previous to this he had done as he liked, and I suppose there's nothing more natural to us. Someone has said, if we're honest with ourselves, what we like most of all is to do our own thing, to do our own will. But you know, when we get saved, there's a new will that comes into our lives. And as I've often said, there is someone who has a right to tell me what to do from the beginning of the day to the end. And I'm glad to recognize him as such because I know he loves me and he'll never ask me to do anything that is not for my own good. Because. He loves me so much that he's not going to be satisfied with anything less than having my company company and making me supremely happy forever. He loved me enough to go to Calvary. Are you afraid, dear young person, to acknowledge his claims? Are you afraid to say this afternoon if you really know him? Lord, what shall I do? Oh, I hope that if you have never acknowledged Him a Savior, you'll do so today. And if you haven't given him his rightful place in your life? That today you will do what Saul of Tarsus did and say, what shall I do? Lord? Did the Lord say, well, Saul, you're going to have a life of fun. It's a good thing and it's a happy thing to be a Christian, and you'll really have a good time. All in all, his life wasn't like that. He was told that he would go into Damascus and find out what he should do. And in another place it tells us that he was told how many things he must suffer.

My name's sake and I can't promise you that if you accept the Lord Jesus that it's going to be a smooth path, but I can tell you 1000 times that it's a happy path. As a dear servant of the Lord, Mr. Darby said that the path of the Christian is worthwhile if it were 1000 times harder than it is. Because when He saves us, He always promises to be with us. And I'd rather go over a rough Rd. in good company than over the best Rd. in the whole of America and without the company that I love. Yes, it's blessed to be in good company, and you can be. It's true that we may not always. Be conscious of His presence, and that's a thing to be desired. But he has promised, dear young person, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So this first acquaintance that we have brought before us here in this passage is the acquaintance with the Lord is our Savior. And owning him as Lord, that is, owning Him as the one who has authority over our lives to tell us what to do. And I trust that this will be so that you. One. Well, now I'd like to turn to Matthew, the 28th chapter. Matthew chapter 28 and verse 16. Then the 11 disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them, and when they saw him, they worshipped him. But some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. And lo, I am with you always unto the even unto the end of the world. Amen. Well, we've been talking about the Lord's presence. Saul of Tarsus got into the Lord's presence. There he was brought to know him as his Savior. There he was brought to acknowledge him as his Lord. But here we find the Lord Jesus had gone into death. He had risen again. Oh, what a marvelous death that was. That was the work of redemption. That was the center of two eternities. The whole of a past eternity looked forward to that. House of Calvary and the whole of a coming eternity is going to look back to it, because the Lamb was foreordained before the foundation of the world, and the song of the redeemed is worthy is the Lamb. That's the center, I say, of two eternities. The Lord Jesus had accomplished that mighty work and had risen again from the dead. He had gone there to die in our place, but now He immediately wanted to have. The company of those for whom he had died. And it's always so when there's somebody that we love, we want to be in their company. That's what we desire above everything else. If we love somebody. I've often said that the test of true love is that you don't tire of a person's company. You get tired, then there's something that just isn't right. But you know when there's real love flowing between 1:00 and another, why you just love to be in their? Their company. It's so in marriage, it's so in the home, and above all, it's true with the Lord Jesus. You can't have a happier path than to walk in His company. Well, as I say, I hope each one knows him a savior. But now. The Lord didn't tell him. Well, you can just meet just as you like, and in the place and in the way that you like, that isn't this nice here? After he rose from the dead, the Lord's appointed a place where he would meet with them. You know, they could listen carefully to those directions and so that they would know just exactly where he wanted them to go. And after you're saved, there is a common expression that is often used to go to the Church of your choice. But here you could certainly say that these disciples didn't go to the mountain that they chose. It was a mountain that Jesus appointed them. And I want to say that if you know the Lord Jesus as your Savior, have you searched his word? Have you?

That He would show you how you could meet, for here they came and they worshiped Him. I believe it's a very, very important and precious thing for us that we should seek His direction in this. And I believe that it's an immense privilege that we have here in this world to seek together. Not according to our own thoughts, not according to our own plans, not according to the way we choose the people we'd like to be with. They had nothing to do with even choosing the people. That they would like to be with. It was the mountain where Jesus appointed them. And if you had asked anyone of that that day, why are you going to that particular place, I believe every one of them would have said we're going to meet the Lord. Perhaps you say, I don't understand how it is that you folks say going to meeting. It's a very common expression, going to church. But what is this about going to meeting? Well, I'm sure that's exactly the answer you would have got from those who were going to this place that the Lord had appointed. They were going to meeting. They were going to meet the Lord. A friend of mine back in Ottawa, he's now with the Lord. He was on his way to gather with a few who were gathered to the precious name of the Lord Jesus. And as he was passing by the corner, there was a lady waiting for the bus. It was a neighbor. And so he asked her if she'd like a ride and she said thank you very much and I'm going to church this morning. And she said, and Mr. Devlin, where do you go to church? Well, he hesitated a minute and he said, well, the place where I go, the church goes. To the meeting, well, that's the way we're part of the Church of God and we just go to meet the Lord. And you know, this was the purpose that these had when they came. It was a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And I am not going to outline the truth of gathering this afternoon, but I'm sure of this one thing that the Lord has promised. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God. God, or whether I speak of myself, if the Lord really wants to meet you, and he does, and you want to meet him, you can be quite sure that He will direct you. And He says also in all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths. Well, they came to that place and it says when they saw him, I don't know what kind of. A gathering place it was. It doesn't even describe it here because the building is not important, it's just a convenient meeting place. But it says when they saw Him, and I think this morning in the measure in which we saw the Lord, the same result was produced in us. When they saw Him, they worshipped Him. The

measure in which we see the Lord calls forth worship from our hearts. How can we help but worship and thank Him when we think of Him? I'm sure that as they saw that blessed Savior for in this occasion it was. By sight, they would see those nail prints in his hands, they would see that mark in his blessed side and their hearts would be just overwhelmed. And it says and they worshipped him. But it wasn't a perfect group, as you know. If you were looking for a perfect group, why you would be disappointed because. I'm not perfect and you're not perfect and so I never have looked for a perfect group, but I have a perfect savior and I have his word and here we find there is some doubted I often. And say some people tell their feelings and others don't. We know Thomas doubted because he said he did. He said he wouldn't believe unless he saw the marks in the Lord's hands and feet. But here the scripture says some doubted. So Thomas wasn't the only one. Perhaps you have inner feelings. Not perhaps doubts about your salvation, but doubts about all kinds of things. Why did this happen this week? Why did this take place and all those kind of things? Because then they come in, right when we sit in the Lord's presence. We wish they didn't, but they do, They do. It doesn't change the fact that the Lord is there. But poor humans as we are, those kind of things come in to spoil. And what did Jesus say? Isn't this lovely? What he said? He just, it says, Jesus came and spake unto them. And he said, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Brethren, young people, isn't this the answer to every doubt? Why do we doubt? Well, because we doubt His power. We say, why, if He has power, does He not remove or change this situation? But He does have all power. Angels and authorities and powers are subject to Him. And so if there is a doubt in your mind, there's something that's troubling you, let me tell you this. All power is given unto the Lord. He could change it in a moment if it were His will. And this gives us peace.

Acquaint now thyself with him and be at peace. Don't just have him as an acquaintance that you know as your Savior, but one who you know as the gathering center, one who cares about you. And so it says in heaven and in earth. Well, this was a, shall I say, a preliminary to their service, because I believe in the Scripture we find that principle that worship precedes service. Their service, their public service, really has. Hadn't begun after the Lord Jesus was taken up. Then he did say before he left them going into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He gave them a large parish. He told them that the message was to go out. But first of all, he had them around himself. There they were as worshippers, learning his power, learning that he was the one who had accomplished redemption. And just quietly sitting and enjoying his presence. And now after this, they can go forth and serve Him and serve him in an acceptable way. Perhaps he could turn over to Exodus here and we'll find the Lord's presence in connection with service. It also is preceded by. Says here in the seventh verse of Exodus chapter 33, verse 7. And Moses took the Tabernacle, and pitched it without the camp afar off from the camp, and called it the Tabernacle of the congregation. And it came to pass that everyone which sought the Lord went out into the Tabernacle of the congregation, which was without the camp. There was a place where they too could meet the Lord. But now in the 12TH verse. And Moses said unto the Lord, See thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people, and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast found grace in my sight. Now therefore I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, show me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight. And consider that this nation is thy people. And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence. Isn't this supremely beautiful? Here we find Moses. And the Tabernacle of the congregation had been pitched without the camp. Those that sought the Lord went out there. But there was a service for Moses to do, and it wasn't an easy one. We're told that those people that he was called upon to lead were a disobedient and rebellious people. And you know, it's not easy often to serve the Lord. There are many trials. Paul spoke of the trials and affliction that came upon him. And not only from without. He said that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. He said, who is weak and I am not weak, Who is offended and I burn not. He felt for God's people. He entered into what they were passing through because he loved them. And it's right if we're going to serve the Lord that we have a love for God's people because they're so dear to him. I used to wonder at that little verse that says if a man desire the office of a Bishop or an overseer, he desireth a good work. I thought. I wondered why it said that because. Thought it seemed like he wanted to put himself up, that he would be an overseer over God's people. Why? It said it was a good work. But as you read other scriptures, you find that the thought is that the Lord finds joy in anyone who has an interest and care for his people. It says neither is being Lords over God's heritage, but being in samples to the flock. And you know, if you show a kindness to one of my children, you show a kindness to me because I love. Children and kindness shown to my children really is much appreciated. Well, the Lord loves his people and any kindness that you show to the Lord's people, the Lord values it. And what the Lord is really saying, if you have an interest in my people and if you're trying to watch them and help them and care for them, he said, that's a good work. It's a good work in my eyes. And Moses was called upon to lead the people and dear young people to have an interest in the other young people.

And to seek their good you may not always be appreciated. Moses wasn't there was a time that they spoke of stoning him. And he said to the Lord, Lord, what shall I do unto this people? They be almost ready to stone me. And did the Lord say, give up, Moses, it's no use. They don't appreciate you. Is that what the Lord said? Now listen to these words. Let them sink deeply into your hearts. The Lord said, go on. Before the people, go on before the people. Brother said many years ago, he said there's 3 words, there's 2 words that the servant of the Lord must never forget. And those who are go on, go on. And so here we find that the Lord was going to use Moses and Moses said, who are you going to send with me? Because I, I just can't, He said in another place. I'm not able to bear the burden of this people alone. And a brother said to me, well, he said, the Lord never asked him to bear it alone, did he? And you know, sometimes we think that too. He said, how are we going to handle this alone? But we're never asked to do it alone. And so when Moses said, Lord, who will you send with me? The Lord didn't appoint some human arm that he could lean upon. But oh, how beautiful, how lovely, his answer. He said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee. Rest. That is, the same one who met us when we found Him as our Savior, who washed away our sins in his precious blood. The same one who has given us the immense privilege of gathering around him in simplicity in his appointed way, is the same one who also says, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. And never, never undertake any service that you think you have to do. Alone, because I'll assure you of this, he'll make a mess of it. Anything I've ever tried to do by myself, I have always done just that. But you know, if the Lord is there to help you, why you can turn. He understands, He enters into all that you have to do. We sometimes say when we're going to try and undertake some little service for the Lord, the question is not are we able to do it, but does the Lord want us to do it? Because if He wants us to do it, then he's going to be the one who's going to provide in every way. And above everything else, my presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. Now this isn't the rest of salvation. But I think it's the little thought that Mister Darby had in that beautiful hymn. Rest, Lord, in serving thee. When we get home to glory, there will be a service that will go on continually in his presence, but it'll be eternal rest. And I believe there's some measure in which we can enjoy something of that down here too. And so it tells us here that Moses replied, and he said unto him, If thy presence, go not with me. Carry us not ah. Hence, he said. Well, I just don't want to undertake. Anything without thy presence. And I say to you, dear young people, how do you believe the Lord has something for each one of you to do? Every Levite had a service and a burden, and you're going to find those two things. If you try to follow the Lord, you'll have a service and you'll have a burden. You might like the service, but maybe you don't like the burden. But they always go together. Everyone was appointed to his service and to his burden, and they knew what they were going to do. Because they were appointed to that by Aaron. Well, you and I don't have an Aaron on

earth that we can go to, but we can look up to the Lord, like Saul of Tarsus, and say, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? Well, He will appoint to you that. And it speaks of this, that in Galatians chapter 6, it says that every man shall bear his own burden, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. That is, there's a certain joy in doing what the Lord wants you to do. You may, you can spend your life wishing that you were doing something that somebody else is doing, but you know, the importance of the work is not in what's done, but whether it's what the Lord wants you to do. So let's remember this to in every service of the Lord, just have him so very near to you that you feel his presence right there. And I'll tell you it'll be a happy service.

Sometimes when there's a little job to be done, why it's nice. Just to have my wife come along and say I'll help you. And you know, it's an awful lot in doing something for the Lord. Just to feel the Lord right there and he knows all about our needs and about our service. And he said to Paul one time when he felt that he had a thorn that made his service difficult, he said. My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness. So we have His presence then in worship. Now we have His presence in service. Any little thing that we undertake to do for Him. I'd like to turn to another one now in Matthew chapter 14. Just notice the 15th verse. And when it was evening, his disciples came to him saying, This is a desert place, and the time has now passed. Send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages, and by themselves victuals. And Jesus said unto them, They need not depart, give ye them to eat. And they say unto him, We have but 5 loaves and two fishes. He said, Bring them, hit her to me. Now passing on to the 24th verse. But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tasked with waves. For the wind was contrary, and in the 4th watch of the night. Jesus went unto them walking on the sea, And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is the Spirit. And they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer, it is I be not afraid. And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said come, and when Jesus was come, and when Peter was come down out of the ship. He walked on the water to go to Jesus, but when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid and beginning to sink. He cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? And when they were coming to the ship, the wind ceased. Well, here we find in the beginning of the chapter something of the weakness of the disciples, something that we all feel at times. Here was the end of the day and they wanted to send the multitude away. We get pretty tired sometimes of service when we undertake to do it. And they looked at their little resources that they had, and they didn't know how they could ever feed that great multitude of people. And the Lord said they need not depart. Give ye them to eat. And when they looked at their feeble resources, just five loaves and two fishes, why, they thought, what's that among so many? And perhaps some little services opened up to you. And you say, well, I don't have anything, I can't do anything. But are we willing to give what we have to the Lord? That was the great question. 5 loaves and two fishes given to the Lord was enough to feed this whole multitude of about 5000, besides women and children. And you know who can tell a blessing of a willing heart. We find that when Andrew was brought to the Lord that he found his brother Peter and brought him to the Lord. And we don't read of Andrew in any great event of blessing like Peter. But you know, we can say this, that Andrew was the one that brought Peter to the Lord, and then Peter was afterwards mightily used. And perhaps when we get to glory, we're going to find someone whom God mightily use. And perhaps that person was brought to the Lord by a person you didn't know anything about, nor did I. Are we willing to just do that little quiet service the Lord wants us to do, even if it seems hidden and not noticed? You say, well, I can't, I don't have much. They only had five loaves and two fishes. What were they among so many that when they brought them to the Lord, then it was sufficient. He took that little bit they had and used it. Oh, may we be willing to present the little we have to the Lord? Who can tell the blessing that will result? Who can tell a blessing? If all of us here were just willing to say, well, I'm willing to give my time and energy.

And all that I have. To the Lord, oh what a blessing it could be. Don't look at yourself and just say what can the Lord do? Because the Lord was the one who did it. But now what I particularly want to bring before you was this occasion when the Lord let them go out in the boat and they went out and a big storm arose. The Lord Jesus, it says, went into a mountain apart to pray. Little picture of how the Lord Jesus is now gone up on high. He went away to pray, and it says when the evening was come, he was there alone. And there's my precious Savior and yours up there in the glory. And here we are toiling and rowing. Here we are in all the storms of life. Does he care? Is he concerned about all this? Is it just happening by chance that all these storms come into life? No. The Lord allowed these storms in order to teach the disciples that dependence upon Him and how He was sufficient. They were to learn something of what we've been talking about. His presence, His presence. And oh, let me say again, is there any young person here and you're really in a turmoil. And I think it's interesting here that it says it was in the 4th. Watch that Jesus came. You know there were 4 watches. Why didn't He come in the first? Why didn't he come in the second? Why didn't he come in the third? It wasn't until the 4th watch that He came. Doesn't the Lord seems to let things go sometimes and lets it come to the 4th watch when it just seems that He doesn't care. He isn't concerned. But the Lord was up there praying. Perhaps He was praying for them. At least I'm sure in His blessed heart He was. Thinking about them and seeking their good and their blessing. But it wasn't until the 4th watch that the Lord came. And when they saw the Lord walking on the sea, it says they were terrified, they were afraid. And sometimes when we see things happen in our lives and we think, why did the Lord allow this? I acknowledge that it was the Lord the one who has all power and who loves me and who died for me, that He's the one who has allowed. Nevertheless, sometimes we just look at things in a natural way, but sometimes we're even more terrified when we realize it's the Lord that's allowed it because all power is given unto him in heaven and in earth. And so and they looked out, and they saw the Lord walking upon the sea. It says they were afraid, they thought it was a spirit. And it says here straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying. Saying. Be of good cheer. It is I be not afraid. Oh, what a what a moment that must have been to their hearts. And I want to say if there's anyone here and you're just in that situation, perhaps you say the problem that concerns me is not so much that of worship, because I believe that I have sought to respond to the Lord's desire. I am gathered to his name. Perhaps you say I have tried to do some little service for the Lord, but things have just all gone. Wrong in my life and I don't know why, and it just seems that the Lord has allowed me to be tossed upon the waves. Well, isn't this beautiful? May this speak to your heart, and to mine it is. I be not afraid. Be of good cheer. So if there's some discouraged young person here, may those words sink down into your heart, the Lord Jesus. Blocking on top of all this trouble on the waves and saying be of good cheer. It is I be not afraid. So Peter said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me to come, And the Lord said, come. And so he started out and he was starting on the water, walking to go to Jesus, but you know, he got his eyes off the Lord. He lost, as it were, a sense of what we've been talking about, the divine presence. Some of you may have heard me say something that I think affected my life when I was a young person that a brother, an older brother said to me. He said I never asked the Lord to be with me because he's promised to be with me. He's promised never to leave me nor forsake me. But what I ask him is for a sense of His presence. And that's what we need, dear young people. To feel that he's always near, to feel that he's there, that he cares. And so Peter thought, well, if it's the Lord who is there, then I can go out and walk upon the waves. And perhaps you started on some venture. You have done just that. You've stepped out of the boat, as it were, and you started and you thought that you were really trusting the Lord. But you know, even in our service.

We fail even in our service. We can get our eyes off the Lord. We can. It tells us that there were those in Philippi that were preaching Christ even of envy and strife. It's an amazing thing how even in our service we can get our eyes off the Lord. We can think about ourselves. We can be concerned about what other people say and think about us more than having the Lord's approval. Paul's great desire in his life was that he might have the Lord's approval. I don't mean that we shouldn't listen to advice from others. We need it at times and it's good for us. But I say that we need to seek the Lord's approval. Every one of us shall give account of himself to God. Well, Peter started out walking on the waves, and then when he saw those waves so boisterous, then he began to sink. Well, you know, why should we think, as another has said, we couldn't walk on smooth water any better than on rough water with our eyes off the Lord. We have to have our eyes upon the Lord to walk on the very smoothest water. And I can't handle the easiest things of life without the Lord. The children of Israel, after they entered the promised land, they thought, we can't handle Jericho, That's a big city, but we can handle AI. That's just a little thing. And isn't it just like us, We say, well, there's some things I think I can handle, but there's some things I can't. But dear young people, we can't handle even the small things. It's often we go down to defeat like they did at AI. We go down to defeat in the small things. It's the things that we thought we could handle, the things that we thought we had good enough character and stability to handle. But the Lord has to show us that we can't do one thing in our own strength. Jesus said without me, he can do nothing. And so here we find this storm. And I say again, because I want to apply these things. Practically, to myself and to you, there may be some young person here and it's not so much the problem of service, but it is that something has happened in your life that's just like what we have here and there's a storm come up in your life. And you've really tried. You said, well, I'm going to try to step out of this problem and really go to Jesus. But still, there was something of that confidence that didn't thoroughly and entirely count upon him. And so the Lord didn't let him sink, did he? And the Lord will never let us sink down either. As soon as he cried out, Lord. Save me. The Lord reached out his hand and caught him. And the precious Savior is up there on high. He knows just a moment that we need his help in a special way, and he ever lives to make intercession for us. And if there's a young person who's in this situation, would you just look up and say, Lord help me? The Lord may not remove the trouble at once. He didn't hear the storm didn't stop when the Lord put out his hand and caught Peter. Now it wasn't until they got. The ship that the Lord, the storm's depth when they gone to the ship and you know, when we get, so to speak, safely home to glory, then all the storms will be over then. But down here, that's the way the Lord has allowed it. And some things, it's just a question of having that confidence in him. He doesn't always remove the difficulty, but he's with us in it. And there was the Lord so close to Peter that he just reached out his hand and. Again, he's close by. Do you do you feel his presence in the trial? Well, then it's going to be a blessing because when Paul was in prison, he said the Lord stood by me and said, be of good cheer Paul, for as thou hast born witness testimony for me at Jerusalem, Thou must also bear testimony at Rome was at the end of his trouble and trial. Not by any means, but the Lord stood by him. And that was a moment I'm sure that he never could forget. Later on, when the ship was tossed in the waves in the 26th chapter of Acts, he again had that beautiful experience. And he said, There stood by me this night the Angel of the Lord, whose I am and whom I serve, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul. Oh, how good it is when in these trials we feel His presence. Oh, you say, but I got into the problem by my own.

Sake Well, Paul was Paul was told not to go to Jerusalem. And that's why I've always thought it was so wonderful. There he was. He shouldn't have been there because he was told by the Spirit not to go. And the Lord knew just how down he would feel. He would say here, it's my own fault I'm in this situation, I shouldn't have, I shouldn't have come here. But the Lord stood by him. And so it is in all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of his presence saved them. Even in the troubles we bring on ourselves, the Lord never forsakes us. He's there ready to help. And that brings us to another one where we have restoration, I believe, and that's in John 21. John, Chapter 21. Verse 2. There were together Simon Peter and Thomas called Didymus, Nathaniel of Canaan, Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples. Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth and entered into a ship immediately, and that night they caught nothing. And that night they caught nothing. And when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore, and the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore. And now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith. Unto Peter it is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he gird his Fisher's coat about him, for he was naked and had cast himself into the sea. In the 15th verse. So when they had died, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yeah, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith unto him again the second time. Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yeah, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me, Peter? It was grieved because he said unto him, the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, Thou knowest all things, Thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. Well, here we find Peter, a leader in taking these other disciples off on a fishing trip long before the Lord Jesus had called them. And he had said, from henceforth thou shalt catch men. But the Lord Jesus had gone to the cross, and now he was risen, and they felt they had really lost him. And now Peter thought, well, I guess I'll just go back to fishing again. And he took the other. Disciples with him. That sometimes happens when we get away from the Lord. We influence other people. You know, Peter had denied his Lord, as you know before, and now he's an influence on all these five other people. You know what I want to say to you, dear young person? If you're away from the Lord, maybe you're affecting somebody else too. Scripture says none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. So Peter, here was an effect upon these others, and he led them away. Too, but again I say the Lord hadn't forsaken them. And when they spent that whole night and caught nothing, it tells us here that in the morning the Lord Jesus stood upon the shore. He knew all about that venture that they went out to fish. He didn't allow any fish. As our brother Brown used to say. He told all the fish there in that lake, don't swim into Peter's net tonight. He's the one who's the Lord of creation. And they didn't swim into Peter's net and he caught nothing. And now I guess he's feeling quite down and discouraged. And it says the Lord was there. He didn't recognize him at first. Sometimes when we get away from the Lord, we don't recognize him. We don't realize his love. We don't realize that he's seeking to restore us. The 23rd Psalm says he restoreth my soul. And this is what's going to take place with Peter.

There's going to be this public restoration and. So Peter was naked on the ship and so it is, you know, we can get away from the Lord, and it's sad how far away we can get. But still Peter's heart responded when he realized it is the Lord. When they were toiling and rowing, he said it is I, but John said it's the Lord. That's the very start of Christian life, is to own him as the Lord and as the way to get restored too. It's to come back and own his Lordship, his authority, his rights in our life. And so he said, John said it's the Lord. And Peter now jumps in and goes in the water to go to Jesus. And then the Lord deals with Peter publicly here. I believe he was restored privately, but now publicly the Lord talks to him and he. Asked them three times. Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? The first time he says, Lovest thou me more than these? There is, I really believe the reason the Lord said that was because Peter had boasted and said that he did love the Lord more than the rest. He said, though all should deny thee, yet will not I? And sometimes we see others go astray, and we say, I wouldn't do that, I I wouldn't do that. But we don't know our own hearts. We're capable of anything. And so Peter, the one who did the boasting, was the one who publicly denied the Lord

in such a way as he did. So the Lord asked them three times. Simon son of Jonas, lovest thou me? And Peter is broken down. Now Peter is brought back. Peter is restored. And where was he restored? In the presence of the Lord. The presence of the Lord. That's what restoration is to get back into His presence to. The whole situation and have to do with him and so we find his presence in regard to restoration. Is there any young person here and you've got away from the Lord. You know you've been away. You knew you know that you're not walking in his company. Maybe you're just like this poor Peter, you're influencing others and here he was naked on the ship, but the Lord wants to restore you. Wouldn't it be nice if these meetings here in Columbus were the time when he came appeared to you. When you realize it was the Lord and when you came back to Him. And then the Lord gives Peter something to do, feeding his lambs, feeding his sheep. Oh, how beautiful this is. Oh, I see again, dear young people, the Lord's presence is everything. The Lord's presence is everything. It's when we meet Him and get to know Him as our Savior. He's the one that is our gathering center. He's the one too. When there's any service that we undertake, we can't. Do it without Him. And so too, when we have troubles, it's the Lord we need, because we can't face the troubles of life alone. We can't bear the burdens of life alone. And then too, if we've got away, it's His presence we need to restore us. And then there's a day coming just before we close. If we could look in Revelation chapter 5. The eighth Verse. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and 20 elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps and golden vials full of odors, which are the prayers of Saints. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof. For thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood, out of every kindred and tongue, and people and nation. And then in the last verse, I just like to read the last verse here. And the four beasts said Amen. And the four and 20 elders fell down and worshiped him that liveth forever and ever. 4 and 20 elders represent all redeemed. There were 24 courses of priests in Solomon's temple, and they represent to us all the redeemed. And someday all the redeemed faith will be changed to sight, and we'll all be around the Lord. And what will we be saying? Thou art worthy. And it tells us that every one of them gold and vials. And harps, I believe when it speaks about the harps, it means that our praise. Be perfect there. And those golden vials full of odors, it says, are the prayers of Saints. And how many prayers have gone up desires that we have. And when we get to glory, we're going to see the answer to everything that we ever desired, not just perhaps in the way that we desired it.

Los Angeles Conference: 1966, True Knowlege of God

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

I'd like to look first of all at a verse in Job Chapter 11. Job Chapter 11 and verse 7. Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection? It is high as heaven. What canst thou do deeper than hell or hades? What canst thou know? And now in John chapter 1. John's Gospel chapter 1. And verse 18, No man has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him. Well, dear young people, I have it on my heart to seek to speak a little this afternoon about the wonderful privilege that we have in knowing God who has revealed Himself to us through His Word, I believe. We don't value sufficiently the wonderful treasure that we have in this book. We're living in days when men are making great advancements in education and science, when they're seeking and God is allowing them to find out much about this universe. But in doing so, they are losing, if they ever had it, and knowledge of God, they're getting farther and farther away from Him. And while I don't have anything to say against. Man may discover that might be made useful in connection with his life here upon the earth. I say that if these things are a hindrance to the knowledge of God and as how He has revealed Himself in and through His Word, why then they're going to rob you of that which is the greatest blessing you can possibly have, and that is the knowledge of God. And the enjoyment of his heart and of his company. And I was thinking of the this passage in Job 711. Rather canst thou by searching find out God? Millions of dollars are being spent in which men are trying to find out something about how this world came into being. They're trying to get some knowledge of these things, but all how wonderful that God has revealed himself. Can man by searching find out God? Is it possible with all his research and with all he is doing to get by this, the knowledge of God? It says that it's high as the heavens. What canst thou do? It is deep as Hades, deeper than Hades. What canst thou know that is in the knowledge that man may gain? It will not make known to him the person of the one who created. I might have a beautiful piece of furniture. I can see the grand handiwork of the person who made it, but I won't know anything about his character unless he makes himself known to me. I don't know whether the man who made that piece of furniture was a kind man or an unkind man. I don't know whether he was good to his wife and family by looking at the furniture. I need to be introduced to him. I need to have some testimony about him. Before I can really know his character, and so wouldn't it be foolish if I wanted to know him? To examine the furniture carefully, to study it all out, and yet not to really get to know him. But if this man makes himself known, then I can know something about his character. And God in his wondrous love and grace, has been pleased to make himself known. Because man didn't know him, Because he had wandered away from him, Because sin had come in and become a barrier. Between man and God, Wonder of wonders, the God who made everything, came down into this world, went to the cross of Calvary, in order that he might be made known. It says the only begotten Son which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared him. God has made himself known, and he has made himself known, that you and I might know all that's in his heart as we read. Yesterday in John 17, our brother brought it before us. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. Oh, what a privilege we have, that we can sit in these seats and not look around upon this world with the agnosticism or atheism of the day in which we live, but to know that the One who made all these things has been pleased to.

Himself to us, and that we can say that we know the Creator, we know him as one who loved us and who sent his son to die for us. On Calvary's cross. I say that's the most marvelous thing. Well, I was thinking of this in three different connections, and first of all in connection with creation, and then in connection with God's ways and then in connection with His word, because I believe that God speaks to man in those three different ways. Someone has said that He has three books by which he has made Himself known, and that is in creation. A partial revelation in his ways. With man, by which he seeks to draw him to himself, and then above all through His word, which explains to us His creation, which brings before us the purpose of His ways, and which reveals to us all that's in His heart. Well, I'd like to look first of all at Proverbs chapter 8. Proverbs, chapter 8. 22nd verse. The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting from the beginning, or ever the earth was. Well, let us go down to the 27th verse. When he prepared the heavens, I was there when He set a compass upon the face of the deep. Then the 30th verse. Then I was by Him as one brought up with Him, and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him, rejoicing in the habitable part of His earth, and my delights were with the sons of man. A 34th Verse Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favor of the Lord. Well, here we see a most marvelous thing, that when these this world, the very universe in which we live, was created, what was God's thinking about all the marvel of all marvels is that His delights were with the sons of man and away back when God

began the creation, then He had a purpose in it, and that purpose was your blessing and mine. Well, just think of man spending so much money in trying to find out how this world came and teaching all kinds of things as to how it came into being. When God tells us that when He made these things, He was making them for us. Just think of a home. And you go into that home and you admire all the workmanship in it, and you try to figure out who the man was that built it and what. Purpose was in building it. And then in a month's time you find out that that person who built that house had a personal interest in you. And that when he built that house, as he drove in every nail and as he put every piece in the house, he was thinking of the happiness that you were going to have when you possessed it. Wouldn't that change your thoughts about the house altogether? Well now, dear friends and dear young people, as you go to school. So the attempt is made by the enemy of your soul to rob you of the blessedness of who the Creator is, and by occupying you with all these things, to hide from your view this wonderful fact that God, the Creator of all, had an interest in you and was thinking about you and knew that you were going to be sitting in the Glendale Civic Auditorium and He wanted to fill your heart with. And to make you know that the whole purpose of the sunshine and all the wonderful things that were in this world was that he was interested in you, he cared for you, he was concerned about you, and he gave you a body so that you could enjoy all these things. Can't you see that? The whole idea of robbing you of the true knowledge of God is to rob you of this, which is the secret of enjoyment in your soul. Men are complaining today that the trouble with society is that in all the learning that they're getting that no one is having a satisfied heart, and everybody has a feeling of loneliness. And dear friends, I'll tell you why.

Because it is impossible with all your. Friendships and with all the people of this world to really find that which satisfies your heart, because it's impossible in a world like this to find in human companionship that which really satisfies apart from God, it's impossible. Nor is it possible in all the things that are here to find that which will really satisfy. And so God makes himself known as the Creator, and in Genesis 1. He doesn't go into a great deal of detail, but He tells us enough that we would see that, which would give us some knowledge about His creation. How that a way back in a time that we're not told He created the heavens and the earth. That was what we might call the original creation. How that it became spoiled in some way in the second verse and then how in six days God fixed it up and made. Suitable dwelling place for man, and placed Adam and Eve at the head of it, intending that Adam and Eve under him, and in the enjoyment of him might possess all these wonderful things that he had prepared for them. But what did Satan do? Well, Satan came into the scene and he got the ear of Adam and Eve. He got them to listen to him. He suggested to them that God wasn't quite as good as they thought he was. And that he was really holding back something from them. And that tree that He had forbidden to them was really the secret of their happiness. And God was holding it back from them all. You can see the work of the enemy here. He was bringing in a suggestion in their minds that in spite of that wonderful creation, that God was not really altogether good, That He wasn't thoroughly and fully seeking their happiness. And now, dear young people, I know that what you're hearing at school is the same hiss of the serpent. It's the same attempt of that one who got the ear of Adam and Eve to get your ear and to get you occupied with all the things in this world that you can enjoy. They talk about the countries being unlimited, the possibilities being unlimited, all the things that are possible for us to enjoy in this world. And now they want to set us. The creator himself isn't that just exactly what that what the serpent did in the Garden of Eden. He said to Adam and Eve why you have unlimited possibilities here and God's going to restrict you. He's going to hold you back from something that you could enjoy. And so they listened to Satan and so with God's creation, as soon as you start to school, they try to put a doubt in your mind about the way that God. This world and his purpose in creating it. He they would try to bring that doubt into your mind, to put a breach, to put a something between you and your creator. And I beseech of you, dear young people, to cling to that which God has given to us about creation. It says the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork. Now I confess that there are many details about the creation that I don't fully understand. There are many things that are beyond us, and God intended that it should be solved. He never intended that we should be as gods. He intended that we should. As creatures. But He has told us enough that should satisfy us, and that is plenty for our knowledge, because the most important thing is not all the details of the creation, but the one that created it, and that He created it because He desired our happiness. Going back to my little illustration about the house, supposing you said, well, I can't enjoy this house unless this man tells me how many? Nails he drove in the house, he tells me to the very hours and minutes how long it took him to build it. Unless he tells me where he purchased every square inch of material that's in the house, I'll never be able to enjoy it. And he spends the rest of his life trying to find out all these details. Well, I think you'd say what a foolish man. He knows that the man buildeth for him. He knows that was built in love for him. Why not just settle down and enjoy it and.

Because he looks at every piece of wood in it and every carpet in it and every little appointment in it that he can say the man that built this loved me and he put all those things in here for me so that I could be happy. I've sometimes said to the young people up at Otter Lake, it's a lovely thought to my mind to think that when God created this world, he made a lake up there and he put a Bay on it and he fixed it all up just right for us to be together and enjoy it. Oh, you say, well, this was formed by glaciers and all this sort of thing. Well, that just spoils it for me. I'd rather think of the I don't know how he did it, but I know that he had a purpose in it. And this purpose means more to me than all the details about how it came about. And I know that he was thinking of the dear young people who can sit on the side of it and enjoy the fact that the God who made all that loves them and sent his Son to die for them. And dear young people, I want to tell you. And dear children, I want to tell you as you pass through this world. If you spend all your time on these questions about how the creation was brought about and don't enjoy it as from the hand of your Creator, you're missing the grandest thing that you can have. And that is the heart of your Creator, who when he put every stone in place, as our brother said, before he put any lake on this world, before he appointed anything, he was thinking about you. And he was desiring your happiness now. Only here, but for all eternity all isn't this a wonderful thing to know all I want to bring before you a little bit of the fact that that one who is the Creator loves you. And God tells us that even where the Bible is unknown that he intended that creation should be a voice to those who do not know him. He says the heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his handiwork and when. Pagan looks up and worships the star. God says he's worshiping the creature more than the creator. He's more occupied with the thing than with the person who made it. And so I say that in creation God has a testimony to man, and that testimony is of his eternal power and Godhead and his goodness that made a place like this that we could live in. And what a sad thing, that. Are still listening to the voice of the tempter that would rob them of this fact. All may I say again, dear young people, in all your studies, don't let the enemy rob you of the fact that the God who made everything has told you in a general way how He has made it. And he has told you his purpose in making it was that his delights were with the sons of men. I beseech of you, and pray that you to your young people might be kept. The enemy is trying to bring a wedge between you and God, and if he can only do that, he has ruined your life. He has robbed you of that which is for your blessing, and he has also given a victory to himself. And robbed you of blessing. Well, now let us turn to another passage in Job chapter. 33 Verse 10. Job 33. Verse 10. Behold, he findeth occasions against me. He counteth me for his enemy. He putteth my feet in the stocks. He maketh all my paths. Behold, in this thou art not just. I will answer thee, that God is greater than man. Why dost thou strive against him? For he giveth not account of any of his matters. For God speaketh once, yeah, twice. Yet man perceiveth. It not in a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon man, in slumberings upon the bed, then he openeth the ears of man, and sealeth their instruction,

that he may withdraw man from his purpose, and hide pride from man. He keepeth back his soul from the pit, and his life from perishing by the sword. He has chastened also with pain upon his bed, and the multitude of his bones with strong pain, so that his life abhorrent. Blad and his soul dainty meat. 23rd Verse. If there being a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among 1000 to show unto man his unright, his uprightness, then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit. I have found a ransom. His flesh shall be fresher than a child's. He shall return to the days of his youth. He shall pray unto God, and he will be favourable unto him, and he shall see his face with joy, for he will render unto.

Man, his righteousness. Well, this brings us to the second point, and that is God's ways. God's ways. Now it tells us in another place that God's ways are past finding out. And here it tells us why dost thou strive against him? For he giveth not account of any of his matters. And this is the second thing that man stumbles at. And Satan leads man's heart into rebellion in creation. He tries to come in and occupy him with the creation and deny the existence or at least the character of the Creator. And in connection with God's ways. He tries to lead man's heart to rebellion against God, and what God is seeking to bring before us here, as well as in other passages in His Word, is that His purpose in His ways is the good and blessing of man. And how often we find that when a man has some serious trouble come into his life, perhaps a loved one is snatched away from him, perhaps a difficulty comes, the devil comes to him and says, how can God be a God of love when he allows a thing like that? The Bible tells you that it's because He is the God of love that He allowed that it was to withdraw man from his purpose. Maybe that man was on his road to a lost eternity and he wouldn't listen to the pleadings of love. And so God comes in through circumstances and trouble and speaks to Him, and instead of seeing and hearing the voice of God in the circumstance, He allows Satan to bring rebellion into his. And dear young Christian, isn't this true with us as believers too? Perhaps there's been some disappointment come in your life. Maybe you have some plan and it just seemed to be working out so nicely. Things seem to be going on so well and all of a sudden everything was disrupted. Everything turned to disappointment instead of to fruition. And you, you were just brought to the point that the enemy said. Well. You thought the Lord loved you. You thought He was caring for Him, that He was working things for you. Why did He allow that? And He tries to come between your soul and God through the circumstance. But why did God allow it? Why did God allow it? Perhaps He saw that with me, or perhaps with you. We were getting satisfied with earthly friendships. We were getting satisfied with material things. And He knew that those things. Things could never really satisfy. And so he allowed that disappointment, He allowed that frustration, not because he hated us, because he loved us. Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth. Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth. All those troubles don't come because the Lord is against you. If God before us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for. All how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? All I ask you, don't allow rebellion to come in your heart. Don't allow rebellion to come in your heart. Some of you, dear young people, I know you're growing up. Somebody perhaps in the meeting did an unkind thing to you. Somebody did something that really hurt. And the enemy said, oh, don't take that. Leave the meeting. If that's the kind of people they are, don't stay. What was he doing? He was trying to rob you. He wasn't seeking your happiness. No, he was trying to come between you and God. But why did God allow that thing? Or maybe you had your eye on the brethren instead of on the Lord. And the Lord said, I want you to be at my table because I'm there if you get occupied with your brethren. And I confess I'm the same. Dear young people, I'm not talking like this two years, though. It didn't mean me. It means me just as much as it means anyone else. We get so occupied with our brethren, we look around and we. Sort of get satisfied with the fellowship and the Lord says, oh, I want your heart, I want your heart and I want you to realize that if everything else fails and if everybody else disappoints you, I never will. I'm the same yesterday and today and forever. All dear young person, He wants your heart. And if you go through that disappointment and that frustration and that mean thing that was done to you and you take it from the Lord.

You'll thank the Lord that he has. Taught you what it is to be truly gathered to His precious name. You will thank Him for it in later life. Many of the older brethren here will say Amen to this. These things have happened and perhaps we felt the same too. We felt really upset. And now we look back and we think, oh, the Lord has made me really value His presence and His and His table more through that circumstance. And saw the second thing I bring before you is God. God's ways, God's ways, their past finding out. I'm not trying to explain why such and such a set of circumstances developed in your life. I don't believe we always understand. I don't believe that Joseph ever fully understood why a lot of things happened in his life. I'm sure there are many Saints of God who lived and died who never understood just why certain circumstances came in their life. But they. The grace to look up and say, As for God, his way is perfect, and peace filled her heart. And Jesus himself drew near and went with them. When did Jesus draw near? When those when that couple, Cleophus and perhaps his wife, were thoroughly disappointed and discouraged and frustrated. They were walking down on the road to Emmaus with heavy hearts, the very one that they thought. That was the Messiah of Israel had to their minds disappointed them, and their hearts were heavy, and Jesus himself. Drew near and went with them. Dear young person, are you are you disappointed? Are you frustrated? Are you just at the point where you say I'm going to leave the meeting? Jesus himself draws near to you. He wants to be everything to you, for I should never realize it before, but he wants to be everything to you and he wants you to learn that those ways that you can't understand that are past finding out or in love. The devil tells you they're not the devil tells you they couldn't be. How could they work together for good? I sometimes said in reading Romans 8, it says, we know that all things work together for good to them that love God to them who are the calls according to his purpose. We read that verse and we stop there and we say, how could that be in this circumstance? I say read the next verse, read the next verse. The next verse says. For whom he did foreknow, he also. Did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first born among many brethren? And I'll just tell you what I mean by reading the next verse. I guess we've all had this experience. Did you ever start to read a story book and you came to a very sad chapter in the storybook and everything seemed so sad that you just could not see how it would work out? And you couldn't, you couldn't wait any longer. And you turned over to the end of the book to see how the story ended. And when you saw that it ended well, you went back and maybe the tears were rolling down your face and you kept saying to yourself, it's going to be all right. It's going to be all right because I know the end of the story. And God knew that doubts might come in our minds and we'd wonder how this chapter in our life could ever work out just right. But God says, I'm going to tell you the end. And the end is that we're going to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the first born among many brethren. What a path. Way he trod and he went through it all and he's up there in glory. His trodden the path before us and so the next thing we see here is his ways. The devil says, oh, they're not in love. God says yes they are. Yes they are. Dear young person, believe God. I say to myself, believe God. Believe him, but everything looks it's blackest whenever. Everything looks impossible. Believe God. He's not against you. The One who created this world, created it for your pleasure. The one who orders the circumstances of life, He has ordered them for your good and blessing. And in his perfect wisdom and perfect love, He's making all things work together for good. Well then we have the next testimony of God, His Word. Let's turn to Second Peter, chapter 1.

Second Peter, chapter 1. Beginning at the first verse, Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Savior Jesus Christ. Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness,

through the knowledge of him who hath called us to or by glory and virtue. For by are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. Well, we have had God's testimony to us through creation. We have had His voice speaking to us through his, through the His ways with us in our pathway. And now we have this blessed book. Thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name. And so as we read this blessed book, we find things in it that often conflict with our way of life. They bring before us how there are things that we wanted to do. Things that we perhaps thought we were right in doing. And as we read this book, we found in it that God had revealed his mind differently in that connection. And the enemy again comes and says, Oh well, you'll have to disobey the word of God. That verse couldn't just mean that. And he suggests to us then that we would go in disobedience to his word. All how true this is of our hearts just the same as regards salvation. You pick up the Bible and start to talk to an unsaved man. And immediately he starts to talk about things in the Bible that he can't understand, about things that look to him like contradictions. And you say to him, well, let's set these things aside. There's something that is very, very plain, and that is that God loves you even though you're a Sinner, and that he gave his Son to die for you, and that he wants you to receive him as your Savior. And if you receive him, then you'll have the Spirit by which you can understand the Word. But now he wants you to answer every question that he can raise from Genesis to Revelation, before he'll believe the good news that God loves him, that Christ died for him, and that he can have his sins forgiven and have a home in heaven. You try to bring him back to the wonderful way of salvation, and he keeps raising these questions continually. Who is it that makes all this trouble and confusion? Mind, it's the enemy. He doesn't want them to hear the voice of God through his word and receive the blessing that God has for him. Again, the enemy is at work. He's opposed to everything that's of God. He tries to bring doubts in man's mind about creation, doubts about his ways, doubts about his word. The first thing he said to Eve in the Garden of Eden was. Yeah, hath God said He raised a question. Is it really the word of God? God, is it really true? And he won't even accept it. He won't even prove it all. Dear young people, this Bible, this book is the most wonderful treasure that you and I have. It says his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness. God hasn't undertaken to answer all our curious questions. John said that if the things that Jesus did were all written the world. Itself couldn't contain the books that would be written. God could have given us enough books to read that the world itself couldn't contain them. And then we would be baffled, wouldn't we? But he didn't. He just gave us this book which gives us all things that pertain unto life and godliness. The libraries of the land are full of books, but they don't answer your questions. No, God could have filled this world with books. I say. He could have answered every curious question that's in our mind. He has all wisdom, but I'm glad that he just gave us this book because I find in it all things that pertain unto life and godliness. There isn't a thing necessary that you should have eternal life, and that eternal life is that you might know God as your Father and hold communion with Him as your Father, be in His presence and with a life that can enjoy His presence forever. He's told us this in his words. Isn't this wonderful? I'm glad he's made the way of salvation simple, because some of us couldn't have understood it if he'd made it difficult. But he's made it simple so that even a child, a wayfaring man, or a fool need not earther him. But there is also all things that pertain unto godliness.

Do you want to please the Lord in your life? Do you really want to live for Him? Do I really want to please Him? Well, He has given us the answers in His Word. Dear Mr. Darby once said, he said I never came to a question in my life that I didn't find either a direct scripture or a principle in God precious Word to guide my conduct. And that's why, dear young people, I want to encourage you as I close to read God's word. Don't just read the verses that talk about salvation. Read it all. Read it all. Circumstances arise in your life and mind. Life becomes more complex, difficulties continue to arise. All I beseech of you to read the whole word of God. Those precious stories of the Old Testament are full of deep moral lessons for us, and God has written in His Word. There's not one single place that there isn't a purpose. I remember one time I was going to read one of those chapters with names, and I thought, what good can I get by reading all? Those names, well, I confess that sometimes I read through them hurriedly, and I don't pay too much attention. But I thought at this time I'm going to pay a little more attention. There must be a purpose, and I read the chapter carefully. And it was a chapter, I believe, in Chronicles. I don't just remember the chapter, but it was talking about David's children. And I found that David called one of his sons Nathan. And I found out that as near as I could gather, it was the one that was born just after Nathan had rebuked him for his sin. I thought, isn't that lovely? The brother came to me and told me about something that I was doing that was wrong. I wonder if I'd want to call my next son by his name. I'd probably want to forget his name and say, well, he didn't speak very nicely to me, point his finger right at me and said, thou art the man. But David didn't shell that spirit. I thought, what? Lesson and that was in the chapter with names. All dear young people, there's something in it for you and me. It's all important. There's a blessing in it all. Read it. It's God's word. It's God's letter to you and he wrote it to you because he loved you and he wanted you to know everything that was necessary for you to know for your whole life here and to give you entrance into that home above. All I say again, dear young people, the devil is coming between. Saul and God, if he possibly can, and if he can bring some doubts about God's creation, then he'll do it. If he can bring some doubts about God's ways, then he'll do it. If he can bring some doubts about the word of God or the purpose in the various Scriptures, he'll do it. But oh, if you'll just see in the whole creation that he made it because he loved you. In all the ways that he orders in your life and mine. Are to do us good at our latter end. And that this precious book, every jot and title, every word in it, was written because He wanted to make himself known to you and me. That we might not only know the blessings, but that we might know the blesser himself. And to be in his presence and to enjoy all that's in his heart for all eternity will be heaven itself. We won't need anything apart from what He supplies in that blessed scene and right now. He has, through His Word and in this world, given us what He sees is best for us all. Dear young people, May God grant that that One who made known the heart of God will make Himself more known to your heart and mind, that we will know more of the heart of the Father. More, more of the heart of the Son and walk in the enjoyment of it. May God grant that He will cause us, in these days of departure and declension and giving up, to realize that God has not changed. That He is just as suited to 1966 as He was to AD 66. Just as suited, just as able to meet your needs, just as able to give you wisdom and grace. Just as able to fill your heart this year as He was when He was here upon earth. Oh, May God grant that we will. Turn to him and just look up and say, Lord, I believe help thou mine unbelief.

Denver Conference: 1966, God for Us

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

I'd like to look first of all at a verse in Job Chapter 11, Job Chapter 11 and verse 7. Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection? It is high as heaven. What canst thou do deeper than hell or hades? What canst thou know? And now in John chapter 1. John's Gospel, chapter 1. And verse 18. No man has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared him. Well, dear young people, I have it on my heart to seek to speak a little this afternoon about the wonderful

privilege that we have in knowing God who has revealed Himself to us through His Word. I believe that we don't value sufficiently the wonderful treasure that we have in this Book. Look, we're living in days when men are making great advancements in education and science, when they're seeking and God is allowing them to find out much about this universe. But in doing so, they are losing, if they ever had it, and knowledge of God. They're getting farther and farther away from Him. And while I don't have anything to say against what man may discover that. Be made useful in connection with His life here upon the earth. I say that if these things are a hindrance to the knowledge of God and as how He has revealed Himself in and through His Word, why then they're going to rob you of that which is the greatest blessing you can possibly have, And that is the knowledge of God and the enjoyment of His heart and of His company. And I was thinking of the this passage in Job 711. Rather canst thou by searching find out God? Millions of dollars are being spent in which men are trying to find out something about how this world came into being. They're trying to get some knowledge of these things, but all how wonderful that God has revealed himself. Can man by searching find out God? Is it possible with all his research and with all he is doing to get by this the knowledge of God? It says that it's high as the heavens. What canst thou do? It is deepest Hades, deeper than Hades. What canst thou know that is in the knowledge that man may gain? It will not make known to him. The person of the one who created it. I might have a beautiful piece of furniture. I can see the grand handiwork of the person who made it, but I won't know anything about his character unless he makes himself known to me. I don't know whether the man who made that piece of furniture was a kind man or an unkind man. I don't know whether he was good to his wife and family by looking at the furniture. I need to be introduced to him. I need to have some testimony about him before I can really know his character. And so wouldn't it be foolish if I wanted to know him? To examine the furniture carefully, to study it all out, and yet not to really get to know him. But if this man makes himself known, then I can know something about his character. And God, in his wondrous love and grace, has been pleased to make himself known because man didn't know him, because he had wandered away from him, because sin had come in. And become a barrier between man and God. Wonder of wonders, the God who made everything came down into this world, went to the cross of Calvary, in order that he might be made known. It says the only begotten Son which is in the bosom of the Father. He hath declared him. God has made himself known, and he has made himself known that you and I. I might know all Alice in his heart, as we read yesterday in John 17. Our brother brought it before us, and this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. Oh, what a privilege we have that we can sit in these seats and not look around upon this world.

With the agnosticism or atheism of the day in which we live. But to know that the one who made all these things has been pleased to reveal himself to us, and we can say that we know the Creator, We know him as one who loved us and who sent his son to die for us on Calvary's cross. I say that's a most marvelous thing. Well, I was thinking of this in three different connections, and first of all in connection with creation, and then in connection with God's ways, and then in connection with His word, because I believe that God speaks to man in those three different ways. Someone has said that he has three books by which he has made himself known. And that is, in creation, a partial revelation. In His ways with man, by which he seeks to draw him to himself, and then above all through His word, which explains to us His creation, which brings before us the purpose of His ways, and which reveals to us all that's in His heart. Well, I'd like to look first of all at Proverbs chapter 8. Proverbs chapter 8. 22nd Verse The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way. Before his works of old, I was set up from everlasting from the beginning, or ever the earth was. Well, let us go down to the 27th verse. When he prepared the heavens, I was there when He set a compass upon the face of the deep. Then the 30th verse. Then I was by Him as one brought up with Him, and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him, rejoicing in the habitable part of His earth. And my delights were with the sons of man. The 34th verse. Blessed is the man that heareth Me, watching daily at My gates. Waiting at the pulse of my doors. For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favor of the Lord. Well, here we see a most marvelous thing, that when these, this world, the very universe in which we live, was created, that was God's thinking about all the marvel of all marvels is that His delights were with the sons of man and away back when God began the creation. Then he had a purpose in it, and that purpose was your. Blessing and mine. Well, just think of man spending so much money in trying to find out how this world came and teaching all kinds of things as to how it came into being. When God tells us that when he made these things, he was making them for us. Just think of a home. And you go into that home and you admire all the workmanship in it and. Try to figure out who the man was that built it and what his purpose was in building it. And then in a month's time you find out that that person who built that house had a personal interest in you. And that when he built that house, as he drove in every nail and as he put every piece in the house, he was thinking of the happiness that you were going to have when you possessed it. Wouldn't that change your thoughts about the? All together well now, dear friends and dear young people, as you go to school. The attempt is made by the enemy of your soul to rob you of the blessedness of who the Creator is, and by occupying you with all these things, to hide from your view this wonderful fact that God, the Creator of all, had an interest in you and was thinking about you. I knew that you were going to be sitting in the Glendale Civic Auditorium and he wanted to fill your heart with rejoicing and to make you know that the whole purpose of the sunshine and all the wonderful things that were in this world was that he was interested in you. He cared for you, he was concerned about you, and he gave you a body so that you could enjoy.

All these things, can't you see that? The whole idea of robbing you of the true knowledge of God is to rob you of this, which is the secret of enjoyment in your soul. Men are complaining today that the trouble with society is that in all the learning that they're getting that no one is having a satisfied heart and everybody has a feeling of loneliness. And dear friends, I'll tell you why. Because it is impossible with all your friendships and with all the people of this world to really find that which satisfies your heart. Because it's impossible in a world like this to find in human companionship that which really satisfies. Apart from God, it's impossible. Nor is it possible in all the things that are here, to find that which will really satisfy. And so God makes himself known as the Creator, and in Genesis 1, he doesn't go into a great deal of detail, but he tells us enough that we would see now, which would give us some knowledge about his creation, how that a way back in a time that we're not told He created the heavens and the earth. That was what we might call the original creation. However, it became spoiled in some way in the second verse. And then how in six days God fixed it up and made it a suitable dwelling place for man, and placed Adam and Eve at the head of it, intending that Adam and Eve under him, and in the enjoyment of him, might possess all these wonderful things that He had prepared for them. But what did Satan do? Well, Satan came into the scene. And he got the ear of Adam and Eve. He got them to listen to him. He suggested to them that God wasn't quite as good as they thought He was, and that He was really holding back something from them. And that tree that He had forbidden to them was really the secret of their happiness, and God was holding it back from them all. You can see the work of the enemy here. He was bringing in a suggestion in their minds. That in spite of that wonderful creation, that God was not really altogether. Good that he wasn't thoroughly and fully seeking their happiness. And now, dear young people, I know that what you're hearing at school is the same hiss of the serpent. It's the same attempt of that one who got the ear of Adam and Eve to get your ear and to get you occupied with all the things in this world that you can enjoy. They talk about the countries being unlimited, the possibilities being unlimited. All the things that are. Possible for us to enjoy in this world and now they want to set aside the Creator himself. Isn't that just exactly what that what the serpent did in the Garden of Eden? He said to Adam and Eve Why? You have unlimited possibilities here and God's going to restrict you. He's going to hold you back from something that you could enjoy. And so they listened to Satan. And so with God's creation, as

soon as you start to school, they try to put a doubt in your mind about the way that God created this world and his purpose in creating it. He they would try to bring that doubt into your mind, to put a breach, to put something between you and your Creator. And I beseech of you, dear young people, to cling to that which God has given to us about creation. It says the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork. Now I confess that there are many details about the creation that I don't fully understand. There are many things that are beyond us, and God intended that it should be solved. He never intended that we should be as God. He intended that we should be as creatures, but He has told us enough that should satisfy us, and that is plenty for our knowledge, because the most important thing is not all the details of the creation, but the one that created it, and that He created it because He desired our happiness. Going back to my little illustration about the house.

Supposing you said, well, I can't enjoy. House unless this man tells me how many nails he drove in the house. He tells me to the very hours and minutes, how long it took him to build it, and Mercy tells me where he purchased every square inch of material that's in the house. I'll never be able to enjoy it. And he spends the rest of his life trying to find out all these details. Why, I think you'd say what a foolish man. He knows that the man buildeth for him. He knows that was built in love for him. Why not just settle down and enjoy it? And as he looks at every piece of wood in it and every carpet in it and every little appointment in it, that he can say, the man that built this loved me and he put all those things in here for me. So that I could be happy. I've sometimes said to the young people up at Otter Lake, it's a lovely thought to my mind to think that when God created this world, he made a lake up there and he put a Bay on it and he fixed it all up just right for us to be together and enjoy it all. You say, well, this was formed by glaciers and all this sort of thing. Well, it just spoils it for me. I'd rather think of the I don't know how he did it, but. I know that He had a purpose in it, and this purpose means more to me than all the details about how it came about. And I know that he was thinking of the dear young people who can sit on the side of it and enjoy the fact that the God who made all that loves them and sent his Son to die for them. And dear young people, I want to tell you. And dear children, I want to tell you as you pass through this world, if you spend all your time. On these questions about how the creation was brought about and don't enjoy us from the hand of your creator. You're missing the grandest thing that you can have and that is the heart of your Creator, who when he put every stone in place, as our brother said, before he put any lake on this world, before he appointed anything, he was thinking about you and he was desiring. Us not only here, but for all eternity all isn't this a wonderful thing to know or I want to bring before you a little bit of the fact that that one who is the Creator loves you and God tells us that even where the Bible is unknown that he intended that creation should be a voice to those who do not know him. He says the heavens declare the glory of God. Woman showed his handiwork, and when the poor Pagan looks up and worships the star, God says he's worshiping the creature more than the Creator. He's more occupied with the thing than with the person who made it. And so I say that in creation God has a testimony to man, and that testimony of is of his eternal power and Godhead and his goodness. That made a place like this. That we could live in. And what a sad thing that men are still listening to the voice of the tempter that would rob them of this fact. Or may I say again, dear young people, in all your studies, don't let the enemy rob you of the fact that the God who made everything has told you in a general way how he has made it, and he has told you his purpose in. Making it was that his delights were with the sons of men. I miss each of you and pray that you to your young people might be kept. The enemy is trying to bring a wedge between you and God, and if he can only do that, he has ruined your life. He has robbed you of that which is for your blessing, and he has also given a victory to himself. And robbed you of blessing. Well now let us turn to another passage in Job chapter 33, verse 10. Job 33, verse 10. Behold, he findeth occasions against me. He counteth me for his enemy. He putteth my feet in the stocks. He maketh all my paths. Behold, in this thou art not just. I will answer thee that God is greater than man.

Why dost thou strive against him? For he giveth not account of any of his. Matters for God speaketh once, yeah, twice. Yet man perceiveth it not in a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon man, in slumberings upon the bed. Then he openeth the ears of man, and sealeth their instruction, that he may withdraw man from his purpose and hide pride from man. He keepeth back his soul from the pit, and his life from perishing by the sword he has chastened also. With pain upon his bed and the multitude of his bones. With strong pain, so that his life abhorreth bled, and his soul dainty meat. 23rd verse If there be an A messenger with him, an interpreter, one among 1000 to show unto man his uprightness, then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit. I have found a ransom. His flesh shall be fresher than a child's. He shall return to the days of his youth. He shall pray unto God, and he will be favorable unto him, and he shall see his face with. Joy, for he will render unto man his righteousness. All this brings us to the second point, and that is God's ways. God's ways. Now it tells us in another place that God's ways are past finding out. And here it tells us why dost thou strive against him? For he gives not account of any of his matters. And this is the second thing that man stumbles at. And Satan leads man's heart into rebellion in creation. He tries to come in and occupy him with the creation and deny the existence or at least the character of the Creator. And in connection with God's ways. He tries to lead man's heart to rebellion against God, and what God is seeking to bring before us here, as well as in other passages in His Word, is that His purpose in His ways is the good and blessing of man. And how often we find that when a man has some serious trouble come into his life, perhaps a loved one is snatched away from him, perhaps a difficulty comes, the devil comes to him and says, how can God be a God of love when he allows a thing like that? The Bible tells you that it's because He is the God of love that He allowed that it was to withdraw man from his purpose. Maybe that man was on his road to a lost eternity and he wouldn't listen to the pleadings of love. And so God comes in through circumstances and trouble and speaks to him, and instead of seeing and hearing the voice of God in the circumstance, He allows. To bring rebellion into his heart. And dear young Christian, isn't this true with us as believers too? Perhaps there's been some disappointment come in your life. Maybe you had some plan and it just seemed to be working out so nicely. Things seem to be going on so well and all of a sudden everything was disrupted. Everything turned to disappointment instead of to fruition. And you, you were just brought to the point that the enemy said. Well. You thought the Lord loved you. You thought He was caring for Him, that He was working things for you. Why did He allow that? And He tries to come between your soul and God through the circumstance. But why did God allow it? Why did God allow it? Perhaps He saw that with me, or perhaps with you. We were getting satisfied with earthly friendships. We were getting satisfied with material things. And he knew that those things could never really satisfy. And so he allowed that disappointment. He allowed that frustration. Not because he hated us, because he loved us. Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth. Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth. All those troubles don't come because the Lord is against you. If God before us, who can be against us?

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? All I ask you don't allow rebellion to come in your heart. Don't allow rebellion to come in your heart. Some of you, dear young people, I know you're growing up. Somebody perhaps in the meeting did an unkind thing to you. Somebody did something that really hurt. And the enemy said, oh, don't take that. Leave the meeting. If that's the kind of people they are, don't stay. What was he doing? He was trying to rob you. He wasn't seeking your happiness. No, he was trying to come between you and God. But why did God allow that thing? Or maybe you had your eye on the brethren instead of on the Lord. And the Lord said, I want you to be at my table because I'm there if you get occupied with your brethren. And I confess

I'm the same. Dear young people, I'm not talking like this. Two years, though it didn't mean me. It means me just as much as it means anyone else. We get so occupied with our brethren, we look around and we sort of get satisfied with the fellowship and the Lord says, oh, I want your heart. I want your heart. And I want you to realize that if everything else fails and if everybody else disappoints you, I never will. I'm the same yesterday and today and forever. All dear young person, he wants your heart. And if you go through that disappointment and that frustration and that mean thing that was done to you and you take it from the Lord, you'll thank the Lord that He has taught you what it is to be truly gathered to His precious name. You will thank Him for it in later life. Many of the older brethren here will say Amen to this. These things have happened. And perhaps we felt the same too. We felt really upset. And now we look back and we. All the Lord has made me really value his presence and his and his table more through that circumstance. And so the second thing I bring before you is God's ways, God's ways, their past finding out. I'm not trying to explain why such and such a set of circumstances developed in your life. I don't believe we always understand. I don't believe that. Ever fully understood why a lot of things happened in his life? I'm sure there are many Saints of God who lived and died who never understood just why certain circumstances came in their life, but they had the grace to look up and say As for God, his way is perfect and peace filled their heart. And Jesus himself drew near and went with them. When did Jesus? Draw near when those when that couple, Cleophus and perhaps his wife, were thoroughly disappointed and discouraged and frustrated. They were walking down on the road to Emmaus with heavy hearts. The very one that they thought was the Messiah of Israel had to their minds disappointed them and their hearts were heavy and Jesus himself. Drew near and went with them. Dear young person, are you, are you disappointed? Are you frustrated? Are you just at the point where you say I'm going to leave the meeting? Jesus himself draws near to you. He wants to be everything to you for that. You never realized it before, but He wants to be everything to you and he wants you to learn that those ways that you can't understand that are past finding out. Are in love. The devil tells you they're not. The devil tells you they couldn't be, How could they work together for good? I sometimes said in reading Romans 8 it says we know that all things work together for good to them that love God to them who are the Paul according to his purpose. We read that verse and we stop there and we say how could that be in this circumstance? I say read the next verse. Read the next verse. The next verse says for whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate, to be conformed to the image of His Son, that he might be the first born among many brethren. And I'll just tell you what I mean by reading the next verse. I guess we've all had this experience. The Jehovah's start to read a storybook and you came to a very sad chapter in the storybook and everything seemed so sad that you just could not see how it would work out.

And you couldn't, you couldn't wait any longer. And you turned over to the end of the book to see how the story ended. And when you saw that it ended well, you went back and maybe the tears were rolling down your face and you kept saying to yourself, it's going to be all right. It's going to be all right because I know the end of the story. And God knew that doubts might come in our minds and we'd wonder how this chapter in our life could ever work out just right. But God says, I'm going to tell you the end. And the end is that we're going to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the first born. Among many brethren, what a pathway he trod, and he went through it all, and he's up there in glory. He's trodden the path before us and so the next thing we see here is his ways. The devil says although not in love, God says, yes they are, Yes they are. Dear young person, believe God. I say to myself, believe God, believe him, but everything looks its blackest when everything looks impossible. Believe God. He's not against you. The one who created this world, created it for your pleasure, the one who orders the circumstances of life, He has ordered them for your good and blessing. And in his perfect wisdom and perfect love, he's making all things work. Together for good. Well, then we have the next testimony of God, His Word. Let's turn to Second Peter chapter one. Second Peter, chapter 1. Beginning at the first verse, Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Savior Jesus Christ. Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who hath called us to or by glory and virtue, or by, are given unto us, exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. While we have had God's testimony to us through creation, we have had His voice speaking to us through His ways with us in our pathway. And now we have this blessed book. Thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name. And so as we read this blessed book, we find things in it that often. Conflict with our way of life. They bring before us how there are things. That we wanted to do things that we perhaps thought we were right in doing. And as we read this book, we found in it that God had revealed his mind differently in that connection. And the enemy again comes and says, Oh well, you'll have to disobey the word of God. That verse couldn't just mean that. And He suggests to us then that we would go in disobedience to His word. Or how true this is of our hearts, just the same as regards salvation. You pick up the Bible and start to talk to an unsaved man, and immediately he starts to talk about things in the Bible that he can't understand, about things that look to him like contradictions. And you say to him, well, let's set these things aside. There's something that is very, very plain, and that is that God loves you even though you're a Sinner, and that he gave his Son to die for you and that he wants you to receive. Him as your Savior than if you receive him then you'll have the spirit by which you can understand the word. But now he wants you to answer every question that he can raise from Genesis to Revelation, before he'll believe the good news that God loves him, that Christ died for him, and that he can have his sins forgiven and have a home in heaven. You try to bring him back to the wonderful way of salvation, and he keeps raising these questions continually. Who is it that makes all this trouble and confusion in his mind? It's the enemy He doesn't want them to hear.

Voice of God through his word and receive the blessing that God has for him. Again, the enemy is at work. He's opposed to everything that's of God. He tries to bring doubts in man's mind about creation, doubts about his ways, doubts about his word. The first thing he said to Eve in the Garden of Eden was, Yeah, hath God said. He raised a question. Is it really the word of God? Is it? Really true. And he won't even accept it. He won't even prove it all. Dear young people, this Bible, this book is the most wonderful treasure that you and I have. It says His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness. God hasn't undertaken to answer all our curious questions. John said that if the things that Jesus did were all written, the world itself couldn't contain the books that would be written. God could have given us enough books to read that the world itself couldn't contain them, and then we would be baffled, wouldn't we? But He, didn't He? Gave us this book which gives us all things that pertain unto life and godliness. The libraries of the land are full of books, but they don't answer your questions. No God could have filled this world with books, I say. He could have answered every curious question that's in our mind. Certainly He has all wisdom. But I'm glad that He just gave us this book, because I find in it all things that pertain unto light. And godliness, there isn't a thing necessary that you should have eternal life. And that eternal life is that you might know God as your Father and hold communion with him as your Father. In His presence and with a life that can enjoy His presence forever. He's told us this in His word. Isn't this wonderful? I'm glad He's made the way of salvation simple, because some of us couldn't understood it if He'd made it difficult. But He's made it simple so that even a child, a wayfaring man, nor a fool need not err him. But there is also all things that pertain unto godliness. Do you want to please the Lord in your life? You really want to live for him? Do I really want to please him? Well, he has given us the answers in his word. Dear Mr. Darby once said, he said I never came to a question in my life that I didn't find either a direct scripture or a principle in God's precious Word to

guide my conduct. And that's why, dear young people, I want to encourage you as I close to read God's Word. Don't just read the verses that talk about salvation. Read it all. Read it all. Circumstance. Arise in your life and mine. Life becomes more complex. Difficulties continue to arise. Oh, I beseech of you to read the whole word of God. Those precious stories of the Old Testament are full of deep moral lessons for us, and God has written in His Word. There is not one single place that there isn't a purpose. I remember one time I. Was going to read one of those chapters with names and I thought what good can I get by reading all those names? Well, I confess that sometimes I read through them hurriedly and I don't pay too much attention. But I thought at this time I'm going to pay a little more attention. There must be a purpose and I read the chapter carefully. And it was a chapter, I believe, in Chronicles. I don't just remember the chapter, but it was talking about David's children. And I found that David called one of his sons Nathan. And I found out that as near as I could gather, it was the one that was born just after Nathan had rebuked him for his sin. I thought, isn't that lovely? The brother came to me and told me about something that I was doing that was wrong. I wonder if I'd want to call my next son by his name. I'd probably want to forget his name and say, well, he didn't speak very nicely to me, pointed his finger right at me and said, Thou art the man. But David did not. All that spirit. But I thought what a lesson. And that was in the chapter with names. All dear young people, there's something in it for you and me. It's all important. There's a blessing in it all. Read it. It's God's word, It's God's letter to you, and he wrote it to you because he loved you and he wanted you to know everything that was necessary for you to know for your whole life here and to give you entrance into that home of Baal.

I say again, dear young people. The devil is coming between your soul and God. If he possibly can, and if he can bring some doubts about God's creation, then he'll do it. If he can bring some doubts about God's ways, then he'll do it. If he can bring some doubts about the Word of God or the purpose in the various Scriptures, he'll do it. But oh, if you'll just see in the whole creation that he made it because he loved you. There are all the ways that He orders in your life, and mine are to do us good at our latter end. And that this precious book, every jot and title, every word in it, was written because He wanted to make Himself known to you and me. That we might not only know the blessings, but that we might know the Blesser himself. And to be in his presence and to. To enjoy all that's in His heart for all eternity will be heaven itself. We won't need anything apart from what He supplies in that blessed scene and right now. He has, through His Word and in this world, given us what He sees is best for us. O dear young people, May God grant that that One who made known the heart of God. Will make himself more known to your heart and mind. That we'll know more of the heart of the Father, more and more of the heart of the Son, and walk in the enjoyment of it. May God grant that He will cause us in these days of departure and declension and giving up, to realize that God has not changed. That He is just as suited to 1966 as He was to AD 66. Just as suited, just as able to meet your needs, just as able to give you. Wisdom and grace just as able to fill your heart this year as he was when he was here upon earth. Oh, May God grant that we will turn to him and just look up and say, Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief shall we sing #309 Jesus before thy face we fall, our Lord, our life, our hope, our all. For we have nowhere else to flee. No. Actuary Lord with thee, 309.

Glendale Conference: 1966, Knowing God Who Has Revealed Himself to Us

YP Address—G.H. Hayhoe

Hymn #4. Ere God had built the mountains or raised the fruitful hills before he filled the fountains that feed the running rills. In thee from everlasting the wonderful I am found pleasures never wasting, And wisdom is thy name #4. God has built all the light. On the father's land. Why not? I'd like to look first of all at a verse in Job Chapter 11. Job Chapter 11 and verse 7. Canst thou, by searching, find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection? It is high as heaven? What canst thou do? Deeper than hell or Hades? What canst thou know? And now in John chapter one. John's Gospel chapter one and verse 18. No man has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son which is in the bosom of the Father, he has declared him. Well, dear young people, I have it on my heart to seek to speak a little this afternoon. About the wonderful privilege that we have in knowing God who has revealed himself to us. Through his word, I believe that we don't value sufficiently the wonderful treasure that we have in this book. We're living in days when men are making great advancements in education and science. When they're seeking and God is allowing them to find out much about this universe. But in doing so, they are losing if they ever had it. And knowledge of God they are getting farther and farther away from him. And while I don't have anything to say against what man may discover that might be made useful in connection with his life here upon the earth, I say that if these things are a hindrance to the knowledge of God, and as how he has revealed himself in and through his Word, by then they're going to rob you of that which is the greatest blessing you can possibly have. And that is the knowledge of God and the enjoyment of His heart and of his company.

And I was thinking of this passage in Job 711. Rather canst thou by searching, find out, God, millions of dollars are being spent in which men are trying to find out something about how this world came into being. They're trying to get some knowledge of these things. But all how wonderful that God has revealed himself. Can man, by searching, find out God? Is it possible, with all his research and with all he is doing to get by this, the knowledge of God? It says that it's high as the heavens. What canst thou do? It is deep as Haiti, deeper than Hades. What canst thou know? That is, in the knowledge that man may gain, it will not make known to him. The person of the one who created it. I might have a beautiful piece of furniture. I can see the grand handiwork of the person who made it. But I won't know anything about his character unless he makes himself known to me. I don't know whether the man who made that piece of furniture was a kind man or an unkind man. I don't know whether he was good to his wife and family by looking at the furniture. I need to be introduced to him. I need to have some testimony about him. Before I can really know his character, and so wouldn't it be foolish if I wanted to know him? To examine the furniture carefully, to study it all out, and yet not to really get to know him. But if this man makes himself known, then I can know something about his character. And God, in his wondrous love and grace, has been pleased to make himself known. Because man didn't know him. Because he had wandered away from him, Because sin had come in and become a barrier between man and God. Wonder of wonders, the God who made everything. Came down into this world, went to the cross of Calvary, in order that he might be made known. It says the only begotten son which is in the bosom of the Father. He hath declared him God has made himself known, and he has made himself known. That you and I might know all this in his heart, as we read yesterday in John 17, our brother brought it before us. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God. And Jesus Christ, whom thou ascent? Oh, what a privilege we have. That we can sit in these seats and not look around upon this world with the agnosticism or atheism of the day in which we live, But to know that the one who made all these things has been pleased to reveal himself to us, and that we can say that we know the Creator, we know him as one who loved us and who sent his son to die for us on Calvary's cross. I say that's the most marvelous thing. Well, I was thinking of this in three different connections, and first of all connection with creation, and then in connection with God's ways, and then in connection with His word, because I believe that God speaks to

man in those three different ways. Someone has said that He has three books by which He has made himself known, and that is in creation, a partial revelation. In his ways with man, by which he seeks to draw him to himself, and then above all through his word which explains to us His creation, which brings before us the purpose of His ways, and which reveals to us all that's in his heart. Well, I'd like to look first of all at Proverbs chapter 8.

Proverbs, Chapter 8. 22nd verse The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning or ever the earth was. Well. Let us go down to the 27th verse. When He prepared the heavens. I was there when He set a compass upon the face of the deep. Then the 30th verse. Then I was by him as one brought up with him. And I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him. Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth, and my delights were with the sons of man, the 34th verse. Blessed is the man that heareth me watching daily at my gates, waiting at the pulse of my doors, for whoso findeth me findeth life and shall obtain favorite of the Lord. Well, here we see a most marvelous thing that when these. This world the very. Universe in which we live was created. What was God thinking about all the marvel of all marvels is that his delights? Where with the sons of man, and away back when God began the creation. Then he had a purpose in it, and that purpose was your blessing and mine. Well, just think of man as spending so much money in trying to find out how this world came and teaching all kinds of things as to how it came into being. When God tells us that when he made these things, he was making them for us. Just think of a home and you go into that home and you admire all the workmanship in it. And you try to figure out who the man was that built it and what his purpose was in building it. And then in a months time you find out that that person who built that house had a personal interest in you. And that when he built that house, as he drove in every nail and as he put every piece in the house, he was thinking of the happiness that you were going to have when you possessed it. Wouldn't that change your thoughts about the house altogether? Well now, dear friends and dear young people, as you go to school, the attempt is made by the enemy of your soul to rob you of the blessedness of who the Creator is. And by occupying you with all these things, to hide from your view this wonderful fact that God, the Creator of all, had an interest in you and was thinking about you, and knew that you were going to be sitting in the Glendale Civic Auditorium. And he wanted to fill your heart with rejoicing and to make you know that the whole purpose of the sunshine and all the wonderful things that were in this world was that he was interested in you. He cared for you, he was concerned about you, and he gave you a body so that you could enjoy all these things. Can't you see that the whole idea of robbing you of the true knowledge of God is to rob you of this, which is the secret of enjoyment in your soul? Men are complaining today that the trouble with society is that in all the learning that they're getting. That no one is having a satisfied heart and everybody has a feeling of loneliness. And their friends. I'll tell you why. Because it is impossible with all your. Friendships and with all the people of this world to really find that which satisfies your heart. Because it's impossible in a world like this to find in human companionship that which really satisfies apart from God. It's impossible. Nor is it possible in all the things that are here to find that which will really satisfy. And so God makes himself known as the Creator, and in Genesis one He doesn't go into a great deal of detail. But He tells us enough that we would see that which would give us some knowledge about His creation. How that away back in a time that we're not told He He created the heavens and the earth. That was what we might call the original creation. How that it became spoiled in some way in the second verse, and then how in six days God fixed it up and made it a suitable dwelling place for man.

And placed Adam and Eve at the head of it, intending that Adam and Eve under him. And in the enjoyment of him might possess all these wonderful things that he had prepared for them. But what did Satan do? While Satan came into the scene and he got the ear of Adam and Eve, he got them to listen to him. He suggested to them that God wasn't quite as good as they thought he was, and that he was really holding back something from them. And that tree that he had forbidden to them was really the secret of their happiness, and God was holding it back from them all. You can see the work of the enemy here. He was bringing in a suggestion in their minds about, in spite of that wonderful creation, that God was not really altogether good, that he wasn't thoroughly and fully seeking their happiness. And now, dear young people, I know that what you're hearing at school is the same hiss of the serpent. It's the same attempt of that one who got the ear of Adam and Eve to get your ear and to get you occupied with all the things in this world that you can enjoy. They talk about the countries being unlimited, the possibilities being unlimited. All the things that are possible for us to enjoy in this world, and now they want to set aside the Creator himself. Isn't that just exactly what that what the serpent did in the Garden of Eden? He said to Adam and Eve, Why, You have unlimited possibilities here, and God's going to restrict you. He's going to hold you back from something that you could enjoy. And so they listened to Satan. And so with God's creation, as soon as you start to school, they try to put a doubt in your mind about the way that God created this world and His purpose in creating it. He they would try to bring that doubt into your mind, to put a breach, to put something between you and your Creator. And I beseech of you dear young people, to cling to that which God has given to us about creation. It says the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament show his handiwork. Now I confess that there are many details about the creation that I don't fully understand. There are many things that are beyond us, and God intended that it should be so. He never intended that we should be as gods. He intended that we should be as creatures. But He has told us enough that should satisfy us. And there is plenty for our knowledge, because the most important thing is not all the details. Of the creation, but the one that created it and that He created it because he desired our happiness. Going back to my little illustration about the house, supposing you said, well, I can't enjoy this house unless this man tells me how many nails he drove in the house. Unless he tells me to the very hours and minutes how long it took him to build it. Unless he tells me where he purchased every square inch of material that's in the house, I'll never be able to enjoy it. And he spends the rest of his life trying to find out all these details. Well, I think you'd say what a foolish man. He knows that the man built it for him. He knows it was built in love for him. Why not just settle down and enjoy it? And as he looks at every piece of wood in it and every carpet in it and every little appointment in it? That he can say the man that built this loved me and he put all those things in here for me so that I could be happy. I've sometimes said to the young people up at Otter Lake, it's a lovely thought to my mind to think that when God created this world, he made a lake up there and he put a Bay on it and he fixed it all up just right for us to be together and enjoy it all. You say? Well, this was formed by glaciers and all this sort of thing. Well, that just spoils it for me. I'd rather think of the I don't know how he did it, but I know that he had a purpose in it, and this purpose means more to me than all the details. About how it came about. And I know that he was thinking of the dear young people who can sit on the side of it and enjoy the fact that the God who made all that loves them and sent his Son to die for them. And dear young people, I want to tell you. And dear children, I want to tell you as you pass through this world, if you spend all your time on these questions about how the creation was brought about and don't enjoy it from the hand of your Creator, you're missing.

The grandest thing that you can have, and that is the heart of your Creator, who when he put every stone in place, as our brother said, before he put any lake on this world, before he appointed anything, he was thinking about you, and he was desiring your happiness not only here but for all eternity. Oh, isn't this a wonderful thing to know? Or I want to bring before you a little bit of the fact that. That one who is the Creator loves you, and God tells us. That even where the Bible is unknown, that he intended that creation should be a voice to those who do not know him, he says the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork. And when the poor Pagan looks up and

worships the star, God says he's worshipping the creature more than the Creator. He's more occupied with the thing than with the person who made it. And so I say that in creation. God has a testimony to man, and that testimony of his of his eternal power and Godhead and his goodness, that made a place like this that we could live in. And what a sad thing that men are still listening to the voice of the tempter that would rob them of this fact all. May I say again, dear young people, in all your studies, don't let the enemy rob you of the fact that the God who made everything. Has told you in a general way how he has made it, and he has told you his purpose in making it was that his delights were with the sons of men. I beseech of you and pray that you dear young people might be kept. The enemy is trying to bring a wedge between you and God, and if he can only do that, he has ruined your life. He has robbed you of that which is for your blessing. And he has also given a victory to himself and robbed you a blessing. For now, let us turn to another passage in Job Chapter 33. Verse 10 Job 33 Verse 10 Behold, he findeth occasions against May he counteth me for his enemy. He putteth my feet in the stocks he marketh all my paths. Behold, in this thou art not just. I will answer thee, that God is greater than man. Why dost thou strive against him? For he giveth not account of any of his matters. For God speaketh once, yeah twice, yet man perceiveth it not in a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon man in slum rings upon the bed. Then he openeth the ears of man, and sealeth their instruction that he may withdraw a man from his purpose, and hide pride from man. He keepeth back his soul from the pit, and his life from perishing by the sword. He has chastened also with pain upon his bed. And the multitude of his bones with strong pain saw that his life abhorrent bled, and his soul dainty meat. 23rd verse. If there being a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among 1000, to show unto man his unright his uprightness, then he is gracious unto him, And Seth deliver him from going down to the pit. I have found a ransom. His flesh shall be fresher than a child's. He shall return to the days of his youth. He shall pray unto God, and he will be favorable unto him, and he shall see his face with joy. For he will render unto man his righteousness. Well, this brings us to the second point. And that is God's ways, God's ways. Now it tells us in another place that God's ways are past finding out. And here it tells us, why dost thou strive against him? For he gives not account of any of his matters. And this is the second thing that man stumbles at. And Satan leads man's heart into rebellion.

In Creation, he tries to come in and occupy him with the creation and deny the existence or at least the character, of the Creator. And in connection with God's ways, he tries to lead man's heart to rebellion against God. And what God is seeking to bring before us here, as well as another passages in His word. Is that his purpose in his ways is the good and blessing of man? And how often we find that when a man has some serious trouble come into his life, perhaps a loved one is snatched away from him, perhaps the difficulty comes. The devil comes to him and says how can God be a God of love when he allows a thing like that? The Bible tells you that it's because he is the God of love that he allowed that. It was to withdraw man from his purpose. Maybe that man was on his road to a lost eternity. And he wouldn't listen to the pleadings of love. And so God comes in through circumstances and trouble. And speaks to him and instead of seeing and hearing the voice of God in the circumstance. He allows Satan to bring rebellion into his heart. And dear young Christian, isn't this true with us as believers too? Perhaps there's been some disappointment come in your life. Maybe you had some plan and it just seemed to be working out so nicely. Things seemed to be going on so well, and all of a sudden everything was disrupted. Everything turned to disappointment instead of to fruition. And you were just brought to the point that the enemy said, well, you thought the Lord loved you. You thought he was caring for you, and that he was working things for you. Why did he allow that? And he tries to come between your soul and God through the circumstance. But why did God allow it? Why did God allow it? Perhaps he saw that with me, or perhaps with you. We were getting satisfied with earthly friendships. We were getting satisfied with material things and he knew that those things could never really satisfy. And so he allowed that disappointment. He allowed that frustration not because he hated us, because he loved us. Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth, whom the Lord loveth, he chasteth All those troubles don't come, because the Lord is against you. If God before us, who can be against us, 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? All I ask you don't allow rebellion to come in your heart. Don't allow rebellion to come in your heart. Some of you dear young people, I know you're growing up. Somebody, perhaps in the meeting, did an unkind thing to you. Somebody did something that really hurt. And the enemy said, oh, don't take that, Leave the meeting. If that's the kind of people they are, don't stay. What was he doing? He was trying to rob you. He wasn't seeking your happiness. No, he was trying to come between you and God. But why did God allow that thing? Or maybe you had your eye on the brethren instead of on the Lord. And the Lord said, I want you to be at my table because I'm there. If you get occupied with your brethren and I confess I'm the same. Dear young people, I'm not talking like this two years, though, it didn't mean me. It means me just as much as it means anyone else. We get so occupied with our brethren, we look around and we sort of get satisfied with the fellowship. And the Lord says, I want your heart. I want your heart. And I want you to realize that if everything else fails, and if everybody else disappoints you, I never will. I'm the same yesterday and today and forever. All dear young person, he wants your heart. And if you go through that disappointment and that frustration and that mean thing that was done to you, and you take it from the Lord, you'll thank the Lord that He has taught you what it is to be truly gathered to His precious name. You will thank him for it in later life. Many, many of the older brethren here will say Amen to this. These things have happened and perhaps we felt the same too. We felt really upset.

And now we look back and we think, oh, the Lord has made me really value his presence and his. And his table. More through that circumstance and saw the second thing I bring before you is God's ways. God's ways. They're past finding out. I'm not trying to explain why such and such a set of circumstances developed in your life. I don't believe we always understand. I don't believe that Joseph ever fully understood. Why? A lot of things happened in his life. I'm sure there are many Saints of God who lived and died. Who never understood just why certain circumstances came in their life, but they had the grace to look up and say, As for God, his way is perfect, and peace filled their heart, and Jesus himself drew near and went with them. When did Jesus draw near? When that couple, Cleophus, and perhaps his wife, were thoroughly disappointed and discouraged and frustrated. They were walking down on the road to Emmaus with heavy hearts. The very one that they thought was the Messiah of Israel had to their minds, disappointed them and their hearts were heavy. And Jesus himself drew near and went with them. Dear young person, are you? Are you disappointed? Are you frustrated? Are you? Just at the point where you say I'm going to leave the meeting, Jesus himself draws near to you. He wants to be everything to you. For I should never realize it before, but he wants to be everything to you, and he wants you to learn that those ways that you can't understand, that are past finding out or in love. The devil tells you they're not. The devil tells you they couldn't be. How could they work together for good? I sometimes said in reading Romans 8. It says we know that all things work together for good to them that love God to them who are the calls according to his purpose. We read that verse and we stop there and we say how could that be in this circumstance? I say read the next verse, read the next verse. The next verse says for whom he did foreknow. He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his son, that he might be the first born among many brethren. And I'll just tell you what I mean by reading the next verse. I guess we've all had this experience. Did you ever start to read a storybook and you came to a very sad chapter in the storybook? And everything seemed so sad that you just could not see how it would workout. And you couldn't. You couldn't wait any longer. And you turned over to the end of the book to see how the story ended. And when you saw that it ended well, you went back and maybe the tears were rolling down your face. And you kept saying to yourself, it's going to be

all right. It's going to be all right. Because I know the end of the story. And God knew that doubts might come in our minds. And we'd wonder how this chapter in our life could ever workout just right. But God says, I'm going to tell you the end. And the end is that we're going to be conformed to the image of his son. That he might be the first born among many brethren. What a pathway he trod. And he went through it all. And he's up there in glory. He's trodden the path before us. And so the next thing we see here is his ways. The devil says all. They're not in love. God says yes they are, Yes they are. Dear young person, believe God, I say to myself, Believe God. Believe him. What? Everything looks. It's blackest when everything looks impossible. Believe God. He's not against you. The one who created this world, created it for your pleasure. The one who orders the circumstances of life. He has ordered them for your good and blessing. And in His perfect wisdom and perfect love, He's making all things work together for good. Well, then we have the next.

Testimony of God, His word. Let's turn to second Peter, chapter one. Second Peter chapter one. Beginning at the first verse, Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ. To them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Savior Jesus Christ. Grace and peace be multiplied under you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. According as his divine power hath given unto us all things. That pertain unto life and godliness through the knowledge of him who hath called us to, or by glory and virtue, or by are given unto us, exceeding great and precious promises, that by these you might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. While we have had God's testimony to us through creation, we have had His voice speaking to us through His, through His ways, with us in our pathway. And now we have this blessed book. Thou hast magnified Thy word above all thy name. And so as we read this blessed book, we find things in it that often conflict with our way of life. They bring before us how there are things that we wanted to do. Things that we perhaps thought we were right in doing. And as we read this book, we found in it that God had revealed his mind differently in that connection. And the enemy again comes and says, Oh well, you'll have to disobey the word of God. That verse couldn't just mean that. And he suggests to us then that we would go in disobedience to His word. All how true this is of our hearts. Just the same as regards salvation. You pick up the Bible and start to talk to an unsaved man, and immediately he starts to talk about things in the Bible that he can't understand, about things that look to him like contradictions. And you say to him, well, let's set these things aside. There's something that is very, very plain, and that is that God loves you even though you're a Sinner. And that he gave his son to die for you, and that he wants you to receive him as your savior. Than if you receive him, then you'll have the Spirit by which you can understand the word. But now he wants you to answer every question that he can raise, from Genesis to Revelation, before he'll believe the good news. That God loves him, that Christ died for him, and that he can have his sins forgiven and have a home in heaven. You try to bring him back to the wonderful way of salvation, and he keeps raising these questions continually. Who is it that makes all this trouble and confusion in his mind? It's the enemy. He doesn't want them to hear the voice of God through his word and receive the blessing that God has for him. Again, the enemy is at work. He's opposed to everything that's of God. He tries to bring doubts in man's mind about creation, doubts about his ways, doubts about his word. The first thing he said to Eve in the Garden of Eden was, yeah, hath God said. He raised the question, Is it really the word of God? Is it really true? And he won't even accept it. He won't even prove it. Oh dear young people, this Bible, this book is the most wonderful treasure that you and I have. It says his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness. God hasn't undertaken to answer all our curious questions. John said that if the things that Jesus did were all written. The world itself couldn't contain the books that would be written. God could have given us enough books to read that the world itself couldn't contain them, and then we would be baffled, wouldn't we? But He didn't. He just gave us this book, which gives us all things that pertain unto life and godliness. The libraries of the land are full of books, but they don't answer your questions. No God could have filled this world with books. I say He could have answered every curious question that's in our mind. Certainly he has all wisdom.

But I'm glad that he just gave us this book, because I find in it all things that pertain unto life and godliness. There isn't a thing necessary that you should have eternal life, And that eternal life is that you might know God is your Father, and whole communion with him as your father be in His presence, and that with a life that can enjoy His presence forever. He's told us this in His word. Isn't this wonderful? I'm glad he's made the way of salvation simple. Because some of us couldn't understood it if he'd made it difficult. But he's made it simple, so that even a child, a waferring man or a fool, need not earther him. But there is also all things that pertain unto godliness. Do you want to please the Lord in your life? You really want to live for him? Do I really want to please him? Well, he has given us the answers in his word, dear Mr. Darby once said. He said I never came to a question in my life that I didn't find either a direct scripture or a principle in God's precious word to guide my conduct. And that's why, dear young people, I want to encourage you as I close to read God's Word. Don't just read the verses that talk about salvation. Read it all. Read it. All circumstances arise in your life and mine life becomes more complex. Difficulties continue to arise. All I beseech of you to read the whole word of God. Those precious stories of the Old Testament are full of deep moral lessons for us. And God has written in his word. There is not one single place that there isn't a purpose. I remember one time I was going to read one of those chapters with names, and I thought, what good can I get by reading all those names? Well, I confess that sometimes I read through them hurriedly and I don't pay too much attention. But I thought at this time I'm going to pay a little more attention. There must be a purpose. And I read the chapter carefully. Chapter I believe in Chronicles. I don't just remember the chapter, but it was talking about David's children. And I found that David called one of his sons Nathan, and I found out that as near as I could gather. It was the one that was born just after Nathan had rebuked him for his sin. I thought, isn't that lovely if a brother came to me and told me about something that I was doing? That was wrong. I wonder if I'd want to call my next son by his name. I'd probably want to forget his name and say, well, he didn't speak very nicely to me, point his finger right at me and said thou art the man. But David didn't show that spirit. I thought, what a lesson. And that was in the chapter with names. All dear young people, there's something in it for you and me. It's all important. There's a blessing in it all. Read it. It's God's word. It's God's letter to you. And he wrote it to you because he loved you. And he wanted you to know everything that was necessary for you to know for your whole life here, and to give you entrance into that home above all. I say again, dear young people, the devil is coming between your soul and God, if he possibly can. And if he can bring some doubts about God's creation, then he'll do it. If he can bring some doubts about God's ways, then He'll do it. If He can bring some doubts about the word of God or the purpose in the various Scriptures, He'll do it. But oh, if you'll just see in the whole creation that He made it because He loved you, not all the ways that He orders in your life and mine are to do as good at our latter end, and that this precious book, every jot and title, every word in it. Was written because he wanted to make himself known to you and me. That we might not only know the blessings, but that we might know the blesser himself. And to be in his presence and to enjoy all that's in his heart. For all eternity will be heaven itself. We won't need anything. Apart from what he supplies in that blessed scene. And right now he has. Through his word and in this world, given us, what he sees is best for us. All dear young people, May God grant that that one who made known the heart of God will make Himself more known to your heart and mind, that we'll know more of the heart of the Father, more and more of the heart of the Son, and walk in the enjoyment of it. May God grant that He will cause us in these days of departure and declension, and giving up to realize that God has not changed, that He is just as suited to 1966.

As he was to AD 66. Just as suited, just as able to meet your needs. Just as able to give you wisdom and grace, just as able to fill your heart this year. As he was when He was here upon earth. Oh, May God grant that we will turn to Him. And just look up and say, Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief. Shall we sing #309? Jesus, before thy face we fall, our Lord our life, our hope, our all, for we have nowhere else to flee no sanctuary. Lord with thee, 309. Face we fall. Our Lord.

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