

Chapel, March 3, 1927
President Wright

(On March 2, we had a blizzard with snow at least fifteen inches deep.)

I think this morning is a very appropriate time to talk to you about following in His footsteps, and walking in the "beaten path". I think you will appreciate that this morning perhaps more than any other time in your life. You are really in a position from the standpoint of psychology to understand the real significance of what it means to walk in "His footsteps". Jehovah has given us a great example to follow in Jesus, the Messiah, and if we could follow in His footsteps just as we are almost forced to follow in the footsteps of those who have gone before. If we can follow in His footsteps all through life, we will find that the going is really better. We will find that that is the most satisfying way. We will find that we will stay out of trouble. We will find, just as it is better today with this tremendous snow to follow in the footsteps of those who have made a way for us, that just so it is easier and better in our spiritual life, if we can follow in His footsteps.

On the other side, the youth of today are not very much disposed to follow in the paths that have been laid out for them by the preceding generations, and I have no fault to find with youth and its attitude, but we do realize now, as perhaps we have never realized before in our lives the significance of the saying "walking in the beaten path". We find out this morning that, after all, there is something of vital importance to a human being to follow in the "beaten path". It is always easier. It may not always be the right thing to do, because as civilization advances, we are more or less forced to make new paths and to walk in a little different way. That is true, but many of the things in this world are here because of the experiences of preceding generations, and those experiences have shown that it is best in most cases to follow ^{where} ~~as~~ others have gone, especially if we are walking in the footsteps of the Master. I just felt that this was the best time in the world for us to see that. Do not reject everything that others have decided is right. There is a serious danger there, and that is one of the dangers in this republic

today - that the people in this republic will reject all that the people of yesterday have established. That is just as bad as to accept it all. In fact, it is worse. We ought to follow, in so far as it is possible, in the paths that civilization has laid down for us. David realized something of this when he wrote in that 17th Psalm, "Hold up my goings in Thy paths that my footsteps slip not." He wanted to walk in the paths of Jehovah and he wanted Jehovah to hold him up that he might go without slipping. I don't suppose that passage of scripture has ever meant as much to you as it does this morning. You fully understand what he meant by being held up in the paths of Jehovah that his footsteps slip not.

I hope you will take these thoughts with you and revolve them in your minds and work out your life purposes, not necessarily to follow in the footsteps of all those who have gone before, because there are some paths that do not lead to righteousness, there are some paths that lead in the opposite direction. We need the guidance of Jehovah that we may walk in His paths. We need his guidance to keep us from slipping and from going astray. All that the world has done isn't bad, and I want us to realize that.

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Now, coming to an entirely different thing, let me ask you to take care of yourselves during this snow. This is the biggest snow, I think I have ever seen in North Carolina. I lived in Baltimore for a few years and one year they had thirty-one snows. On the sides of the streets snow was piled up in some places as high as eight or ten feet. But this is the largest snow I have ever seen in Eastern North Carolina. I tried to measure it yesterday, and I measured it at a place that would give a fair estimate of the depth and it measured fifteen inches. Fifteen inches of snow is some snow. You have had a rich experience. You have been through a real genuine blizzard without the hard cold that usually goes with it. And you had it at a good time when you were at the college with some one to help you get a beaten path, and warm rooms to stay in. I hope we will be able to get plenty of heat to keep you warm. I don't know whether you will get any milk. I understand the

man got within sight of the dining room yesterday, but couldn't make it. I presume he will get here today. This will all be gone within a few days, but don't get out in it too much. ~~You see I didn't say~~ ^{do not know all} ~~don't get out in it at all.~~ Go out and enjoy it, but when you get wet, go in and get on some dry clothes.

Yesterday I told you that I thought the storm would be over by today, and told you that if it wasn't snowing this morning, we would go back on the regular schedule. Some of you evidently didn't hear that. I got so many telephone calls this morning, I finally just began picking up the receiver and saying, "This is Mr. Wright, the schedule will go on as usual." I thought I would never get to eat any breakfast for answering the telephone. Pay attention to instructions and do as you are told. If the sun is shining tomorrow as it is today, we will have classes as usual.