

Chapel April 8, 1930

--President Wright

Scripture lesson: Twelve verses from the 16 Chapter of St. Matthew.

I didn't select this passage of scripture this morning because of the first part of it, but because people are still interested in signs. They still say "It will rain tomorrow, or it will be clear tomorrow because, so and so----". We had a shower of mud yesterday that literally dirtied up every automobile that was out in it. According to Carl Goerch it was even worse farther toward the east. On one occasion in Pittsburgh they had a black snow. What really happened is that the snow cleared the air of the soot that was in it. Pittsburg casts out a great deal of coal dust and the snow was covered with soot. We had quite a bad storm of sand yesterday and immediately following that was a little shower and every drop of rain was a drop of mud. It was rather interesting, as you probably will not see that again.

You are familiar with the saying "A guilty conscience needs no accusing". When a person has been neglecting something his first thought is "He is referring to the thing I didn't do." After this interview with the Pharisees and the Sadducees in which they had asked Jesus for a sign and he had told them that no sign would be given except the sign of Jonas, He said to the Diciples "Beware of the leaven of the Pahrisees and of the Shadducees." And the diciples said Uh, Huh, I knew we should have brought bread, and we didn't do it. They had fallen down on their duty and neglected something that should have been attended to and their conscience was hurting. I wonder if you have ever felt that way? I have. I have misinterpreted what was said because I was thingking of duties neglected.

Jesus was talking to them about the leaven of their lives and not



the bread they ate, not about the yeast they put into flour to make it rise and make good bread. The doctrine those people were spreading was not putting the yeast into lives that would make them better and more useful. Jesus was thinking about that and he said Beware of it, it won't help you; beware of the kind of thing that will pull you down, you want the right kind of yeast that will make you the right kind of citizen. But they were doing just the thing that others have always done--measuring what they heard by what they were thinking of, and Jesus had to correct the erroneous idea. They probably wouldn't have misinterpreted him if they had done their duty. The thing I want you to see is that in this passage of scripture we have a universal law as applied to human beings. If we live like we ought to and we do each day the individual tasks that that day brings, live the life that is worth living, the life that measures up in every respect, even though the task be nothing more than the going to the bakery to buy bread or to the grocery to buy fruit (they had failed to do that thing and so misinterpreted the truth Jesus was telling them) we will be able to interpret the truths we hear aright. If we fail to do what we ought we will misinterpret what we hear.

To live the full life you and I must perform the duty that lies before us each hour of each day; even the simple tasks such as buying bread, but if I fail, then I have failed to live up to the responsibility that is mine--just those little tasks that are necessary for one to live their full and complete life.

"I didn't get my lesson last night. Bet she'll call on me today." She doesn't know whether you studied or not but if she calls on you--as she would have done anyway--you go out saying "I knew she'd call on me just because I didn't know the lesson." It is your conscience after you. The greatest book on pedagogy that was ever written is this book. (The Bible)