

CHAPEL, February 5, 1931

-- President Wright

Scripture lesson: 114th Psalm

I am wondering this morning if you heard the Psalm that I read and if it had any meaning for you. I have told you repeatedly and I am sure you thoroughly understand that the book of Psalms was the ~~psalm~~<sup>sow</sup> book used by the Children of Israel; the psalms were ~~their~~ poems. Jehovah, the God of the Jews and God of the Christians, the one true and living God who created the earth and all the Heavenly bodies--man, and placed him on the earth--is living and ruling all he created. The children of Israel had been down in Egypt as slaves, had been taken out of Egypt and quite a number of miracles, what seemed to them to be miracles, had taken place. They had come up to the Red Sea with a great army of one of the large and powerful nations of the earth just back of them and the Sea in front of them and it looked like certain death and destruction for the children of Israel. They murmured and God told Moses to say to His people to move forward. And they did move forward and they went across that ~~land~~<sup>arm</sup> of the sea on dry land; the water swept out of the way. Another time it looked that they were going to die for lack of water. Moses smote a rock and water gushed forth, and they were supplied. They came up to the river Jordon, there were no bridges to cross on, and the water moves awy and they went across.

Now, the Psalmist realizing the power of Jehovah, wrote this Psalm; notice the poetical way in which he dealt with the Psalm which I am reading. With that in mind, and with that knowledge, I want to read the 114th Psalm again: " ----- The sea saw it, and fled: Jordan was driven back. The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like lambs.



What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back? Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams; and ye little hills, like lambs? Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the God of Jacob; Which turned the rock into a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters."

That's how the Psalmist saw these wonderful experiences the children of Israel went through in their journey, and it makes a beautiful Psalm.

Any piece of genuine literature is much more beautiful if we know the things around it. To enjoy the things of life, to get the most out of them, it is necessary for us to know a lot of things other than the particular thing that we are studying. What I mean is this: If we want to get the most out of life we must not only have an intense knowledge of certain useful facts but we must also have a broadening of our knowledge; we must not only know the particular thing that we are studying but we must know something around it and outside. You cannot enjoy Shakespeare and see the humor and fun that runs <sup>through</sup> Shakespeare unless you realize that all his girls were boys. That's where some of the humor comes in. Did you read Ella's Cinderella this morning? She is posing as a boy now and when someone said the soup she made tasted as if a woman had a hand in she said she did let her finger slip in it!

In other words, to get the beauty and full significance of almost any piece of literature it is necessary for you to know some of the history surrounding it. To get the best out of life we must have a broadening of our education. You ought to take something besides psychology and pedagogy and such subjects to become the most successful teacher. You need geography to understand what is going on in New Zealand and the significance of that terrible earthquake, that has destroyed two or three cities. You need to learn and to put into practice, to read and to keep up with the current things in the world.



One of the best magazines on pedagogy that I read is the National Geographic Magazine. Each issue is filled with things that help me to get a grasp on the world. World's Work is another good magazine for a person who is interested in pedagogy. You can't help children to learn to become world citizens if you have a neighborhood, county, state, or even a national education. So, in your college work reach out and grasp some of the other things, things other than those in your particular line of study.

It will be a help to you.