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CHAPEL, October 6, 1932

--President Wright

Scripture lesson: From Sixth Chapter St. Matthew

I want to talk to you a few minutes about this passage of scripture. Notice the way St. Matthew begins teaching "Take heed that you do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: " You must not have that as your motive for what you do. There are a great many people who make large donations for charity, and some of them apparently do it to be seen of men. If you do it to be seen of men you have no reward from your Father who is in Heaven. "Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward." This means that being seen of man is their reward. "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet -----" You can shut yourself up anywhere--right here in Chapel, for example; you do not have to stand up and speak out loud, but you can talk in secret to the Father.

There is a story told of an Infidel who went to a religious meeting and listened to a man praying long and loudly. "He must think his God is asleep and be trying to ^{awaken} ~~wake~~ him" he said.

Jesus is trying to reach the people of the world, and this prayer is the greatest ever written. He is trying to get people to realize it is the spirit in which a thing is done.

On one occasion at a meeting of people from all over the world to discuss religion all stood up and repeated this prayer, and it seemed to fit into the religions of all, whether Christian or not. Forgive us our

debts" I like that just a little better than "trespassers". If we do not forgive we need not expect to be forgiven. If the spirit of forgiveness is not in our hearts when we pray to be forgiven "as we forgive" then we are praying that we will not be forgiven. Debts doesn't mean money borrowed, but is dealing with spiritual things, one's attitude toward his fellowman.

I hope that morning after morning as we repeat this prayer we will study it and get its full significance.