

Row

CHAPEL, NOVEMBER 16, 1933

Scripture Lesson: 17th Chapter Acts, Verses 10-15

In the lesson I read in your hearing this morning, setting forth further the story of Paul's preaching in Europe, we find Paul in Berea. There they studied the scripture, and many of the people who heard him believed in Jesus, honorable women of the Greeks, and many men. But those men back in Thessalonica heard Paul was in Berea and went down and stirred up trouble again, so much that Paul had to leave. Then we find Paul in Athens.

There are certain things in the world that are eternally true. It would pay us to search the scriptures and find the truth. It makes no difference. It makes no difference in what land you are, or what your philosophy of life, two and two put together give four. That is a truth we can't get away from. There are certain things that are universally true.

I am talking to you young people this morning, and this week, along this line because of the torn up condition this world is in in its thinking, and in the hope that I may be of some little service to right-minded students. There seems to be a tendency everywhere to work on the basis of getting by; not what is right, but just getting by. If it means going to the Council when called, in college, or in the court when called by the courts in the state, if it means going in and telling a lie to get out of something, or to get somebody else out of something, that's all right, is the attitude. To write your name to a check when you know there's no money in the bank to meet it, just to gain time, to get by with something, in the minds of some people is all right. To write another person's name on a slip saying she has returned to college when she hasn't, if you can get by with it, is all right, never realizing that the name to the check, when you know there is no money there, is a violation of the law, or signing your father's name when you have no authority in the hope that he will cash the check when it comes in, is a violation of the law and also a form of forgery, or signing the other person's name to a slip saying she has returned to college

when she hasn't is a form of forgery. "All right, if you can get by with it." The person who lies in court and gets by with it, who forges a name to a piece of paper, whatever it may be, is headed just as straight toward the penitentiary and eternal damnation as he can go. The philosophy of life that anything you can do to get by in an emergency is all right, is all wrong. The person who succeeds in getting by will probably think he can keep it up all through life, but he will some day land at the penitentiary. Human society must rest upon honesty, integrity and right living. It makes no difference how much our civilization is torn up there are some things that are eternally true, that must be the foundation stones of any civilization that is to be enduring.

I want to beg of you, search for the truth and follow where the truth leads. I think it is a glorious thing, as I said to you Tuesday, that we are testing our standards of life, but we want to be fair with these standards and reject only those that are not true, and we have some standards that are not. I have been fighting some of them all my life, because they did not ring true, to me. And I want you to do the same thing, but be honest with yourself and ring true with your conscience. Falsehood and error may lure you for a while but in the end they will betray you and tread you down and trample you under foot and will laugh at you for the fool you were to follow them.

I have seen too many people in the short life I have lived who have paid dearly for not being true. It is more important to you as an individual than to any type of organization you may find yourself in. "To thine own self be true", regardless of what the rest of the world may say or do. If you are true through and through you will not regret it later.