

CHAPEL, October 7, 1933

Scripture Lesson: 20 verses from the 9th chapter Acts

Yesterday morning I read in your hearing a passage of scripture from the eighth chapter of the Book of Acts, telling about Simon, who had byesocery done wonderful work, and who, after he heard the preaching of Peter, was apparently converted. He joined with them but he wasn't converted until later. The nineteenth verse says, "This man sayeth, give me also this power that on whomsoever I lay hands he may receive the Holy Ghost." The eighteenth says that when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money. And then Peter said to him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. There are a lot of folks in this materialistic age in which we find ourselves who believe that they can get almost anything they want if they have the money. I was in New York on one occasion and wanted to go to a theatre. It was at the time the "Merry Widow" was having such a run in New York City. We went to the theatre and they said there were no seats left. My friend said, "That's all right, If you have the money you can get anything you want in New York City." He bought seats and we went to the show. A lot of people think that not only in New York, but anywhere, you can get what you want if you have the money. In this early day, in the beginning of this Christian religion, we find that thought. It was a wonderful thing that these people received the spirit of God, and Simon said, I will pay for it if you will just give me that power, Peter. And Peter said, You and your money perish. You can't buy this thing. And young folks, aside from religion, there are certain things you cannot buy with money, and they are the most valuable things in human life. Money doesn't buy happiness; money doesn't produce happiness. You can't buy anything that has a spiritual value in it with money. You may lose it because you have money, but you can't buy it with money. You are here in college because you have money enough to come (I hope you have money

enough to come! ) It makes no difference how many millions you may possess you cannot buy an education. It makes no difference how large your bank account, money can only provide for you an opportunity. It can take care of the necessary expenses while you, through your own individual effort, master the subjects necessary to call yourself an educated man or an educated woman. All the better things of life come from the individual's development and effort. You never get anything out of life more than you put into it. You never get more out of life than you put into it in the way of effort. Do you say, If only I were as brilliant as so and so---? Perhaps you are. You may have same amount of intellect, and not be putting forth the same effort.

The best things of life can't be bought.