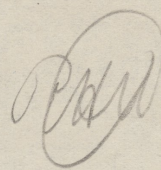


CHAPEL, January 18, 1934

-- President Wright



Scripture lesson: Matthew IV, verses 17-22

Yesterday you heard a splendid talk dealing with certain topics in current history. If we look over the nations of the world we will find two almost opposing ideas of government, based on fundamentally different principles. One is called <sup>the</sup> capitalistic system, and is a system of government by which individuals carry on all kinds of human activities for gain, for a livelihood, hire people to work for, or with, them, and fix wages, etc., themselves. Our government has been operated on this basis. The government has made laws to protect human life and property, and individual ownership.

The other type of government, under various names, controls everything, fixes the compensation for different kinds of human activity, provides for the welfare of the people, and makes laws on that basis. It is fundamentally different from the capitalistic form.

The United States, England, France, Germany, practically all Central Europe except Italy, and practically <sup>all</sup> the governments of the two Americas belong to the first type. There is considerable variation in all these governments, however. Italy and Russia represent most decidedly the other type. Japan has the capitalistic form of government. China is a world of confusion, nobody can say what it belongs to. These two ideas of government are almost diametrically opposed to each other. For a number of years there has been a tendency on the part of the people of the United States to go to our government for all kinds of help in our industries of various and sundry kinds. We had a period of what might be called various blocs in Congress; agricultural blocs, trying to get the government to do certain things in agriculture, etc. There is a growing tendency to go to the government and to throw the responsibility on the government. Probably that tendency on our part is responsible for our breakdown today. It

is in part responsible. When Roosevelt was made President of the United States he worked out a scheme in the hope that he might be able to take care of the hungry, the unemployed, to give work to people who wanted to work and to pay them a living wage. President Roosevelt says this is an experiment and if some phase of it doesn't work satisfactorily it will be changed. He is probably the most open minded president the United States has had in generations, if not the most open minded it has ever had. He does not hesitate to take problems of government to the people and to say he is going to try a certain thing, and if it doesn't work he will try something else. It is his hope that by giving people employment and giving them a chance to make a living our capitalistic system will be re-established. We are going into debt in a way that has never been equaled by any government on the face of the earth in peace time. This is an emergency measure to help get the nation back on its feet on the old capitalistic basis. What should be our attitude toward it? I am asking that question because the people of the United States are going to determine whether we will change to a Soviet government or whether we are going to continue on the basis we have operated on in the United States from the beginning. I heard a young man say yesterday that he came home from Virginia, where he had work, to spend the Christmas holidays, and hadn't gone back because he got a C. W. A. job that paid more and was going to stay here as long as that lasted. Is that man a good citizen? a help or a handicap to the president's scheme? I heard another person, recently, say "Aren't you going to get yours while it's going?" Is that the thing to do? To spend when one does not need to spend just to get something extra done. It has reached the point in America where a person is somewhat looked down upon if he doesn't get from the Federal government all he can. And yet we are the government, you and I, and people of the United States. If we borrow ten billions dollars you and I and all the people of the United States are going to pay it back.