

CHAPEL January 24, 1934

-- President Wright

*Wright*

Scripture lesson: Matthew V, verses 13-20

The scripture lesson we read this morning is taken from the Sermon on the Mount. As one reads the Book of Matthew he finds the great fundamental doctrine of Christ, or rather, the constitution of the Christian religion. Matthew wrote primarily to convince the Jews that Jesus was the long-looked-for Messiah, and probably these sayings of Jesus' in the Sermon on the Mount were not all delivered at one time. It is immaterial as to whether they were or not, Matthew brought them together. This is the Magna Carta of our kingdom. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." Does that mean peacemakers between nations? It might. Or does it mean peacemakers between folks in a neighborhood, or a town, or community, or right here in college? I think it means all of these. We often have a wonderful opportunity to make peace between two people who are at odds with each other. One of the greatest movements in the world today is to bring about peace between nations; it is the most laudable undertaking given to man because it is in keeping with the great charter of Christian religion, is in keeping with the fundamental law as laid down by Jesus Himself. "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill." That statement can be changed to "I am come not to destroy the law of the prophets, but to fill the law full"-- full of the spirit of love, of Christianity. "Till Heaven and earth pass, He says, there shall not be one iota of change in the law. I don't think that Christ was trying to say that the law as written by the Jews cannot be changed at all, because He often spoke of things the Jews did that they shouldn't do, but the great laws of Jehovah as revealed to you and to me and to all humanity are not changeable. God, in laying out the universe, earth and all Heavenly bodies, made rules and regulations with reference to human life, physical, mental, and spiritual. Certain great fundamental principles, God's laws, are inevitable, and work regardless of what we say



and do. Consider the law of gravitation. If you don't believe it will operate get up on a high object and jump off; it works every time. Now if we can fill those laws full of the right kind of attitudes on our part, if we will study, and conform to God's laws, then we will live truly Christian lives. There are laws in the spiritual world just as there are laws in the physical world; there are laws that govern the movement of Heavenly bodies and laws that govern the movement of human beings, laws that control and govern the activity of mind and of soul. To be a true Christian, a true follower of Jehovah we must be willing, yea, anxious to find the laws of God and to follow them. If we all shaped our lives in accordance with God's great plan we would have a world filled with peace and love and friendship, a world where human beings could attain the highest peace, the most genuine happiness, and each individual would fit into the scheme as perfectly as cogs in a wheel, as the parts fit into any machine that works smoothly. God's great plan will not be changed; it may destroy us if we cannot fall in with it.