

(P. M.)

CHAPEL, January 27, 1934

-- President Wright

Scripture lesson: 12 verses from the Fifth Chapter, Book of Matthew

Let us consider one of these beatitudes: "Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth." There are so many false interpretations of the word meek. It comes from ^{old} English word ~~mek~~, or ~~meock~~, and comes through one of the isolated languages and means soft or gentle. The usual interpretation of the word is spineless. It really means mild of temper, not easily provoked or irritated, not haughty or vain or resentful, but forbearing. The person who has those qualities will succeed in any vocation or occupation. I heard a commencement address made here by Dr. Payne, in which he took time to make clear that the meek, in the truest sense of the word, are the people who will inherit the earth; are the people to whom the world looks when in need. "Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth."

"Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven" --- "When men shall revile you and say all manner of evil against you falsely---". Sometimes it is difficult to see how that can be a blessing, yet I have heard it said, and am beginning to believe it, that a man's enemies are sometimes his best friends. False statements against one who is living a clean life finally react against the one who is spreading the falsehood, and favorably for the one who is big enough not to notice the accusations. If one can just go right ahead and do his full duty under trying circumstances he will receive his reward.

"Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." And I do not believe they have to wait until death comes. If one's heart is pure he will receive a message from God.