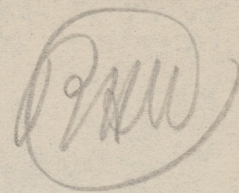


CHAPEL, February 28, 1934

-- President Wright



Scripture lesson: Matthew X, verses 32-39

In these instructions Jesus was giving to His disciples we come across some rather interesting things, and many things which we, in our day, have seen. Jesus says He didn't come to bring peace but a sword, and that a man's enemies would be those in his own household. The Jews, at this time were divided into ~~three~~ factions, or religious sects, fighting each other. Practically every religion on earth is divided into two or more factions. Jesus realized the situation and he was warning his disciples, and telling them they must be willing to give up everything else and follow Him. He was here to show man the way to live and give him warning of what would come. Even among Christians of our day children have joined churches other than that of their parents and have been disowned. Families have been split because of factional beliefs. These Jews who were following Jesus were looked upon as outcasts by other Jews of His day. Jesus wanted these people to realize that the love of Jehovah must be the dominant thing in their lives. If your love for friends or family is stronger than your love for Jehovah you will not find your soul's salvation. If a man's love for his children is greater than his love for Jehovah he is not a worthy disciple.

Then He closes this lesson with these two statements: "And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me." "He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." We are told "My yoke is easy, and my burden light." It is light in comparison to the yoke of sin. If you are ^{not} willing to make the sacrifice necessary to become a Christian you are not worthy to become a Christian. Dealing with things temporal will cause one to lose the spiritual; to find the life spiritual one must lose the temporal. You must become so absorbed that you will forget everything around you except your one great purpose. This is true, not only of your religious life,

but of everything you do. The student who can concentrate on a problem will solve that problem. The story is told of a general who was so completely absorbed with the campaign he was carrying on that he rode out one evening and rode into a lake and got wet almost all over, and came back without knowing what had happened to him. He had been so completely absorbed in his plans for the campaign he didn't know that he rode into the lake. I don't know whether this story is true or not, but the person who can concentrate to that extent will solve the problem he is working on.

If you can become so absorbed in things spiritual that you forget things temporal you will reach the maximum point in Christianity. If you are so absorbed in making a living that you forget spiritual things you will lose your life. The world is crying today for a leader ^{who thinks} deep enough and broad enough to find a solution to the problems that confront and confuse the world. The world is waiting for a leader who can find the true way of settling international difficulties; is suffering today for the lack of a leader who has lost his life and found it for humanity's sake.