

1 Corinthians - Commentaries by Gordon Henry Hayhoe

Glendale Conference: 1979, The Lord's Will

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2 verses that I'd like to look at first of all in one Corinthians chapter 6 and a 19th verse. What know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which ye have of God? And GR bot with, And ye are not your own, for ye are bought with a price. Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are gods. And then I'd like to turn also to 1 Thessalonians chapter 5 and verse 23. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly. And I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body. Be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it. Well, dear young people, I'd like to speak this afternoon about these verses and how they affect our lives, and I'd like to look at it in connection with five very important decisions that we make in our lives. The first of all, of course, is as regard to our salvation, whether we have accepted the Lord as our Savior. And then it's to know His will for our pathway. And then to, I believe we could say to that. He has a plan for us as to where he would have us to live. He also has a plan for us in regard to. The group of Christians with whom we associate, and that is to be gathered to the precious name of the Lord Jesus. And then he also has a plan if it's his will for us as to the partner that we should have as a helper for us in our Christian life. And I believe we need to realize that God is interested in all these things. And more than interested, he has given us direction. And His word saw that we don't have to follow our own wisdom or our own thoughts. Isn't it a wonderful thing to know that when He saved us, it was not just to deliver us from the just penalty of our sins? Wonderful as that is, indeed, to know that we have been delivered from hell and coming judgment, That is indeed a tremendous deliverance, and to know that with assurance. But he wanted also to have our company not only in eternal age as above. For he's waiting for that day when he's going to share our company. His heart of love will not be satisfied until he has us at home with himself and supremely blessed. What dear young people, He wants our company here. He has marked out a path so that we can walk through a confused world like this, a world full of sin and darkness. A path has been marked out so that we might be able to go on in obedience to Him and above all. All in the enjoyment of His company. Oh how wonderful those words the Lord Jesus spoke to His own before He went away. He said, and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. He never leaves nor forsakes us. We may not be in the enjoyment of His company. We may not even be conscious of His company like the two on the road to Emmaus, but nevertheless He is. His heart of love is ever toward. It was mentioned this morning how in Malachi it says the burden of the word of the Lord by Malachi. I have loved you, saith the Lord, surely at a time when we might have least expected it. But that love was still the same in the churches too. In Revelation, the first one, we read that they had left their first love. But in the last one the Lord reminds us of his love. He says as many as. Love, I rebuke and chasten. His love hadn't altered, in spite of all the failure of the church as a Candlestick in the earth. Isn't that an encouragement for us? Well, as I say to your young people, I'd like to just look at some of these things in connection with those two verses that I have read. First of all, if you do know the Lord Jesus as your Savior. Then you are not your own. You belong to him. He has bought you. He has. You with his precious blood, you are his and his forever, and your happiness depends upon whether you and I glorify Him in our bodies. And then in Thessalonians, where Paul is writing there to that assembly of Thessalonica, he shows them how they could be preserved. And I believe this is what we need in a day like this. Everything is falling to pieces because man is setting aside on every hand God's plan and trying to introduce his own plan. He thinks that he can settle the problems of life, he can settle the problems of nations. But as he tries.

He only makes matters worse instead of better. But the young people, you and I have a very precious book. We have God's word. We have a revelation from God. We are not left to our own thoughts. We're not left to the wisdom of men, nor do I want you to follow my thoughts. But I do desire that you should find in this blessed book the instruction for your pathway and also. Being close to the Lord, He would guide you as to the details I. Sometimes said. That God has made some things very, very clear in His Word, some things that He has definitely stated His mind so that we wouldn't have any question whether certain things are pleasing to Him or not. These things are very definite in His Word. But then there are other things that I believe that He would have us to learn in communion with Him. My Father used to remind us that when God has made something clear in His Word, we don't even need to pray about it. We just need to ask Him for strength to carry it out, because how could we ask Him to change His mind? When He has declared His mind in His Word of these things, then they're very definite, and it's our happiness and His glory that we should follow them. But there are details in our lives. Whether you should come to the meetings here at Glendale and what you should do. Tomorrow, a lot of those details are matters of being close to the Lord and just in a love relationship at home. If a man and his wife are happy, there are certain things that they understand that one definitely doesn't like or the other definitely doesn't like. But there's quite a few things you discover by acquaintance with one another and so that you get so used to your partner that you can just tell by the look on their face without a word. Being said, whether it pleases them or not. And so the Lord says, I will guide thee with thine eye, Be not as the horse of the mule, who have no understanding, whose mouth must be kept in with bit and bridle. He wants us not only then to follow the direction of His word, but He also wants us to walk closely with Him, so that at any moment when a new situation arises, we can look just into His blessed face. And there seems to be. Be something to tell us, no, this isn't the thing to do. And someone perhaps says, well, is there a verse? Well, I say, I didn't find a verse to say to come to Glendale. But the Lord does direct us if we are close to Him and show us His mind even in all the smallest details of our lives. He intended us too, to be guided, dear young people, in this order. It tells us, I pray God, your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved, blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now notice that order and in the scripture the spirit is the God conscious intelligent part of our being. The soul is the seed of the emotions and desires and the body then is the physical. And I believe that is the order in which God directs us. He didn't intend us to be. Like animals, you know the animal doesn't have any God conscious part to his being. And according to the ideas of men today the. The thought is well if you feel like doing something, do it if it brings you any pleasure, do it. And that is being guided by the soulish emotion of man. And since man is a fallen creature, his emotions and soulish desires often lead him far away from God and more than this into a path of. Happiness and how many there are. They wanted to do something, they did it, and it has only brought sorrow into their lives, not the pleasure they expected at all.

Because the scripture says the way of the transgressor is hard. It's not really happiness then to put your emotions first. How would you say that I have emotions? Yes, God has given them to you. Thank God, He has given them to you so that we do feel things. We feel hurts, we feel pleasures, we feel many things, we enjoy the food today, we're glad He has given us feelings, emotions, and as we meet one another, there's a feeling of joy. But I say these things must be directed by the word of God, and unless they are, unless then we put the Spirit first, which is the intelligent, God conscious part of our being, we can fall into many, many troubles in our lives.

Lives troubles we bring upon ourselves because we don't follow the light and wisdom of His Word. And so, first of all, I'd like to turn to the matter of salvation, and if you'll turn with me, to Deuteronomy chapter 32. Deuteronomy chapter 32 and verse 29 all that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end. Well, here we find God addressing a man as being a person who has intelligence, who can receive a communication from God. And we have a responsibility to God. He is the one who created us. In Him we live and move and have our being. When he placed Adam in the garden, he gave him certain directions. He didn't give directions to the animal creation because it was to be guided by instincts, but he intended that. Women should be guided by light and direction, which He gives us through His own precious Word. And so He tells us we ought to be wise. Oh, is there any young person here? I can't think of anything more foolish than to be going on through life without Christ as your Savior. Going on through life not knowing what is at the end and not caring. I'm sure some of you have read the story about the man who many, many years. Of God, this great king, he had an entertainer in his court. He called him a fool because he was the one who could always entertain him with funny things and so. He was told the king told him if he ever met one who was a better entertainer than himself while he was to get him instead, because the king wanted to have the very best. And so one time the king told him that he was, that he was going to die, I believe it was. And he said to him, have you made any preparation? And he said no. And he told about a man going on a long journey. And not making any preparation for the journey. And he said I wouldn't be so foolish as that. And can it be that there's someone here? And here you are in the bloom of youth, healthy and strong, knowing that before tomorrow two things may happen. The Lord Jesus may come, or you may be in eternity and you're totally unprepared. Can you call that wisdom? Is it not absolute folly? And God has. Told us in his word how we can know with divine assurance what is ahead. And so he says, oh, that they were wise that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end. Oh, if there's a young person here that's unprepared that doesn't know Christ as Savior, will you be wise this afternoon? You say, well, I am well educated. I've studied I think I know quite a bit, but there's no answer to this question and all the wisdom of. World, the world doesn't have an answer to that question, one wise man said. I spent all my life trying to find an answer to two questions, where I came from and where I'm going to. Why all this research to find out where the world, how the world began? Because man doesn't know his beginning. If he knew his beginning, he would know his responsibility to God. And so will you be wise this afternoon? And so here we have the spirit, the intelligence that says. The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly. That is, God has given to man that intelligence, and He has spoken to Him and given Him direction in His Word. All you say, But if I get saved, I'm going to have to give up a great deal. Oh, the next one is, are you really going to be the gainer by receiving Christ or the loser? Now we come to the soul. That which you will enjoy, because the soul is the seed of emotion. And desires and appetites. Oh, I want to tell you, I've known the Lord Jesus as my Savior for many years, and I wouldn't trade places with anybody in this world, no matter who He is who doesn't know Him. Have I lost anything? Well, I lost my sins. I'm glad of that. But I haven't lost anything else. I've been a gainer. We also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the reconciliation. And I want to tell you. That Satan is deceiving you into thinking that you're so wise that you don't need to consider this matter. So I beseech you this afternoon to be truly wise, to consider your latter end. And then if you do, and if you come to Christ all, He'll fill your heart with joy and rejoicing. Oh, what joy there was when the prodigal returned home. What joy there will be in your heart this very afternoon. You'll be able.

To look up into the face of your Creator and say, I know him as my father. He gave his Son to die for me. He loves me with an unending love. Oh, how wonderful. And so in the matter of salvation, can you see that this is God's order, the Spirit, the the God conscious, intelligent part of your being, and then your soul. He satisfieth A longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. And then what is the result in your body? Well, it tells us in Romans chapter 6 that let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, that ye should fulfill it in the lust thereof, but yield your bodies as instruments of righteousness unto God. Oh, isn't that a lovely thing too? That when you come to the Lord, that then the Holy Spirit of God comes and indwells your body? God gives to you a new life, and now you have a new. And shall I say in your body you have one who can direct you in the right way. You have a new power. One young man said, well, I'd like to be saved, but I don't think I could live the Christian life. I don't think I'd find pleasure in going to prayer meetings and reading my Bible. Well, you can't. Until you get the new life. You can't, because until you possess the life, you can't enjoy it. But when God communicates the new life, then there is a new tenant in your body. The Holy Spirit of God, the divine nature to whom God gives to the believer, saw that now he gives us that new life. And what is the character of the new life? Oh, it says, whosoever is born of God does not commit sin, and his seed remaineth in him, and he cannot sin because he is born of God. You have a life that delights in pleasing God. And I have often said, dear young people, God will never ask you to do anything. And I say anything that the new man that he gives to you, the new life doesn't want to do. He'll never ask you to do anything that the new life doesn't want to do. You call that *****. I call that liberty. To be asked to do something you want to do is a pleasure. And that's what God does when he saves you, He gives you new life. And then he says, now I'll tell you how you can please me because I know you want to do it. That's the character of the new life. And you say, but the power I need, oh, the Holy Spirit of God. Indwelling your body, spirit, soul and body. What a full salvation. And then we have in the Lord Jesus. And if there's anyone here who hasn't come to him, what more opportune time than today, what more opportune time than right now to just look up and say, Lord Jesus, I take thee as my Savior right now. Oh, you'll never, never be sorry that you did. No one ever has been. The devil is deceiving you. About God wants to bless you, and may He grant that if there's anyone here. Who hasn't known and received this great salvation? And that you will receive Christ today, for he is himself God's salvation. Well, then there's the question of God's will for our lives, and I'd like you to turn to Acts chapter 22. And verse 10 Here we have the conversion of Saul of Tarsus. Acts chapter 22 and verse 10. And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise and go into Damascus, and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do. Isn't this lovely too? Here's one who has just been saved. Previous to this he was an enemy of Christ, spending all his energies to stamp out that glorious name, for it tells us that he hated that name. With an exceeding mad hatred, but all how different now he has been brought to know the Lord and he wants to do God's will and I know that if you're really saved. These are questions. This is a question perhaps I should say that you have over and over again perhaps asked this very question that.

That Saul of Tarsus asked, what shall I do? Lord, I can just see it as I look at you young people. I know how many times you've just looked up and said, Lord, what shall I do? And over and over again, because we know that the will of God and the heart of God are the source of all our blessing. The remainder of this recording will have a few gaps due to an unfortunate circumstance in the recording equipment beyond our control. Our sister asked that he would be shown his will. He was told that he was to go into Damascus. And there it shall be told thee of all

things which are appointed for thee to do. This blessed book that God has given to us to direct us in terms of God, knows no man but the Spirit of God. Now we have not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God, that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. God wants you to know intelligently what He wants you to do in your pathway. Isn't that very blessed? And I'd like to think of that in two different ways. First of all, as to serving the Lord, and secondly, as to perhaps what might be our ordinary everyday occupation. And God is interested in all these things. In everything. And so he directs us first of all, by our. Our intelligence we find in His word much direction for us in connection with our pathway and how He would have us to be occupied in perhaps earning a daily livelihood. You might possibly say, well, I'd like to be such and such, but he says, now just be careful. If you got into that occupation, could you glorify God? I want to say, but I like that kind of work. But you didn't put First things first. If you'd look to the Lord Intelligence intelligently to be directed by His word, then He would show you that you ought to be in some kind of an occupation where you can honor Him. Many dear young people. People go and get a lot of preparation for some course, some plan in life. And then when they get into it, they find that there's something about it where they can honor the Lord. Perhaps some union, some association, perhaps some thing that's associated with the job, where they say, oh, I've spent all these years and now I find that I can't honor the Lord as I would like to in my daily work. Oh, dear young people, you don't have to do that. The one who is the Lord of all, who knows your fitness, because he hasn't made us all alike. He has made each, just like he did in the Tabernacle. There were those who did certain things, and there were others who did other things. There were those who wrought in the silver and gold, and there were the wise women who made the hangings and all for the court. Every one of us has been fitted and we need to learn the calling that God has for us. And oh, how nice it is to seek this out in use. Oh dear young people, I asked you, are you just going to run into something and say, well, I like that without stopping to think, if I get into this particular line of work, can I honor the Lord in it? That's having the Spirit first, that is being directed intelligently by the light of God's Word. And so say, Lord, I want to get in some occupation where I can. Things honest in the sight of all men, and also where I can honor thee in my daily work. And oh how happy it is. Then you get into that work and someone says, do you like it? Oh, you say, I feel that's what the Lord wanted me in and I'm very happy in it. So there comes the soul, you see, the soul that is. You're happy because you have found the place where the Lord wants you to be, your body. Then takes you there to that particular occupation, place of employment, or if it's school, it's necessary you make the arrangements and go to school. But you have been satisfied that's where the Lord wants you and that you can be happy in that work because that is according to His will. Now isn't this very lovely, that this is very possible for us? As young believers and some of us perhaps can look back in our. Lives and thank God that he enabled us to get into some work where we were able to happily fulfill our daily tasks and know that we could honor the Lord at the desk as one man when he ended the day he used to pull down his the top of his desk. It was in the days when they had the roll top desk and he pulled down the top of his desk and say Lord Jesus come.

Sure that if you do this, you won't be sorry. And more than this, you're going to be a blessing in the meeting where you are. That is, if you're doing what the Lord wants you to do in your daily occupation. You're going to come to the meeting with a soul that's free and happy. Not something hanging over you that you just have a big question mark about, but you come free and happy. You're able to enter into the assembly and be a happy addition in the assembly where you. So that has to do then with our daily employment, the the Spirit, then we decide before the Lord. We say I like it because I believe that's where the Lord wants me to be. Our body takes us day by day to that place of occupation, whatever it may be. And then there's the second thing, and it was specially saw with Paul. Our brother mentioned the other day on Saturday that the Lord doesn't necessarily want everyone to leave their employment. No, he may want you to glorify him at your employment, but if he does have some service for you, it may be something that you can do while you're employed, or it might be that he wants you to devote more of your time to him. And so Saul of. Looked up to the Lord and he said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And he was directed and sent, and the Lord told him that his mission was to go far hence to the Gentiles. Yes, that was the call that he had. Was it exactly what he wanted to do? Well, I I suggest that he would have much preferred to have gone and preached to the Jewish people. He loved them so much that he could say I I could wish my. A curse from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen, according to the flesh. But the Lord said, depart, for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles. In other words, he didn't just say, Well, it's the kind of work I'd like to do for the Lord. He was directed by the Lord, and was he happy in US? Oh, he lifted his chained hand in front of a gripper and said, I think myself happy, King Agrippa, that I shall answer to thee this day. Oh, you say. Path brought him in the chains, but he was far happier than Agrippa, who was a free man. Why? He was in the path of God's will. He was in the path of God's will. And so he found joy in it. His his body took him into that path that was pleasing to God. And so there was that happy order in his life. And one another thing I have enjoyed was how this is according to what we find in the Old Testament, the Levites in Israel. Represented. The first born, we are told in numbers. And when God delivered the first born in the land of Egypt, then he took the Levites as representing the first born. And every single one of those Levites was brought to Aaron and was appointed to his service and to his burden. Isn't that lovely? And you say, well, some of them must have been much more pleased with what they had to do. Than others, Well, I don't believe that that's necessarily. Saw it all because the only true joy in the Lord's service is doing his will. And if one was appointed to carry the pins and another was appointed to carry the ark, they could both be just as happy one as the other, because they were doing what God had called them to do. And dear young people, I often say to the young people. That I think many go through life without ever discovering. But the Lord wants them to do. They just drift along. And I beseech you, dear young people, the Lord has a place for you to fulfill in the assembly in the Church of God. He has a definite place and no one can fulfill it as well as you. Someone else perhaps can fill in, but no one can fulfill it as well as you. You know very well if you injure your hand, the other hand can do remarkably well in taking care of things, but certainly not as well as. If you had two hands. And so it is in the things of God. If we have a place to fulfill, why that is a happy place. No one can do it as well as ourselves. And God is not going to demand or require of us something that He never asked us to do, But He appoints to each His service, and then He appoints to each His burden. Oh, perhaps I hear some young person say all that. You don't know the burden I have to bear. But.

To stop to think, the Lord appointed that, the Lord appointed that, and perhaps that you're going to glorify him in that in the 27th Psalm. The psalmist talks about being in trouble, and this is what he says. And now shall 9 head be lifted up above mine, enemies round about me. Therefore will offer him his Tabernacle. Sacrifices of joy. I will sing, yeah, I will sing praises unto the Lord. I want to tell you, dear young people, your friends in the world will never, never know what you have in Christ until they see you in trouble and see that you have something that's real. Something. You in the trouble and they'll perhaps come to you and say, what do you have that we don't have I couldn't have taken that you must have something and then you have the happy privilege of saying, Oh, I have Christ he's my support. He helps me so Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? Let's remember this order then, dear young people, don't just plunge into something because you say you like it, but ask the Lord and let him direct you by his word and by. Communion with him, and then when he has appointed that service to you, I'm sure that you will have like it says in Galatians. Then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone and not in another. You will find happiness in that path. There's nothing sweeter like the Apostle Paul when he came to the end of his life with all the hardships he had borne,

he said that at the end of his life. He said I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. He was happy at the end of his. His path, he wasn't sad, he could look back and feel that it had been at least his desire to honor his Lord in his life and his body was the last. So you find the spirit direction from the Lord happiness because we have his direction. And then the body goes. And so it tells us in Romans chapter 12 and verse one. And it says There, I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that he presents your bodies. A living sacrifice. Wholly acceptable unto God, which is your intelligence service. Now you present your body, and what do you prove? You prove What is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. So let's not forget that order then, as we think of what the Lord wants us to do in life. Now let's turn to 1st Corinthians and the 10th chapter. First Corinthians chapter 10 and verse 15. I speak as to wise men. And judge ye what I say, the cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ, the bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many, are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread. Now here again I call your attention to it, says, I speak as to wise men. Judge ye, what I say, isn't this very interesting too? Don't we find the same order again? And spirit, soul and body here is the intelligent God conscious part of our being. We are children of God. We have the divine nature. We're indwelt by the Holy Spirit of God. How do we have direction in connection with the ones with whom we can have collective fellowship? Is there are we just left to, as the world would say, to go to the Church of your choice? No, he says. I speak as to wise men, he said. I want you to consider now what I am saying. And I've often commented that this is the only time in the New Testament where it speaks of the Lord's Table. And here it shows us what is expressed at the Lord's table. And that is, it tells us in this 17th verse, For we being many, are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread or that one loaf. And so if we are intelligently directed by the word of God, by then we know that we are members of the one body of Christ tells us in First Corinthians chapter 12. By 1 Spirit we are all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free, and have been all made to drink into one spirit, so we can see them that has believed. Because we are members of the one Body, and we know that as we read in the early part of the Acts, we see how carefully this oneness was maintained. There was not to be a Jewish church and a Samaritan church and a Gentile church. How carefully the Spirit of God maintained that oneness in the early church, so that whether they were Jews or Samaritans or Gentiles, they were all made to.

Into one spirit, as difficulties came up, we see how by the Spirit they worked out a solution in the light of God's Word, so that they could go on together as a testimony to that blessed truth. Isn't it sad the way the enemy has succeeded in bringing in so much division among the people of God, but God has marked it out in His Word, a path of obedience to Him? A path where we can give expression to this blessed and wondrous truth that there is one body. Now, of course, it must be in separation from evil, moral evil and doctrinal evil. But I'm speaking primarily of what the testimony really is. And so there is no suggestion here. In talking to these wise men at Corinth, he doesn't say well. You should find a nice company of Christians. No, he doesn't mention anything like this at all. He even had to say, you see, you're calling, brethren, how did not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called, wasn't a question of the people, but it was a question of following the direction of God's word. And I believe it's a most wonderful thing, dear young people. That we can be gathered not as members of some. Humanly organized group, but as members of the body of Christ. Oh, I think when we get hold of this, it becomes precious to our souls. And that one loaf placed on the table, representing to us this blessed and wondrous truth that there is one body and we seek. As we look at that one loaf we see represented in. Every member of the body of Christ there may be some who call themselves. By other names who may not come to give expression to this truth, there may be some who, perhaps because of something in their lives, may be unable to partake. For it says, Put away from among yourselves that wicked person. But nevertheless there is a testimony to the truth of the one body. Oh, I believe that this is most precious to the heart of Christ. As we think of the IT says he loved the church AM gave him. Self for it, just think, who did he love the church, and he gave himself for it, because he desired that we should be part of that glorious church to be presented another day. And as someone was just remarking yesterday, how lovely to think when the Lord Jesus comes and gives that shout, that we'll all be gathered together unto him. But isn't it a privilege now to be gathered in this way? And so. We're to be followed. We're to be guided intelligently by His word instead of saying, well, I know a nice group of Christians and they do a good gospel work. One doesn't deny this. There are many nice groups of Christians and they do a nice gospel work. But I say the Lord's table is associated with the expression of the truth of the one body. And if they have set up something apart from the testimony, that is to the truth. One body if after the day of Pentecost. And they all were gathered as members of the body of Christ. If one in the number should have decided to start an independent meeting on the other street, and they were going to carry on a very active gospel testimony, would that be endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace? Would that be a testimony to the truth of the Church as the body of Christ, or would it be an act of division? Oh dear young people, we need to be simple about these things I believe, and so even if there were only two or three who desire to gather as members of the body of Christ in separation from evil. What a privilege. I speak as to wise men. Judge ye what I say. It isn't that we just try and find a nice active group, but we search out in the light of this blessed book how we can be gathered. Another little comment that. I'd like to make sometimes we hear people say, well, they're gathered to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Well, I reply, dear young people, I wouldn't want anybody to use my name without my permission. And if they use my name without my permission, anyone where they use my name has certainly the right to say, well, did Gordon Hale give you permission to use his name that way?

Wouldn't they have a perfect right to ask that question? And whenever I hear of a group of Christians? Who are gathered to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. I have a right from Scripture to examine their position in the light of this book, because this is the only way I can know whether they have authority to use His name. That name that's holy and true. That name that represents to us what it is to be gathered to His name. And that Christ is the head of the body, the church. Well, dear young people, if we seek to follow the light of His Word, I don't have time to speak. In detail this afternoon. Then we then, shall I say, we want to be there, and we can say with the one in the 26th of Isaiah, the desire of our soul. Here's where the soul comes in. First. We're directed by the word. The desire of our soul is to thy name and to the remembrance of thee. So the soul responds, wants to remember the Lord, and if you really love him and want to please him, and you know where his. Direct you how lovely the desire of our soul. Doesn't your soul respond to the claims of such a Savior? And don't you want to be there? Well then the last body is the next that says where two or three are gathered together. They are gathered now physically sitting down in the chairs gathered around the Lord Jesus hid himself in the midst spirit, soul and body. He directs us in the light of his Word and through our soul to where he. Have us to be, to be gathered, to remember him. What a privilege. Now I'd like to turn just to the 12TH chapter of Genesis and the first verse. Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house unto a land, that I will show thee, and I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great, and thou shalt be a blessing. Perhaps I could take up this passage as to where the Lord wants us to live. Now Abraham was living in Mesopotamia, as I understand a little. Of ancient history, it was a very advanced civilization. They had many modern things. According to what they are finding out today, it really was quite advanced. I have no doubt that Abraham, who was no doubt a wealthy man, he had a nice home there and supposing he would choose the place where he should live on the basis of the most comforts. All he would have said to his wife. Oh Sarah,

this is too comfortable. And Sarah would say to him, well, does the Lord want us to move from here and tell me what kind of a house are we going to live in if we go to Canaan? Well, he has to say, I don't know. The Lord's going to show us. Well, is it possible that we're going to have to live in a tent? Well, yes, for a while anyway. How long? Well, perhaps the rest of our lives. Well, was this a decision that was based then upon the most comforts? No, this was a decision that. Based on understanding the will of God. Where did God want Abraham to be? All you say? He likes us to be comfortable, doesn't he? Well, but he didn't choose that for Abraham. He chose that Abraham should leave his country and his kindred. Oh, this was the second thing that wasn't so difficult. It wasn't so easy, I should say, to say goodbye to his father. At first. He wasn't prepared for that. Now his emotions became involved and he couldn't say goodbye to his father. And so he came halfway because his father didn't want to come all the way to Canaan, and they stopped in here. And we see there his soul now becomes involved. He thought, well, I'd like to do the will of God. Perhaps I could come halfway as far as my father will go. Is that the way you're planning your life, your young person? Are you thinking of the most comfortable place where you can live? Are you thinking of the place where it'll be most pleasant to you and to all? Relatives and friends and so on, you say. Well. If I set a layer, I'll have lots of friends, but oh, I don't know whether I'd be prepared to be in a place where I was isolated. You know, our meeting is very, very small. I like to be in a place where there were more, where I could have more fellowship. Well, perhaps it was a little easier for Abram to settle down and hear him where his father was, and perhaps this was an easier spot. But God hadn't called him to that. God had called him to go to a place where he would show him.

That was the important thing. Where would he live? Where God showed him? And dear young person, if God wants you in a certain place, that's the best place you can be. And you say, well, I don't think I could be happy there. Yes, you can be. You can be far, far happier there than you could be in the most comfortable place on earth if you have the sense of the Lord's presence with you. I will bless thee. I'll make you a blessing. And he said. I will make thy name great. Oh, wasn't this wonderful? He lived in a tent the rest of his life. That's true. And I, I will say a lot of commendation for Sarah, that she was willing to do it. It mustn't have been very easy for her to forsake home and share in this too. But here we find the both of them. They make this journey. And yet what reward was given for it? I believe that Abraham lived a very happy life. In the knowledge that God didn't want him in Mesopotamia, he might have said, well, couldn't I serve the Lord there? The Lord said, I want you in the land that I will show you. And so he obeyed intelligently. That voice from God. He comes out, he says goodbye to Mesopotamia, and as far as we know he never returned. And he takes with him his belongings, so to speak. He burns his bridges behind him and enters into. Land of Canaan and there now he is physically. And if you had said, Abram, are you really happy there? Are you really happy in Canaan? I believe you would have said, Oh yes, I wasn't happy in Heron at all. The Lord had to speak to me there. But now I believe I'm in the place where he wants me with his tent and with his altar with Hai on the east. Speaking of. Destruction and Bethel, the House of God on the West. As he traveled toward the sunset of his life, so to speak, it was all bright ahead. Oh, how lovely. So he didn't live in the place he wanted to live. He allowed God to choose that for him, and his body brought him there. And I hope that, dear young people, you'll live in the place the Lord wants you to be. I often feels badly as he sees people who could be useful perhaps moved from a place where they could be so useful. Well, may the Lord direct us even in this. And now the last one in the 24th of Genesis here is one I'm sure that is of real interest to. Many young people and here we find that God was planning for a bride for Isaac. And there's just a few little points that I would like to bring out in connection with this chapter. And that is that in Isaac having a bride, he, he allowed the servant to do the choosing. And I want to say to you, dear young people, will you allow the Spirit of God to direct you? In choosing the one the Lord has for you. You know, Samson fell into trouble because he allowed himself to be guided by his emotions instead of intelligently by the word of God. The word of God said that he shouldn't marry a Philistine. But he said, oh, she pleases me. Well, he was probably a nice looking girl. She probably hadn't attracted to. Now wasn't the one God intended for. And you know, are you going to put the whip? Or your young people. This is going to affect your life. Perhaps more than any other, one thing that you get the right partner is going to either make you or break you in your whole Christian life. And I I urge you not to just allow yourself to be guided like dear Samson was. He was a Nazarite, A separated one. Now you say that he did many useful things he did about his life ended. A sad dishonor turned out, and it all started because. Because he wasn't guided by that. He was guided by his emotions. He saw a nice looking girl. He was guided by that. But here we find, and it's rather interesting here to notice that actually Isaac didn't even see the girl. And you say, well, why was that? Well, I think it's just to show us that it was fully being guided by the Spirit of God. I know in everyday life you do see the one, but I only mentioned this because I believe it shows that that.

That wasn't a deciding factor at all. It was rather to be guided by the Spirit of God. The servant went out and the servant sought for him those characteristics that would really make a wife that he could love for. The chapter ends by saying she became his wife and he loved her and Janelle. I often say it's much better when the love deepens afterwards. There can be a lot said about love before, but what really counts is love that comes after marriage. And so here we found it came after. She became his wife and he loved her. But you notice here that this servant went out and he he sought quite a few things. First of all, she was he was the figure of the Spirit of God. She was not to be a wife of the daughters of Canaan, so she couldn't be one who was of the enemies of the Lord. It was of His own kindred. And so we find here that. You should have one who is of the family of faith, one who wants to please the Lord, for how can two walk together except they be agreed? And then he looked for character too. In the 14th verse he came to the side of the well. Seems to me that the well represents to us how we're guided by the Word and we find a partner who loves the Word. It's nice to have a partner who loves the word. You. When you go out together, do you talk about God's Word? Do you really enjoy this together? Well, that's where he met this girl was at the well side. And then he asked that she might be one who was diligent and industrious, shall I say, one who had character. And it's nice to look for this too. Dear young people, how are you looking for someone who? Character or just looks you may be very, very disappointed because looks don't continue. It says favor is deceitful and beauty is vain. But a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised and he said now Lord, if this is the right one, she'll draw water for me and for all my camels. Wasn't that something they didn't have a gasoline pump or something there that was a real job, wasn't it? But here we see diligence here's. Display of character. She got water for all his camels or you said she was trying to win him. No, there wasn't anything of that at all. That was just a display of character. And you know, you can observe this display of character before you let your emotions go. He was just watching. And he said, Lord, if she's the right, you'll be from the right family. She'll display this character and she'll have the right kind of a home. Isn't this nice too? Do you want a hospitable home? Well, he said. When he told his little Aaron, then he's invited into the home and it's nice to see how here was a home of hospitality. Here was a home where we see the Lord was honored. And then after that she's asked, wilt thou go with this man? Now the soul becomes involved. She's not going to yield right away, and he's not going to decide until he has settled all these things intelligently. And I say to you, dear young people, don't put the body first. Don't put the emotions first. That may bring you into a lot of trouble. But observe and watch for those things that really display first that there's a Lords. They want to please the Lord. They display character. They're the kind of a home that you would like to have and then you can let your emotions go. And on the wedding day, the body, not before. On the wedding day, the body. And so how lovely it is to see here's one who was guided to the right partner in the right order, spirit, soul and body, guided intelligently by the Spirit of God. Then her emotions go and she's

willing to make all this journey across the desert and go back to meet this man. And then she became his wife and he loved her. Is it any wonder that this was a happy marriage because it began the right way? And dear young people, these are decisions you have to make. Remember these decisions, as I say in your life, oh, they're so important. And God cares. He really is interested in you. I love to think that we're never lost in the crowd to God, that he has an individual interest in every young person. He knows your whole makeup, all that you are physically, emotionally, everything about you. And he can direct you, and he wants to direct. You. And more than that, He wants to bless you. He wants to bless you. Never allow a doubt in your mind about that. He desires your fullest happiness, and He's not going to be satisfied till you're supremely blessed up there. But He wants you to have a little foretaste of it down here. May He grant it, dear young people. And I'm sure that if you walk in His ways, you'll say her ways are ways of pleasantness.

And all her paths are peace.

Montreal Conference: 1983, Faith Hope Love

Article from <https://bibletruthpublishers.com/bible-truth-study-bible/btsb>

Address—G.H. Hayhoe

He doesn't want us to have confidence in God. He's doing everything he can to try and build up confidence in man and what man is doing. But a great man, man who were at the top today realized that things aren't quite as solid as they had hoped they would be. Things are becoming very shaky in this world. Those things that man had confidence in are beginning to crumble because the Bible says that those things. That can be shaken, will be shaken, but we have a Kingdom which cannot be moved. We have that which is secure. And we have it because we have faith, because we believe God, because we take God at his word. And perhaps the simplest definition of faith is given to us in John chapter 3. Perhaps we could turn to this. John chapter 3 and verse 33. He that hath received his testimony. Has set to his seal that God is true. Perhaps we might think also of the verse in the 11TH of Hebrews that says now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. But that is not, strictly speaking, a definition of faith. It rather tells us what faith does. That is, faith makes real things that we haven't seen. If I believe that there's such a place as Paris, France, I haven't seen it, but it becomes real to me. I talk of it as. Fact, even though I haven't seen it, because I believe the testimony of those who have been there and who have taken pictures and reported and so on, I believe their testimony. And Paris, France is real to me because of the testimony that I have believed of others. And dear young people, the question for us is, do we really believe God? Do we really believe that He has given us a message that we can rely upon? Do we believe that this precious. Book is the word of God that He has spoken to us, that he has given to us what we need for our pathway here. I want to tell you that I do. I believe that we have in our hands and on our knees this precious book, the word of God. And Jesus said heaven and earth shall pass away, but my word shall not pass away. Many years ago, a man was speaking about these things to an unbeliever. And his reply was, well, I just can't believe it. And his answer to him, that is the Christian man's answer, was you can't believe who? Well, he said I didn't just mean it that way, but he said, he said I can't believe it. But he said you can't believe who? And that's the important thing for us. To you young people, this is either the word of God or it is not. And if you don't believe, it is the word of God. Then there's nothing here that you can rely upon. To take out one verse and say I can rely on this and to set aside another is to destroy its authority altogether. That's why Paul said in writing to the Corinthians when they sought to question the authority of the word of God. He said, examine yourselves, whether you be in the faith. And that is if we're going to set aside part of God's word and accept another part. By then we really don't have any security at all. If you hand me a book and ask me what I think of it, you must think that I know a little more than the writer, because what good would my testimony be unless I knew a little more than the writer? And whenever you pick up the word of God, always do, like our dear brother John Begg of New York used to do, he said. When he picked up the Bible, he said. God's holy Word, and that's a great thing for us. To pick it up and say God's holy words. And that's what I want to bring before you. First of all, I have lived for a few years in this world and I have found the older I get, the more I can rely upon this precious book. It's God's word and I have received the fact that God has spoken and even at times when there are things that are hard to understand. I'll say what another has said. Never let the things you don't understand. Spoil the things you do understand and know. There is that in the word of God, which is so simple. There are other things that are very deep, but it's all the precious word of God. So let me give you that verse again. He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true. And so when you read the Bible.

Why realize that it is God's Word as the Scripture says? Tremble at it to this man will I look to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and that trembler at my word. Some years ago there was. A boss and there was a little child in the bus returning from Sunday school and she had a little text and the text was have faith in God. And she was playing with this text. And in those days the windows were open in the bus and she held it out to let it flutter in the wind and it blew away. And she shouted out, I lost my faith in God. Well, you know, God ordered that, I'm sure, because somebody else was sitting in the bus. And that was just exactly what had happened to him. He had once, as a child, had that simple faith, but he had lost his faith in God. Oh, I plead with you to retain in your heart and in your mind the fact that you have the Word of God. Read it as the Word of God. Believe it as the Word of God. Because God values that confidence in Him. Without faith, it is impossible to please him. You can judge other books. If I write a book, I hope you'll test it. I hope you'll examine it and see if it's according to the Word of God. If somebody else writes one, do the same. But not so with this book. It's God's precious word. And there's one other verse I'd like to get a turn to in Hebrews chapter 10. And verse 35. Cast not away, therefore, your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. Not a lovely verse to think that God would actually reward us for being confident in him. That always strikes me because it's only what I should do. Certainly I ought to believe him. Certainly I ought to trust Him. And then he says, I'm going to reward you for trusting me. Only the thing that you and I should do. But he wants us to continue. And so it all the ups and downs of life and there are going to be plenty. Of them the enemy is going to over and over again when situations arise, say why if God is a God of love, did he allow that and he's going to try to shake your confidence in him and that's why it says also in Ephesians chapter 6, it says and take the shield of faith wherewith ye shall be able to quench. All the fiery darts. Of the wicked, that is. When Satan comes with one of those questions, Why? Just raise the shield of faith and you'll never be sorry that you trusted God. Miss Lady Powers Court when she came to the end of her journey, said it takes the whole Bible to live by, but it just takes one verse to die with and the verse that speaks peace and confidence to my soul at this time is this. The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son cleanseth us from all sin. And that's true. It just takes one verse to give you confidence. And but we need it, I say. All through life we

need to have faith that God is ordering the circumstances of our lives as He sees best. He knows exactly what is best for every one of us. As it has been said, He has an individual tuition for each one. When you go to school or go to university, why you don't get an individual tuition? You sit in a classroom or a lecture room and there are a number of people. And they're all listening to the same thing. But you know, God deals with us as individuals. He's going to deal differently with me than with you. I'm a different personality. I came from a different family. I have a different background. And God knows all about your background. He knows about where you've been brought up, all the influences that have been brought to bear upon your life. He knows all about those things, dear young people. And you say, oh, if they were only. Very different, but God ordered them just the way He wants them. And He puts you in a certain place, and He desires that you should have that confidence in Him. And so I beg of you, dear young people, don't allow any of the questions that are put into your mind by the enemy, and perhaps by those who pretend to know more, that would lead you to question even one verse of God's precious word.

It's that which is necessary for your salvation. You will never have peace with God until you rest in simplicity upon the Word of God. Everyone here who is saved will say, the way I know I am saved is because I have rested on some verse in God's Word. Your verse may be different from mine, but you have some verse that you rest upon that you rely upon, and by that you know. That you're saved. And so it is for our whole pathway. If someone asks you why are you doing this or that, why do we gather as we do? Don't say, well, that's the way I was brought up for. There isn't any reason. Don't say, well, I've talked to a lot of influential people and they think it's right. That'll never bring you any real peace. You need to get it for yourself. And when the Lord Jesus was here, he said. And they shall be all taught of God. And 1 is often said, you will never have the truth for yourself until you have received it from the Lord. And I hope that as you said in these meetings that you will receive the truth is from the Lord. So I just wanted to first of all talk about faith, the importance of it, what it really is. It's really believing God. It's believing that God is true. It's making real that what you haven't seen. And then too it is, it is that which enables you to go on in the pathway. For we walk by faith, not by sight. There are many things that we can't see but that we believe. And when God has spoken, we have that confidence. And so there may be some dear young person here today. And the devil is trying his best to shake your confidence. The Lord has allowed some circumstance to come in your life. He has allowed something to happen, and the enemy is doing right now that dreadful work of trying to sow unbelief in your heart. And may I just add that that is the final condemnation of those who are in a lost eternity. It says He that believeth on the son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not. The son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him, and the very last thing before they're cast into the lake of fire is. And whosoever was not written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. True, they're judged according to their works, but the final condemnation is that they would not believe God. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater. To many things you have received the testimony of man, but the testimony of God is greater. So I say again, May God grant your young people that this one thing will be with you all through your life, and that is that you believe God, that you'll be able to say, like Paul when he was on the ship just about to be shipwrecked on the way to Rome, he said, I believe God. That it shall be, even as it was told me. And so it is, you can safely trust him. No one has ever been disappointed who has put their trust in him. Well, may the Lord help you then to maintain, to always lift that shield of faith in all the circumstances that come into your life. So we're told in that verse that we opened with that. For a Take the breastplate of faith and love. Now I'd like to speak about hope. That's the next one, it says. And now about a faith, hope and love. Would you turn to First Timothy? First Timothy chapter 1? And verse one. Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope. Now we'll just turn back with me, please, to Psalm 42. Psalm 42. Verse 3. My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God? When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me, for I had gone with the multitude. I went with them to the House of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holy day. Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why art thou disquieted in me?

Hope thou in God, for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance. O my God, my soul is cast down within me. Therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan and of the Hermonites from the hill miser. Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy water spouts all thy waves, and thy billows are gone over me. Yet the Lord will command his loving kindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life. I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? Why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy, as with a sword in my bones my enemies reproach me, while they say daily unto me, Where is thy God? Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why art thou disquieted within me? Hope thou in God, for I shall yet praise Him who is the health of my countenance. And my God. Then one other verse in Titus chapter 2. In connection with Hope Titus, chapter 2. And verse 13. Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ. Well in these verses you notice the word hope has been brought in. First of all, in Timothy it says Jesus Christ, which is our hope. Well, first of all, we see that faith centers in a person, its faith in God, its faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and hope centers in a person too. Verse in first Timothy, Jesus Christ, which is our hope. Now, you know, we do have all kinds of hopes in humans and we often get disappointed. They do let us down. We hope that they'll do something for us and they disappoint us. And so the word hope, when it's associated with humans, it always brings in the element of uncertainty. If I say, well, I hope to get home tomorrow, there's an element of uncertainty because. Because I'm a human, someone else promises and I say, well, I hope they'll be able to do it. There is an element of uncertainty. But dear young people, this hope is in a person. Thank you. This hope is in a person, and that person is the Lord Jesus, and so when we have hope in Him, nothing can fail that He has promised. As our brother read to us, there hath not failed one word of all His good promise. When God makes a promise about something, well then we can be assured that He is not going to fail in the fulfillment of what He has promised. But we do have those hopes that we have and we expect something to happen and it doesn't happen and we feel very frustrated. There's that hope that we had and we really thought that the Lord was going to undertake in this particular matter. And then we didn't. It didn't work out the way we had hoped. And now the enemy comes in at that point too, and. The Lord Jesus is our hope. All our hopes in him are secure. That many of these hopes that we have, we have to compare them to what we have here about the psalmist in this 42nd Psalm. And that's what I wanted to bring before you a little bit because I like to think of this little Psalm as representing the ups and downs of life. You know, life has all these ups and downs. We have hope as the Bible says hope. Be free. The heart sick. And so they're often deferred hopes, things that we expect and hope. And we have looked to the Lord about it. We really think that this thing is going to happen and it doesn't happen and we get very cast down. Well, it isn't that the Lord failed. Maybe we were expecting something that was not His will. And so He hasn't given us that thing because it was not His will for us if we have that faith and confidence in Him. Then then we know that As for God, His way is perfect.

Well, in this 42nd Psalm I might just mention I think most of us know the Psalms are divided into 3 books. 5 books rather. And this is in the second book of the Psalms. And this figuratively looks on to the time when the godly remnant will be driven out from Jerusalem, unable to go into the House of God because the Antichrist is there. He is sitting in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. And so they are very cast down. These godly ones had gone into the House of God, and now the Antichrist is there and they're very disappointed. And what makes it harder still is that their enemies turn and reproach them and say, Where is thy God? Did you ever have that happen to you when something

that you? Want it happened, wanted to happen, and it didn't happen. It all broke down, it all went to pieces. And then somebody said, oh, you thought your God was so strong, why didn't he help you out in that problem? And this was what caused the frustration in the mind of the apostle of the psalmist. You know, dear young people, I'm so glad that God puts these things in actual perspectives in his word. He puts things just as they are in life. He doesn't just tell us things, but He, as it were, pictures them in daily life and brings in the feelings of people as associated with those very things that He is teaching us. And so here is the psalmist, and he is mourning. And he said, I remember when we went into the House of God, but now the enemy has seated himself there, and they. They're in tears. It says my tears have been my meat day and night. And there may be some young person this this is happening to you. You're in tears. People are saying, well, you thought it was going to happen and it didn't. And you said you trusted the Lord and it didn't work out and you really get discouraged and cast down God's giving those actual feelings in description here in this 42nd Psalm. And when we come to this fifth verse, it says. Dear, why art thou cast down, O my soul? You know it's good to talk to ourselves sometimes. Do you ever talk to yourself? It's good to do it. And this is the psalmist. He's not talking to God, he's talking to himself. He says, Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why art thou disquieted within me? Don't you have any hope? Don't you have any confidence in God? Don't you believe that you can? Lost him. And so he asked the question to himself, Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And then he answers his own question, and he says, Hope thou in God, for I shall yet praise him, not because he takes me out of the difficulty, not necessarily, but for the help of his countenance. Isn't that true? Did you ever feel cast down and someone came along to you and they just took your hand? And entered into your trouble with you, and you said you're a big help to me. They didn't take you out of their trouble, but they helped you in it. Isn't that lovely? And that's just exactly what he's saying here. He said, Hope thou in God, for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance. He doesn't always take us out of our problems. He helps us in them. He comes down. The precious Savior left the glory, my Father used to say. Could have come down and had gone to Calvary's cross and accomplished that work for our salvation and gone back to glory. It was what he did in those three hours of darkness that met your soul's need in mind. But why those 33 1/2 years? All that? He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest, that he might know and understand all that we go through in our pathway. He could say, reproach hath broken. I am full of heaviness. I look for some to take pity, and there was none, and for comforters, but I found none. Oh dear young people, don't give up your hope. Turn to the one who will help you by his countenance. Look to him. And he said, I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance. Oh, how lovely this is when you say I've tried that, but I get down again. Sorry, the psalmist just read the next verse. Oh my God, my soul is cast down within me, Therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar. Yes, the Lord helps us, but we do get down again too, don't we? The Bible pictures things just actually as they are in everyday life. He gets down again.

And he says, well, I can think about the Lord no matter where I am. I may not be able to go into the House of God, but I can remember him no matter where I am. And it's interesting, these three points mentioned. Jordan runs into the Dead Sea. That was the lowest point in Israel. Mount Hermon was the highest point. And if you have a margin. The Hill Miser means little Hill isn't that interesting? Sometimes you get right down. The bottom, sometimes you get up on top and sometimes you're halfway between, but the Lord is always there no matter what it is you can think about Him. He is our hope, Jesus Christ, which is our hope. And so he said, well, I do get cast down, but I know the Lord's with me in all the ups and downs of life. And then isn't it beautiful, this next verse? It was read to us this morning. Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy water's boats. All thy waves and thy billows are gone over me. Yet the Lord will command His loving kindness in the daytime, and in the night His song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life. I want you to notice the contrast. In the seventh verse he speaks about the sufferings of the Lord. And then he. Says in the eighth verse. Yet the Lord will command his loving kindness in the daytime. When the Lord went through his untold sorrow, He was forsaken. When you go through sorrow, you're not going to be forsaken. The Lord will command His loving kindness in the daytime. He'll give you a song even in the night. He'll enable you to rise above the difficulty. When the precious Savior went through all that suffering, he was forsaken. But I want to tell you, dear young people, you will. Never be forsaken. He'll never forsake you. He's promised that. But He did forsake that Blessed One who was taking your place and mine at Calvary. And so if you ever feel down, just think of how when the Lord was bearing that suffering, He was forsaken and you will never be. Well, he still gets down like we all do. And then I just want you to pass on to the 11TH verse. Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why art thou disquieted within me? Hope thou in God, for I shall yet praise him who is the health of my countenance and my God. I just like you to notice that the fifth verse and the 11TH verse are almost the same, but there is quite a notable difference in the fifth verse it says. I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance. And in the 11TH verse it says, I shall yet praise him who is the health of my countenance, and my God. Isn't that beautiful? That is, in the fifth verse he's saying, well, I'm going to, I'm going to have hope in the Lord because I can trust Him and I'll get help from his countenance. But in the last verse it has helped his own countenance. It's beginning to reflect in his own countenance. And you know, this is a wonderful triumph that you sometimes see in the lives of believers. In deep trial you can see that they have learned to look to the Lord. And like Moses up there on the top of the mount, he he went up there with a heavy heart. The people had sinned. The people had fallen into worshiping the golden calf. And poor Moses was heartbroken. But when he came down, his face is shining, boy. He spent 40 days in the Lord's presence, and he learned how much the Lord loved his failing people. And as he came down, his face was so shining that he had to put a veil over his face. Dear young people. The Lord can make you happy in your problems, He doesn't just have to take you out of them. Thank God He often does remove the difficulties. I look back and marvel at His goodness and how He's helped me in so many things. But I want to press this point for myself and for you. The Lord can give you grace to rise above those difficult circumstances until it actually reflects in your own face. And this is where hope comes in. This is important for us. Faith first, then we.

Have confidence in God, but hope because we don't see the deliverance right away. We don't see God acting right away. The enemy still keeps on saying, where is thy God? If your God is so mighty, why doesn't he come in and you say, well, I trust him, He's going to come in in his own time and as. We as we sang in the little hymn When Faith and Hope Shall Cease, You won't need faith. In heaven, you won't have to walk by faith there because everything will be changed to sight. We'll see our precious Savior face to face. We won't have to hope for anything because we'll have everything that we had hoped for. There will not be 1 unfulfilled hope in that glorious place. But down here, we need faith, we need help. We need the shield of faith, We need the breastplate of faith and love. We need to have that. Confidence in God that would enable us for an helmet the hope of salvation. And that doesn't mean the salvation of our souls there. For in helmet the hope of salvation means we have already the salvation of our souls, but this is only part of our salvation. It says in Romans chapter 14 Now is our salvation nearer than when we believe. Chapter 13 Now is our salvation nearer than when we believe. And so we're waiting for the redemption of the body. We're waiting for the time when all these things that now trouble us will be removed. We were just reading some of us this morning in the 45th Psalm, where the description of the bride. It is given in that future day that I think is so beautiful. It says she's brought unto the king in raiment of needlework. Rather, she's brought. The King's daughter is all glorious within. It says Her clothing is of wrought gold, and she has brought unto the king in raiment of needlework. Notice those three things. Had says the King's daughter is all

glorious within. I can't say that now Can I? Look inside? I've got a measurable old self. Rotten, fallen nature inside, just like we have from our natural birth. I can't say as I look in and I'm all glorious. I know what the Lord sees in my heart, and it's deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. But there's a day coming when you look inside and there'll be nothing but perfection. You'll never have a wandering thought, you'll never have a question. You'll never say I want this or I want that. Every desire will be fulfilled. And so then her clothing is of wrought gold. You and I already have a righteousness before God, and that is the righteousness of God in Christ. But then the raiment of needlework. O brethren, how lovely, dear young people, you and I day by day can do just like the. Girl who's preparing for the wedding, which is getting everything ready for that day. And if you and I are thinking of that day, why we're doing little things in our lives to meet with the Lord's approval. How the girl might say, well, he's not marrying me for my clothes. The clothes don't matter. But why does she do that? Well, she likes to appear beautiful and she likes to hear him say, oh, that's lovely. Did you make that? It's just lovely. Well, let's you know that's what you and I have the privilege of doing. The fine linen is the righteousness of Saints. You and I have the privilege, dear young people, of living in such a way that in that day it will be manifested. Well, I want to go on. Then we have faith. Don't ever allow the enemy to bring unbelief into your heart. Don't give up this hope looking for that blessed hope. The Lord is coming, and when He comes, every hard question in life will be answered. Everything that's unexplained here will be explained, for we know in part. But then shall we know even as also we are known. But then there's that last one, that one that abides. And let's turn to 2nd Corinthians chapter 5. Second Corinthians chapter 5. For the love of Christ constraineth us, because we thus judge that if one died for all, then we're all dead, and that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

Then if you'll turn over to the First Epistle of John and the 4th chapter and the 18th verse. There is No Fear in love, but perfect love casteth out fear, because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him because he first loved us. Well, here we find love brought before us. Well, it tells us about faith. It's faith in God. It's faith in the Lord Jesus. If it's hope, it's a person, Jesus Christ, which is our hope and love. It says the love of Christ constraineth us. Perhaps some of them heard me comment this, but I must say I enjoyed in my own soul. The verse does not say. The love of Christ should constrain us. It states that as an actual fact, the love of Christ constraineth us. And so it just means like this, supposing I had a powerful magnet here in my hand and I had some nails on the table, I wouldn't say to you, now watch, this magnet should pick up those nails. I would say this magnet picks up nails. And as I bring it down, it's not that it should. When it does that, that's the power that's in the magnet that attracts those nails and draws them to himself. But why were those nails unmoved while I held a magnet up here? Oh, you say you were too far away and just have to get the magnet a little closer, and then you can expect the nails to move. Well, that's the trouble with us, dear young people. We don't get close enough to the Lord. You say, well I wish I enjoyed his love more. Well, it's not that there isn't power in His love, but we need to heed that admonition of James. Draw an eye to God and He will draw an eye to you. You know, when you bring that magnet down, two things happen. As the magnet gets closer, the nails begin to jump and that's exactly the way it is. You know when you get close to the Lord, then you feel His love and it stirs your heart. You come to meetings like this and it's. Because we spend 3 days over the Word and occupied with His love and it does something to us. It makes us feel we want to respond more to His love. We go away perhaps saying I want to live more for my Savior. He's done so much for me. But the enemy doesn't like that. And you're no sooner out on the road than something comes in to try and get you at a distance from the Lord so you don't feel. Of his love and the enemy has succeeded. He doesn't want you to have confidence in God. He didn't want you to have hope. Confidence that the Lord would come in and the blessed hope of soon seeing your Savior face to face. He didn't want you to have that in your heart and in your soul and governing your conduct. And he doesn't want that love to constrain you. He doesn't want that love to draw you. But oh how beautiful it is, the Lord's love. Never, never changes. He delights to assure us of His love. Perhaps I can say at times when we would least expect it. In that 13th chapter of John, just the night before, the disciples all forsook him and fled. Why? It tells us, having loved His own, which were in the world, He loved them unto the end. The time came that he would go back to his father, but he loved his own so much that he went to Calvary and died. That he might have you and have me. And he knew they were going to all forsake him that very night. We turn to Malachi, the last book in the Old Testament, and tells us about all the disorder there was among God's people but it begins with this message from the Lord, the burden of the word of the Lord by Malachi. I have loved you, saith the Lord. And you know, dear young people, the devil wants to put into your heart and mind a question about the Lord's love to us if he can only succeed in. Enjoying this and then he gets us away from him. And the heart must have an object so other things come in. Our brother spoke to us yesterday about all those temptations. But you know, why do we yield to those temptations? Because we think we're going to get something good by yielding to them. The devil says your life is humdrum. You're not having much fun and pleasure in life. You've got to do this if you've got to do that and he is telling you that the Lord isn't sufficient you.

God has sidestepped His word a few times in order to have a good time in life. That's not true. Dear young people. The Lord cares about everything. He cares about all the natural things of your life. He wants you to be happy. He's never going to be a thief and a robber to you. He's a giving God. He wants to bless you and He wants to care for you. And he's concerned, I say, about everything. Your friendships, your schooling, where you live, every. Everything about your life he's concerned about and he wants you to know that. He wants you to have confidence in it. But I say again, even when we do grow cold, it doesn't change his love. His love is always the same and we need to remember that. It's the only thing that will keep us going on is the confidence of his love. It says because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. In this day of abounding iniquity, it's very easy for our hearts to get cold, our affections cold toward the Lord, because we're surrounded with everything to take up our minds and to take up our attention and to draw our hearts away from Him. As the brother was saying, we have idols, we have other things that creep in. But all I want to say again, that love, that unchanging love, that love which is ever toward you, you and I. Have the privilege of enjoying it. You can get up in the morning and say he loves me, cares for me, He's interested in all the affairs of this day and he wants me to trust Him. He wants me to come. And I love that verse. Pour out your heart before Him because there's nobody else you can do it but Him. You just can't tell. Tell everything to some people. Very, very few that you can tell your inmost feelings to, but you can tell them to the Lord. And it'll never change his life, it'll never change his love towards you, because he loves his own to the end. But now that verse that I read in John's epistle, it says we love him because he first loved us. In the new translation, the word him is omitted. It says we love because he first loved us. Perhaps I hear somebody say, well, that kind of spoils it for me. No, it doesn't need to spoil it. You certainly do love him. But it also brings in the thought that the thought really in the verse is this. We have the capacity to love because he. Loved us, you know, in natural things we love because of what we see in people. You say, oh, I love that person. Well, that person has meant something to you. And you love them because of some characteristic that you saw in them that drew out your affections. But divine love does not act that way. Divine love acts because of what it is in itself. And I think that's a very important thing. There's another comment that has helped me in my life, and it said Christianity is known by what it brings and not by what it finds. It brings something. The Lord Jesus came into this world to bring something. What did he find? Unbelief, rejection. But he came to bring salvation. He

came to bring his love. He came to bring the heart of God. And why do we love? Oh, you say, my brethren are all so nice in the place where I live. Yeah, well they may not always be, but God will give you and has given you the capacity to love no matter what return there is or what lack of return there is. Isn't that beautiful? We love because He first loved us. And whenever you find it hard to love some brother or some sister, just think, why did the Lord love me? He loved. I love because He first loved me and there was nothing in me at all to love. And I love because He. Loved me. And that love is an unchanging love. And that's what we need in our assemblies. That's what we need in our homes. Christian homes are breaking up. Assemblies are having problems. And why? Well, at first there's a lack of faith. And I suppose too, we have lost our hope in waiting for the Lord to come. But perhaps too, that we haven't realized what divine love really is. Let me say it again. It acts because of what it is in itself. You say, have I got that capacity? Do I not have to see something in the person? No. God has given you of His Spirit. You and I possess the life of Christ. We have the capacity to love whether there's any return or not. Oh, may the Lord give us to realize that. And then when we get home to heaven, there's going to be a scene where love will fill the whole place. As the little hymn says, Oh, what a home, the Father's house.

Their love divine doth rest. What else could satisfy the hearts of those in Jesus blessed? What everybody desires in life is understanding and love and you get them both in the Lord you get understanding. He knows you and understands you perfectly. Did you ever say, oh, I wish I could talk to somebody that would understand my problems and my situation. When I tell people they don't understand that they can't seem to enter into it, but you have. Friend that can, and that's the Lord Jesus and a person that can love in spite of all that we are, and he gives us that capacity. May we, brethren, be able to show a little of this to one another. May we have a little better understanding of one another. Maybe we'd be more like Ezekiel when he saw those people sitting by the river Chebar and dwelling in tents. He could have said it's all our own fault they rebelled against the Lord and that's why. They're in their condition, that was true. But he went and sat where they sat for seven days. He entered into their position. And sometimes we have to enter into other people's positions and then love them like the Lord loves them. I don't mean that we don't have to be faithful. Ezekiel was very faithful in his message, but his message stemmed from love. He saw where the people were. He entered into it. He sat with them. Oh, may the Lord give us hearts that will enter into these things. Things well, I just want to say again, we need that where we begin. It says we need the breastplate of faith and love and for in helmet the hope of salvation. And again the closing verse. And now abideth faith, hope and love these three and the greatest of these is love. The reason its greatest is because. It overrules all circumstances. And then I say again when we get to heaven. We won't need faith there. We won't need hope there. Everything that we have desired, we will have. Everything we have hoped for. It will be ours in possession. But love will fill that whole place. Oh, what a scene that will be. Dear young people, I say again, we've only got a short time left. You're like the big candles. You're if the Lord doesn't come, you're the ones that are going to be left here a little longer and you can be a blessing. Nothing rejoices our hearts as those who are getting a little older, as the young people with a desire and heart for Christ, a desire to live for him. We try to enter into your situation. It's difficult. Today in 1983, and if the Lord leaves us here in 1984 will be more difficult. But the Lord is sufficient. He'll give you grace. May we not forget those three things. May they characterize our whole Christian life. The enemy is going to try and destroy them, but God would seek to maintain them in a practical way in our lives. Faith, hope and love.

Glendale Conference: 1980, An Unworthy Manner

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Well, there's no thought of any personal worthiness that any of us have, because we don't have any in ourselves. Are standing before God is only through the work of Christ and the thought here is in an unworthy manner. It's not the thought of personal worthiness. I say again, but there is an unworthy manner and perhaps a simple little illustration will help in this supposing that. And I've been very careless with my affairs and run up some great debts. And someone kindly comes along and says, well, I'll pay up all those debts for you. And so I appreciate what they have done and they pay all the debts for me. And a couple of weeks later I go over to their home especially to thank them for what they have done for me and paying these debts. But now that all my debts have been paid, I'm a little more free, I think, well, I can go out and buy a few more things and I go into debt a little bit more. And I go over to this person's house. And I tell them how very much I appreciate what they have done for me in paying all my debts. And here I am in the two weeks that followed. I have been mounting up some other debts and I'm telling them how much I appreciate it. Do you think that's a very worthy kind of Thanksgiving to give? Wouldn't they be very likely to say, well, you're guilty of the very things that caused me all that trouble in the 1st place, that I had to pay all your debts off? And now there's no question that the Lord Jesus at Calvary's crossed once for all, paid the debt of our sins. And so in that sense, the illustration doesn't perfectly fit. But I come to remember the Lord Jesus in his death, to express my appreciation for what he did at Calvary in glorifying God and in meeting my need. And here I am, going on with the very things in my life. Life that caused him all the suffering that I come to professedly remember. And in that sense, brethren, we are guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. He had to give his body in death and shed his blood for those very things that I'm going on with unjudged in my life. And that's a very solemn thing. It makes it very clear in the verses that follow. We'll never be condemned with the world. World, but we will come under the government of the House. And so. If I came over and I acknowledged that I had been very, very careless, and I'm sorry, that would be a different matter. And so that's why it comes in here. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat. Now, that is as soon as I realize that there is something in my life that I have allowed as a believer. That caused the Lord Jesus all that agony and suffering when He endures. And bore my sins in his own body on the tree. Why then in His presence I seek to judge that if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. And so we get before Him, I get before Him, I own it. I am restored in His presence. I lay it bare. I acknowledge that it has come into my. Life and then in the knowledge that he has restored me, I come to remember him. Now I'm not Speaking of those things that may call for the discipline of the assembly, but there are so many little things and let's remember this, brethren, big sins in our life never come suddenly. They are the result of a lack of self judgment in little things. There's no such thing as. Weed springing up in our garden overnight. It's because we didn't pull out the little ones that they finally grew to be big ones and this is the thing that is being brought before us. That if we form the habit of self judgment in little things. Then they won't come into those big things that may call for the government of God or even, as we have in the 1st Corinthians 5, the discipline of the assembly, so that.

Just to emphasize this thought, it's no thought of any personal worthiness. Everyone who loves the Lord Jesus should desire to remember Him. But it seems to me it's a tremendously solemn thing to go on with things in our lives unjudged, and then come and professedly tell the Lord that we appreciate what He did for us in bearing those very things. What a serious thing guilty of. The body and blood of the Lord means that we are allowing those things that caused him that suffering unjudged in our lives. But it's no thought of being condemned with the world. It's no, it's not talking of an unbeliever here. It's a real believer who has become careless and has not realized what the remembrance of the Lord really is. I have enjoyed the thought that the simplest verses in the scripture about self judgment, for that's what we have brought before us here. And I might say that self judgment is really applying the Word of God to our lives. Just like in Numbers chapter 19. There's no thought of the person being re cleansed in the blood. Brethren, that's once for all. There's no second application of the blood. But there is the necessity that there should be that water of separation sprinkled upon us, and we need also to get to the root of what the difficulty is and judge it before the Lord. Not only the act, but what was it that caused it? That is, was there some self-confidence like with Peter? What caused him to deny the Lord? Basically it was because he was self confident and thought he was better than the rest. And we'll usually find in our lives that the reason for failure is something that we have allowed in our hearts, and then it it comes out in some action that takes place. And so these verses about self judgment, I say, are in connection with the Lord's Supper and to my heart. Isn't it a lovely thing that the thought of self judgment is associated with the wondrous love of my Savior in going to Calvary to settle a question of my sins once for all? And so when I think of what it cost him, how could it help but produce self judgment in my life? It's not a formal thing. It's the thought, and that's the lovely thought. I think I'm going to tell the Lord how I appreciate what He did for me. You know, there's a little whisper within that says, but is there something that you've done that caused him that suffering? And you haven't judged it, You haven't owned it to him. Well, it tells us in numbers 19 where the water of separation is brought before us. That the man was sprinkled on the third day. And he was clean on the 7th. And we ought not to confess sins lightly, but rather in the sense of what the meaning of the third day is. And that is, what did the Lord have to go through to put it away? And if we confess it in the thought of what it cost him to put it away, there will be a real restoration. If on the other hand, we say, well, I guess everybody fails sometimes, it wasn't really that serious. There won't really be a proper restoration. It needs to be in view of what the Lord went through to put sin away, and that's why it's associated here with the Lord's Supper. Self judgment is always, if properly done, in the light of what the Lord went through for our sins.

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