

Accredited

#0620

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—March 27, 1970

I want to give you a little report and a little preview. I appreciate the prayers that go up from many of you when we are out on these field trips. A few weeks ago, it was my privilege to spend a week with the church in Sonoma, CA, and then a week with the Santa Rosa Church. This is in the area between San Francisco and the Saint Helena Sanitarium and Pacific Union College. We had a number of attendants from these institutions besides the churches.

There is a growing interest in the things we are presenting, not only on the sanctuary, but on this subject of survival. And a growing interest in the self-supporting work. We're thankful for this.

Jesus told His disciples, you remember, that there were some things He could do for them better by being away from them than He could by being right there. And He does that way sometimes with some of us. There are times that I know that I can be of greater service and greater value to Eden Valley a thousand miles from here than I can right here on this campus.

Yet, I am very thankful for all the time the Lord permits me to spend here, for my heart is in the building up of this institution and this training program for Gospel medical missionary evangelists.

You'll be glad to know that a workshop such as was conducted here last fall is going to be conducted near Columbus, GA, on the property that Dr. Calvin and Dr. Agatha Thrash are developing. It's just a little—I was going to say an institution it is hardly an institution yet, but it is going to be. It has not quite been born yet, but it is going to be born pretty soon.

Brother Jensen from Stonecave, and Brother Sayler from Wildwood, and Brother Chamblis from Oakhaven, each with some helpers, have been spending a few days each there in the last two weeks, and they hold this coming week to have a building ready and auditorium out there in the country seventeen miles from Columbus on the Alabama side. This is a two hundred acre property that the Thrashes have gotten to develop a medical-missionary center.

Next Thursday night, this will convene. I will not be there, and I don't know that any of you will be there, but we will all be there in spirit, I trust. Brother Jensen is going

to have the opening study next Thursday night. Brother Ralph Martin will speak there next Sabbath morning, and Brother Bill Dull will be speaking there next Sabbath afternoon or Saturday night, and other speakers from other places will have a part in the program.

We are thankful for these workshops. I was talking with Brother Jensen last night on the phone and with Brother Ralph Martin this morning on the phone. You folks from Michigan, you have 14 inches of snow this morning, and we don't have very much here, do we? But there is a good report all along the lines. Two weeks ago, Dr. Butler and his wife, about to take a year's leave from the self-supporting medical missionary work in Mexico, passed through here to counsel with us concerning connecting with the new work in Provo, Utah. They spend the weekend over there. The reports we have from there the Butlers are going to unite with the Dr. Smith group there in Provo and help to develop that.

Also last weekend Sister Petra Sukou, whom some of you know, a nurse who has just finished her work in public health at Loma Linda, went up to Provo, Utah at the invitation of the Smiths to look over the work there with the prospect of developing a health conditioning program. She will be connecting with them this summer when she finishes some classes she is taking presently at Loma Linda. So the prospects are bright over there on the other side of the Rockies.

As far as I know, this weekend will be my last with you for a little time. I am spending a week with the Florida Camp meeting in April, and also, we have an appointment in Alabama on the sanctuary and following that, two weeks in New York City. A week with the Brooklyn Church on the sanctuary and a week with the Manhattan Church on survival. Following that, we hope to be back with you again.

Will you be praying for us? I know you will. Remember, we're serving you in the field as well as here on the campus. This is true of both Brother Martin and me. We are glad that we can spread these principles and help to awaken a deeper interest in workers and students coming here and to the other centers that are developing to train medical missionaries.

I would like to study with you this evening the relationship between our life here and our life in Heaven as it relates to our education. We're told in the wonderful book *Education* that Heaven is a school and that we take our preparatory course here. In fact dear friends, that is what life is all about. We are just getting ready here to go to school all through eternity.

Now that might discourage some people. Some people are looking forward to the time when they can get out of school when they won't have to go to school. But of course, a person who has that attitude it is either because he isn't in the right school, or else he doesn't know his opportunity. This is the problem.

I would like to read from this book *Education*.

“Heaven is a school; its field of study, the universe; its teacher, the Infinite One. A branch of this school was established in Eden; and, the plan of redemption accomplished, education will again be taken up in the Eden school” *Education*, page 301.

So we’re going to go to school again. Further in this chapter, we find:

“The life on earth is the beginning of the life in heaven; education on earth is an initiation into the principles of heaven; the lifework here is a training for the lifework there” *Ibid.*, page 307.

We get initiated here. We find out whether the program of education is what we really desire, and if we decide to go on, we are eventually graduated from the course here and accepted into the higher school. But if we decide to be dropouts the Lord doesn’t send any school attendance officer after us. Enrollment in this school, both in Heaven above and in the preparatory school here, is entirely a matter of our own choice.

God invites us. He has some very interesting announcements, bulletins, calendars to distribute, that is what the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy are for, to describe the courses of training available. But it’s by our choice that the decision is made as to whether or not we enroll in this school of God and complete the preparatory work and finally arrive in Heaven.

One of the questions that a student usually asks when he is thinking of a certain course of training is, how long will it take? How many semesters, or how many quarters, or how many years of study must I engage in?

Well dear friends, as far as the eventual course is concerned, eternity is the answer. There will always be something more to learn. It will require an eternity of time to explore an infinity of truth. And whatever field we may think about, the field of science, the natural world, the birds, the flowers, the trees, the rocks, the stars. Whether we are thinking of music, or of history, or of the study of the Bible—in all of these branches of learning, there will never be an end. Always something more. And better than all this, friends, is the opportunity afforded of fellowship with God.

Won’t Heaven be a wonderful place? To know God?

Now we may think of Heaven as people with millions of inhabitants, and it is, but

if that's all we think of, we could realize that we would get precious little opportunity. But in ways that you and I cannot comprehend, each one of us is to have the personal teaching of God.

"It is written in the prophets, and they shall be all taught of God" John 6:45.

"And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children" Isaiah 54:13.

Won't it be a wonderful thing for God to sit down with you and answer your questions and explain things to you in your own life? Clear up problems? Oh friends, what a wonderful opportunity is ahead for us! I want to get in on it. Don't you?

Well we can, we can. But my dear friends, we must first pass the entrance examination. And that means we must complete our preparatory work.

Some students who go to college, go with the idea of *finishing* a certain course. Some go with the idea that they are going on to some professional course beyond, for instance, the medical course. The education that you and I are receiving in life under the tutorship of God is only a preparatory training. I'd like to read a few things on that.

Take *Education*, it speaks of an education that is:

"...as high as heaven and as broad as the universe; an education that cannot be completed in this life, but that will be continued in the life to come; an education that secures to the successful student his passport from the preparatory school of earth to the higher grade, the school above"
Education, page 19.

Now you know, down here at Loma Linda, the university where I have a number of friends on the faculty. Every year there is quite an interest as to who is going to get in certain of the courses. For instance, the medical course take something of over a hundred students there each year. Well, there are a good many more applicants than that. The question is, now who will be permitted to enter?

And in all our colleges over the country, some even overseas, young men and women are preparing to go there to take that medical course. Well, there grades are examined. There are certain subjects that they must take. They must take some work in chemistry. They must take some work in biology. And quite a number of other subjects. They must reach a satisfactory grade. All this is examined.

And so, my dear friends, it is with regard to this school of Heaven, you and I are

in our preparatory training. This is what life is all about, I repeat, and I would like to have us think about it and study about it.

Now, you remember that nearly 2,000 years ago, the Lord Jesus came down from Heaven, took our humanity, and grew up as a child learning as we can learn, but there were some schools that He didn't go to. Some years ago, I was holding a series of meetings in one of our colleges, and the president of the college invited my wife and me to dinner. We were sitting at dinner, and as we talked together, he said to me, "You know Brother Frazee, as I've been thinking this week a thought occurred to me that those schools that Jesus didn't go to, those schools that John the Baptist didn't go to were the church schools of that day." Is that correct?

This was the president of one of our colleges that made that observation to me. Now, he wasn't seeking to reach a conclusion that nobody should go to any school today, but that thought had stimulated his mind. Now, where did that thought come from? Well, it came from the Holy Spirit, from the Word of God, the Spirit of Prophecy. I am going to read a statement here from the book *The Desire of Ages*, page 69. I want you to see why Jesus didn't go to the established schools, the conventional schools of His day:

"In the days of Christ the town or city that did not provide for the religious instruction of the young was regarded as under the curse of God. Yet the teaching had become formal. Tradition had in a great degree supplanted the Scriptures"
The Desire of Ages, page 69.

What does "supplanted" mean? Took the place of.

"True education would lead the youth to 'seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after Him, and find Him.' Acts 17:27. But the Jewish teachers gave their attention to matters of ceremony. The mind was crowded with material that was worthless to the learner, and that would not be recognized in the higher school of the courts above" *Ibid*.

Oh, here is the line I wanted you to notice. Are there some subjects you might take in certain schools that wouldn't admit you to some other school? Yes, yes. Many a time a student brings certain credits, and the registrar looks down the list and says, "We can't accept this. We can't give you credit on this."

Ah friends, I challenge you this evening, when you present your list of credits at the school of the hereafter, how much of what you have labored to learn in this life will be accepted up above? Is that a good question? A very important question. And Jesus did not attend the schools of His day. Why? I read it here:

“The mind was crowded with material that was worthless to the learner...” *Ibid.*

Did they think it was worthless? Why no. They didn’t think it was worthless. But it was.

“...and it would not be recognized in the higher schools of the courts above” *Ibid.*

Have you ever heard the word “accredited?” Oh yes. You have heard that lots of times, haven’t you? “Is this school accredited? Is that school accredited?” Let me tell you, my dear friends, that word “accredited” simply means accepted by certain institutions, certain organizations, certain associations. When somebody asks if a certain school is accredited, the answer to that question ought to be asking another question, accredited by whom? That is the answer. Accredited by whom?

Those schools back there were accredited, but Jesus didn’t attend, weren’t they? They were accredited by the Jews, and they were accredited by the Grecian system of education centering in Alexandria. That’s how they got to be that way. Running after that Grecian recognition, that Grecian Accreditation.

That’s why Jesus, and John the Baptist, couldn’t go, wouldn’t go. They were interested in accreditation from another source. What was it? From a higher source—from Heaven. They were planning—don’t miss it—they were planning on carrying on beyond this life and this world. Are you?

“The mind was crowded with material that was worthless to the learner, and that would not be recognized in the higher school of the courts above” *Ibid.*

Oh my friends, I am so glad that God has given us the opportunity to get now in this life what will ensure us a good standing in the school of the hereafter. What do you say?

Another statement with this:

“I am instructed to say that some of our teachers are far behind in an understanding of the kind of education needed for this period of earth’s history. This is not a time for students to be gathering up a mass of knowledge that they cannot take with them to the school above. Let us carefully weed out from our course of study all that can be spared,

that we may have room in the minds of the students in which to plant the seeds of righteousness”
Fundamentals of Christian Education, page 525.

Now, I haven’t given you a text yet, have I? This is just preliminary what I have studied with you. I want to study with you for a little while this evening, three things in which we need to measure in, in this preparatory school in order to be ready to graduate and be accepted as students in the school above.

We’ll turn to Proverbs 9:10.

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding” Proverbs 9:10.

What’s the beginning of wisdom? The fear of the Lord. To fear God, to acknowledge God, to recognize God, this is what? The beginning of wisdom. All right.

Now, if a person doesn’t fear God then, has he even started in this course? No, he hasn’t. You’ll notice that the first word of the first angel’s message in Revelation 14 is what? Fear. Fear whom? Fear God and give glory to Him. This is the beginning of wisdom. This is the beginning of education. To acknowledge God, to recognize God, to accept the fact that there is a God, and be willing to listen to Him.

“In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths” Proverbs 3:6.

Do what? Acknowledge Him. Recognize Him. Look to Him. Accept Him. Admit that He’s the ruler of the universe. You remember Nebuchadnezzar had quite a problem with this. He had to be turned out to grass for seven years in order to learn it. But at the end of that time, he looked up and recognized the God of Heaven. He admitted that he, Nebuchadnezzar, was just a man and that God was the real ruler. You will find his statement there several times in the fourth chapter of Daniel:

“...the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will” Daniel 4:17.

Nebuchadnezzar really got into the divine program of education when he accepted that fact, when he admitted that God was the ruler. Is Nebuchadnezzar going to be in the school of the hereafter? Yes. Thank the Lord. He finally passed. It took quite a while, as we would say, to pound some sense into his head, but he finally learned it.

Now I wonder, dear friends, what experiences have you been going through to learn this lesson, to recognize God? God’s ownership, God’s rulership, God’s

management. What experiences have you been going through? One of the things that many people do that just fills up their lifetime is just trying this and trying that and finding out it doesn't work. What a sad way! What a sad way to spend life!

"In all thy ways..."

Do what?

"...acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths"
Proverbs 3:6.

Think how different Daniel's life was from Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel started in his life as a boy in admitting that God was ruler—in recognizing Him, in acknowledging Him, in accepting Him as the ruler of his life. And what a wonderful life that life of Daniel was!

Well, the point is, Nebuchadnezzar finally learned it. Do you think that is something we would need to know before we could be accepted into the school of the hereafter? Who is going to be our teacher there? God is going to be our teacher, and if we can't accept Him if we can't admit that He's the ruler and the teacher, and the guide, and the master, we are not ready. Whatever experience it takes—don't miss this—whatever it takes to teach us that lesson is part of the essential preparation in this life to get us ready for the school of the hereafter.

Now, let's take another one. Let's go over to James chapter four. It is not enough to recognize God. It is not enough to admit that He is and that He is ruler. We must not only *admit*, but we must also *submit*.

"Submit yourselves therefore to God" James 4:7.

What is the first word? Submit. What is another word that means submit? Surrender. What is another expression? Yield. What is another one? Give up. All these are good. Submit, surrender, give up, yield, can you do that? "Oh, that's hard. I may know that God is, I may acknowledge that He is King of the universe, but I want my way."

Do you want your way? I will tell you friends, what will cure you of it. Come to Calvary and see what your way costs.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" Isaiah 53:6.

"He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him;

and with His stripes we are healed” Isaiah 53:5.

You see friends, when we begin to get a view of what having our own way costs, it cost the death of the Son of God, then we are not only willing to *admit* that God is King, we are willing to *submit*, to *yield*, to *surrender*, to quit fighting against Him.

Have you reached that point? Well, if you have, you are well along the way in your preparatory course. But you know, dear friends, sometimes we think we are yielded, and then God lets an experience come along that helps us to realize that we need a deeper work of grace in our hearts to yield everything. Jesus says:

“Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not *all* that he hath, he cannot be My disciple” Luke 14:33.

It isn’t just a matter of giving up some bad things like whiskey and tobacco. Jesus, when He left Heaven to carry out the Father’s mission to this world, didn’t give up a lot of bad things so He could be saved. He gave up a lot of good things so others could be saved. Full submission means everything on the altar so that we no longer argue with God. “Oh Lord, surely you are not going to take that away from me? Why this is a good thing!”

Everything. Everything.

“I will follow Thee My Savior
whereso’er my lot may be.”

It’s a wonderful thing to go all the way with Jesus. Isn’t it? This is a part of true education.

All right. Now let’s turn over to 2 Timothy the first chapter, and we will find a third point in this preparatory education. The first was admit, and the second was what? Submit. Now we are going to find another word:

“For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have *committed* unto Him against that day” 2 Timothy 1:12.

What does “commit” mean here? To give over, to turn over, to entrust to, to put in the hands of, all these thoughts are included in this. Paul says, “I know whom I have believed, and I am persuaded.” I am settled. It is all settled. I know ‘He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day,’ that is the coming of Jesus. I have turned everything over to Jesus.

Do you know where Paul was when he wrote this? He was just about at the end of his education in this world. He was in a dark, damp, prison cell in Rome. Not long after He penned these lines, He was led out and executed, beheaded. But listen to what he wrote a little farther on in this book shortly before his death.

“For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have *finished* my course” 2 Timothy 4:6.

Are you going to graduate Paul?

Yes, yes.

“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing” 1 Timothy 4:7–8.

There is a certain number only that can be admitted to certain courses in various universities, but my dear friends, the good news is there is room for you. Paul says so.

Paul was just about ready to graduate. He was finishing in this world. He was reaching out to that world beyond. I want to ask you something, friend. How would you feel if you were sitting in a prison and knew that any day at a nod from the emperor, your head was coming off, how would you feel? Here’s a man that went through that experience and there is no note of discouragement in this last letter at all. He was a graduate of God’s school here in this world. He’d learned how to live. He admitted that God was on the throne. He *submitted*, and he *committed*.

He acknowledged God as ruler. He yielded his life fully to Him, and then he turned over the responsibility of it to God. He quit worrying. He left the responsibility of it with God. Friends, have you done that with your life? Have you? Ah, if you have, you are a happy person, a happy man, a happy woman, a happy young person, a happy boy or girl. If you have taken those three steps, if you have learned those three things experimentally, to *admit* that God is ruler, to *submit* to Him, and *commit* yourself, your way to Him.

The first is to recognize Him. The second is to surrender to Him. The third is to trust Him. So there is no more worry, no more fighting, no more struggling against God or against circumstances, no more complaining because people get in your way, or because the weather isn’t what you wish it was, because this thing or that thing or the other doesn’t happen. No. As long as we are complaining, friends, we haven’t finished our course. We need to come face to face with these three great realities tonight.

Shall we do it, friends? Oh yes! If we will, then we can be ready. You know, to learn these lessons, friends, means that we are ready to die any day and ready to live if God sees fit from now till Jesus comes. This is it. What a solemn thing it is to live. A solemn thing to die. Which do you think is more solemn? I think they both are. What do you say?

Friends, if we have these three things settled, then we can leave with God, for we have committed ourselves to Him how long we spend in school. We don't have to say, "Well Lord, I am afraid I won't get ready." The Lord says, "Don't fear. I will see that you get through all right. I will see that you learn."

Do you think God knows better than we do what we need to learn before He comes? Do you think He can teach us? Yes. And if God should see fit to let us close our life record today, tomorrow, next week, next month, next year, whenever it is, do you think that the God who loves us will see to it that we have finished our course before school closes for us? Oh, I know He will! That's my confidence today. That's why I am of good courage.

I know whom I have believed. I've accepted Him. I've acknowledged Him. I admit that He is the ruler. I've submitted my way to Him, and I have committed my life to Him. He is responsible. If you want to know, friends, how long it is going to take, ask Him. I don't know.

If you want to know how He's going to get me through—you know, I got a letter the other day from a friend of mine. He says, "Brother Frazee, I wish you would give me some references on just when it is that we personally in the church must reach the standard of perfection," and then he went on and named some things and explaining that. Well friends, I have to be honest with you. My faith is quite simple. It is that of a little child. I have enrolled in the school. I have accepted God as my teacher. I have given my hand, and I have turned over to Him the responsibility of getting me through.

He knows what the questions are. He is going to take me through. I know He is. He gave His life on the cross to bring this about. I love Him tonight, and I am so glad that my life is in His hands. He is going to take me through and present me before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy! Paul is going to be there. David is going to be there. Joseph, Daniel, Mary Magdalene, Martha, Lazarus, James and Ellen White, Joseph Bates, Steven Haskell, and a million, million others, friends.

Won't it be a wonderful day? Are you going to be there? Do you *admit*? Do you *submit*? Have you *committed* yourself body, mind, and soul to Jesus and turned over the whole responsibility to Him ready to go, ready to stay, ready your place to fit. If you have friends, if death comes in the next minute, it is all right. God will see to it that you are enrolled in the higher school. If God lengthens out your life and you live until He

appears in the clouds of Heaven, it will take all that time to get you ready for that higher school.

God knows just how much time it takes, what lessons you have to learn. Turn your life over to Him, and He will use every day in getting you ready. And what a wonderful thing on that program to know that everything He teaches us is something that we can take with us to the higher school, and it will be recognized in that higher school. Are you thankful tonight? Who would like to speak to the praise of God right now?

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