

Pres. Madison, members of the Board, faculty, friends of CalvaryBC. Most sincerely do I say that I consider it a great honor to be here today and participate in the inauguration. Dr. Madison has the dubious distinction of being one of my former students. I wish I could say that I taught him everything he knows, but that would be both presumptuous and erroneous. But I have the distinction of calling him a good friend. Though our fellowship over the years has been sporadic, it has been of that rare kind that allows us to speak freely with each other, and I am grateful for that. Too, I owe a great deal to this school. The old Midwest Bible and Missionary Institute in St. Louis which was part of the merger that formed CBC stuck its institutional neck out many years ago and gave a very green seminary graduate an opportunity to teach, and I shall always be grateful for that. I even remember the courses Dr. May and Dr. Andrus assigned me. They were Archaeology, Cults, Bible Geography, ~~of hermeneutics~~. You see, they kept all the Bible and theology courses for themselves and that's all that was left. But I'm even grateful for that.

Thus I feel a personal attachment to this institution and to the man, and I want to say something ~~to~~ in rel to each this morning. The institution that we call the Bible institute and Bible college has had a long, honorable and important history, yet many do not understand, let alone appreciate, its place in the educational

spectrum of our day. What justifies the existence of this kind of institution? I want to suggest two things: the first is the relevance of its curriculum with its major emphasis on the Bible. This is not a liberal arts college where liberal arts form the core. It is a Bible college. Now there are many who think this is irrelevancy at its worst, for they feel that ~~xxx~~ the Bible is not too relevant unless somehow we can make it relevant to today's world. Exactly the opposite is the case--we must seek to make men and society relevant to the unchanging message and standards of the Bible. One write put it thisway:"Far from catering to our changing whims, the relevance of the Bible is precisely its unwavering and disturbing demands on our life. It is relevant by showing us how our life is shamelessly irrelevant to it." The modd of education today is to explore everybody's viewpoints to find areas of mutual agreement and interest, and ultimately to develop one's own existential phil of life and conduct. This is usually done without ~~any~~ reference to any kind of objective, unchanging and reliable standard of authority, let alone truth. But since God has broken into history in His Son, JC, who ~~ch~~aimed to be the truth, and since God has spoken thru His prophets and apostles as recorded in the holy Scriptures which He said are truth, then man has an objective and reliable standard by which he may guide his thinking and action. So I charge you today to keep this distinctive of the Bible college inviolate. Any violation will probably not come thru erroneous or

heretical teaching, but thru diminution or dilution of this core of Bible courses. Do not permit it to happen. ~~xxxxx~~ Look around you and observe the rapid rise in the past 5 years of new 1 and 2 year Bible institutes with hundreds of young people enrolled. Why? because they want Bible and some of our traditional Bible colleges have so diminished their Bible offerings that they no longer satisfy the demand.

The second justification for the Bible college is the need for its product--godly, committed young people. Now godliness is not something conferred by the wave of a magic wand; it is cultivated by many means, over much time, and through commitment and discipline. The Bible College seeks to provide these means, <sup>to</sup> afford the time, to urge the commitment and to practice the discipline necessary for godliness. A.B.Simpson who founded the first Bible school in this country in 1882 at Nyack, N.Y. wanted a place "where young men might prepare for foreign service." He referred to his students as "irregulars," and defended the new kind of training his school would provide by citing the divine commissioning of Stephen, Philip, Barnabas in the work of apostolic evangelism. The worldwide influence of graduates of Bible institutes is incalculable. Let Vista and the Peace Corps have the headlines; the Bible college graduates have been doing a finer and more important job for years. May CBC play an

increasingly prominent role in sending out such wonderful irregulars to all the world.

Now many I say domething of a more personal nature to you, Dr. Madison, and what I want to do is simply to remind you, my dear friend<sup>4</sup>, of 3 essentials of leadership in your service for our Lord. Knowing my own frialties I could not do this on my own authority or as one posigg as a superior, but as a fellowservant and on the basis of God's Word. These 3 essentials are all found in the 4th and 5th chapters of Ephesians which begins "Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called." That worthy life must

Simpson characterized his training this way: "Distinct Bible training...practical training in definite lines of Christian work...Holy Ghost missionairies...simplicity and economy... actual results."

first of all be a life of <sup>with humility & meekness. Paul says,</sup> humility. Paradoxical<sup>as</sup> it may seem, (5)  
humility must characterize God's leader. You remember that when  
Moses was grown, he apparently thought all he had to do was  
step before the Israelites who would immediately acknowledge him  
as their leader, especially if he sided with them against the  
Egyptians. Why shouldn't he mediate a quarrel between 2 Israelites?  
But the reception he got was, Who made you ruler over us? 40 years  
later Moses was ready to lead the people <sup>to</sup> when he was also ready  
to acknowledge before God that he could not do it by his own  
wisdom or eloquence or ability. Joshua, too, had to learn the  
lesson of humility. It was he who led the people across the  
Jordan on dry land but when he came face to face with the capt. of  
the Lord's hosts, he fell on his face, worshipped, and readily  
acknowledged his place as a servant. True humility comes from  
seeing the Lord and then seeing yourself and then living and  
leading in the knowledge of what you saw. <sup>Paul at end - I am chief.</sup> In this day of <sup>20th - clothed in</sup>  
self-aggrandizement, in this day of false piety, in this day of <sup>humility</sup>  
feigned humility, humble yourself under the mighty hand of God  
that He may exalt you in due time. Then you will walk worthy  
of your calling and be fit for leadership.

Second, I remind you to walk in purity, never compromising with those things which the Lord has forgiven you and from which He has set you free. No uncleanness, no greediness, no lying, no wrath, no useless talk, no bitterness, no hard-heartedness, no unforgiving spirit. These are some of the things which Paul mentions in Eph 4 which will so quickly sully, tarnish and besmirch anyone's life. No matter what others do, or say, or try to entice you to do, find your standards for conduct in God's unchanging Word. Then you will lead out of <sup>your own</sup> deep conviction and uncompromising ~~life~~ <sup>example</sup> these hundreds of young people in paths of righteousness and godliness.

Finally, in this section the apostle says to live wisely, and this he explains means to redeem the opportunities of the time in which you live and serve. One of the strangest idioms in our language is killing time. God's Word about this is redeem time, and the word used in the text means not only to buy it up for God's glory but take it away from anybody else's use. Why? Because the days are evil—something that is increasingly obvious with every passing day. Plan your strategy wisely, both for your personal life and for this school which you lead. You may have, by God's grace, 20 or so more years of active service. Use them wisely, seizing every opportunity to further the gospel and promote the will of God in every sphere you touch.

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I do not say these things because you are not doing them, for I know you to be a humble, pure and wise man. But I say them to remind you and all who have places of responsibility in this school of their basic importance. ~~They must characterize us.~~

*Firmly* You remember that the verb used in Scripture with these traits is walk. And walking is not running (you'll soon fade out that way); nor is it sprinting (you'll fall out that way); nor sitting (you'll flunk out that way); it is steady, continuous and measurable progress in Christian living. So I charge you to walk in humility, in purity, and in wisdom; and may our wonderful Savior crown all the days of your life (and thus all the works of your hands) with His own rich blessing.

*as you lead the B.C. - teaching the word & modeling lives*