

The Lord's Day Evening

January 1, 1950

"Happiness"
Matthew 6:25-34

The Reverend Dr. Girard Lowe

Introduction:

1. Last Sunday heard, "Merry Christmas."
 2. Today, "Happy New Year."
 3. Meaning of happy
 - a. Good luck; good fortune; prosperity
 - b. A state of well-being characterized by relative permanence by dominantly agreeable emotions ranging in value from mere contentment to positive felicity and by a natural desire for its (That is these agreeable emotions) continuation.
 4. Happiness then may be
 - a. A passing emotion which produces ecstasy for a time; soon passes away
 - b. May be a permanent condition
 1. May have periods when the passing emotion or feelings may be depressed, but these will soon pass away
 5. This condition comes by a process
 - a. Do not find
 1. As lost purse
 2. Stumble on good fishing place
 - b. It comes because of a certain kind of life
 1. You reap happiness because you sow the sort of life which will inevitably produce happiness
 - c. You ask what sort of life
 1. No one thing
 2. Many ingredients
 - d. Let me give you a recipe for this morning
 1. Only mention some things; enlarge upon others
 2. Making cake or plum pudding etc.
- I. Some things eradicated
1. Make cake flour must be sifted
 - a. All lump and hard particles removed
 2. Must eradicate self-pity
 - a. Produce unhappiness
 1. Saps morale
 2. Eats away a personality as a strong acid eats into finest piece of furniture
 3. Makes us most difficult to get along with
 - b. How eradicate it

3. Look at lives of other people
 - a. Children away from home
 1. Carleton White's on way to Africa
 - b. Suffering handicaps
 1. Travis Cox
4. Look upon tasks and burdens as blessing
 - a. Some complain what have to do for children; others because have no children to do for
 - b. Some about work church calls upon them to perform
 1. Others wish could do it
 - c. God trusted you with duties and responsibilities
5. Go out and do something for someone else
 - a. Groceries
 - b. Medicine
 - c. Sorrow

II. Settle question of relationship with God

1. Call it conscience or whatever you please
 - a. Man not rest until finds rest in God
 - b. Sense of incompleteness
2. Sin breaks this fellowship
 - a. This matter must be dealt with
 - b. Sick mom in hospital found peace through Christ
 - c. No happiness until you have done this

III. Set your affections on things above – Colossians 3

1. People who depend upon things never find happiness
 - a. Like chasing a kite
 - b. Always want more
 - c. Old man in northern Ohio – Dr. Torrey Tells about page 200 soul-winning sermons
2. Things are so transient
 - a. Thieves break through and steal
 - b. Moth and rust both corrupt
 - c. Then if that is your treasure your heart will break
3. Put your treasure in heavenly things
 - a. Do for God
 1. Cup of cold water
 - b. He will reward
4. Find happiness in assurance of God's reward

IV. Trust the Lord – Proverbs 16:20

1. No happiness found apart from this
 - a. Nothing else stable enough to trust
2. Children
 - a. Lady at Jitney worried because children stayed out until 10 or 11 o'clock and

said my they have just started by then and said you will be miserable for a long time. "What can I do?" she asked. I answered, "Trust God." "You mean just turn them over to God and then go to sleep?" "Exactly," I answered. "You will be miserable until you can do this."

3. Business

4. Life

a. Why worry about tomorrow

5. Health

6. Eternity

Conclusion:

1. Plant a life

a. Self-pity eradicated

b. Enter into right relation with God through Christ

c. Look to God for rewards

d. Trust in the Lord

2. You will reap happiness