

3 (10 1/2)

learn how to make a good impression on them, and how to make those people like you. And when you get terribly irritated over some minor thing, the chances are, if you knew the real situation, you wouldn't be irritated at all, because there is something you don't know about, and even if there is something which is bad in the other person, God can take care of it and God will ~~take care of it~~ if they are servants of the Lord Jesus Christ, but if you can learn how to deal with those things so as not to be irritated, but to win other people to like you and be ready to listen to you, you will double or triple your effectiveness in the days to come. Every <sup>spring</sup> ~~year~~ students come here and receive their degree, and we look at those students, they have passed the course, but some of them have ~~not~~ learned to serve the Lord, to follow Him, to understand His word, to know Jesus Christ as a personal friend, learned to present things to people in such a way as to be effective ministers of Christ, and other people have made no progress at all along these lines. As thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone.

There is a great message in this O. T. verse, there is a great message in this O. T. illustration, there is a great danger for us to avoid, let's be busy. God doesn't want us to be lazy, He wants us to be busy, but let's keep busy on that which is essential and vital and which He expresses in His word. ~~We are~~ <sup>we'll</sup> all (12 1/4) have to say at times, yes, it's gone, the opportunity. As thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone. But oh, let's pray that God will help us to reduce the number of times we have to confess, and to increase the number of times when we can say, yes, I was busy doing the things God wanted me to do, and I have made the progress that God wanted me to make. <sup>Let's pray.</sup> Oh, God, our Father, what a warning ~~are~~ there is in these words, as thy servant was busy, he was gone. No wonder Ahab went to his home, bitter and upset, his opportunities were lost, he had failed to be busy at the right time. Oh, our God, how easily we can fail to seize the opportunity we have before us, to make the time count, to accomplish the purpose you have for us, oh, our God, help us, each one, to make sure we really know Jesus Christ as Saviour, and Lord, to have no guessing about