

(Introduction of faculty to the new students. and students to faculty)

I am greatly interested in the welfare of each of you and am anxious to do anything I possibly can to advance your education and understanding of the Word. I don't have as much time as I did years ago for light pleasantries, and as I said I find it hard to recognize faces, so if I pass you in the hall and don't speak to you please don't take it that I'm not interested in you. If you have any matters you would like to discuss with me at any time please make it an appointment through the office. I can always within a week or two find time to spend as much time talking with any one of you as you might desire on an- subject that interests you. If you have an emergency, get in touch with me immediately. I am always anxious to be of any help I can to anyone in any emergency. But in anything of another type I would like to fit it into other arrangements.

Now we would like to start our year with a devotional time, and for that purposes I would like to discuss a verse of the Scripture, and to look at its implications for us. Today I have selected a verse that we perhaps don't hear as often as some other verses but I think it is particularly appropriate for the beginning of the seminary year. It is Daniel 12:3 - "And they that be wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."

We don't in our Christian groups put so much emphasis perhaps on this idea of wise, or wisdom, but there are parts of the Scripture ~~where~~ where it is very greatly exercised. This is particularly true of the book of Proverbs. Just listen to Proverbs 4:5-7 - "Get wisdom get understanding, forget it not neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not and she shall preserve thee. Love her and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principle thing, therefore get wisdom, and with all thy getting get understanding." These are very strong words. Prov. 3:13-19 ^{are} equally strong, as to the importance of getting wisdom. ~~"They that be wise shall shine like the brightness, of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."~~ ^{SEE TEXT}