

This morning I would like to call your attention to the first sentence in the great prayer that our Lord Jesus Christ made in the Upper Room there shortly before his sacrifice. Verse 3 says "Now this is eternal life that they may know you the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." This is eternal life

Life. Young people as they look forward to their lives that is an important subject. Life. What is my life going to be? Where shall I spend it? What shall I do? The great mass of people sort of just drift along. What comes next? What influences happen to come into their lives? They perhaps consider their passionate desires. They feel a strong urge in this direction or that. If they were only ten or more years older they would realize that a great many of these urges even if very strong were very temporary. That which seems tremendously to attract can even actually become repulsive after a space of time.

These natural desires are not a full exhibition a basis upon which to plant one's life though they certainly enter into one's consideration. Many look much further forward. What is my objective in life? To get money? Few consciously say it that way. But with many that is a very strong element in their plans. How can I get the most money? I think the great majority take what they get and spend it as it comes.

Some work for fame. To most of us that seems rather distant. We don't think particularly about a desire for fame. Yet what that represents is a very real factor with most of us. The desire to be well thought of. How easy it is for most of us to be shifted this way or that. Somebody looks askance at this. We think somebody will look down on us if we do that. We are greatly affected by other people's attitudes. Few of us can sit down and think out carefully what we plan to do with life with that as an objective though it enters in to some extent with most everybody.

People consider all sorts of factors in considering what they shall do, what the next step shall be. But Jesus said, This is eternal life that they may know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. How easy it is for us to overlook the most important factor of all i.e. God and His will.

The story is told of a sailor a couple of centuries ago == a sail boat a couple of centuries ago which got into difficulty. Trouble began to come. They threw over part of the baggage and then the rest of the baggage. Then they struck the sails. Finally the captain turned to the woman passenger and said, "I've done everything I can. All we can do is to look to God for help!" She said, Oh, has it come to that? Has it come to the point where we must look to God? If our lives are to be worthwhile, that should not be the last consideration but the first. How easy it is for us to be affected and influenced by little things that come along. By the small things. By the people we happen to be next to. By the people we happen to know or come in contact with. Yet the greatest factor of all is God's power, His purpose and will.

I think it is good for us often to stop and think about how tremendous God's power is. We look at this tremendous universe He's made.