

Revelation then is one of the commonest things of life. It is a factor that in everybody's activity, everybody's life. None of us would accomplish much in our life without what we get by revelation from other persons. If we neglect the revelation from the greatest person of all, how can we expect our lives to accomplish what they should or to fulfill the purpose for which they were created. It is dangerous to neglect the revelation that God has given us.

How often you will have someone telling you I was driving and I can to a certain place and I thought to get to where I want to go I should go this way. They turned this way and followed the sign which they thought was the right direction, and maybe a half hour or hour afterwards they find they are way off. Then they get out their map and they look at it and they see the revelation that they have to show the road where to go. But they neglected to look at it. I expect almost everyone here who has done much driving has sometime in your life wasted an hour by going on the wrong road and not stopping to look at the revelation, at the map and see what the right road would have been.

It is dangerous to neglect revelation. The ideas of men may be good. They may be worthwhile. They may be helpful. But they have to be tested by the Word of God. You go into a Christian bookstore today. You will find, How to do this....How to do that... God's answer to this....God's answer to that. But God's answer they usually express it is from their own experience. And their experiences are worthwhile. These books are worthwhile. But it pains me to see how small a part of most Christian bookstores is given to books that are taking a section of the Word of God, and trying to study that to see what it means.

We are in a world of confusion. We are in a world in which we do not know what's ahead. We are sure that if we live many years we will face problems that no one perhaps has ever faced before. The answer to those problems is in God's Word. If we've learned really to study that Word, and really to make it part of ourselves, part of our lives and to test whatever ideas we get elsewhere by that Word, we will be ready for the situations that we will meet. If we put our attention on what somebody says is the Christian attitude, what some human being says the Word of God teaches, what human beings have found by experience--all that has its place, but if we do not give it a place that is very subordinate to what the Word of God says our lives will not accomplish what they should for Him

Let us pray: Oh God our Father we thank you for your revelation. "Where there is no vision the people perish." Or as NIV, "Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint." How different the idea is and yet how true both ideas are. O our God we cast off your restraint, and we do what is contrary to your will, not merely when we oppose your revelation but when we neglect it. Help us to study and to learn the messages you have for us and to be prepared to study it further and learn more from it. Help us to bring our lives into conformity to that Word and to accomplish your plan for each of us. We ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.