

Special - April 12, 1949 2

it; ponder over it. We are told that "His Word we should hang upon our necks, we should eat the Word; we should meditate upon it. It is not enough simply to take a verse and memorize it. That is excellent, but that is not enough. We need to meditate upon it. We need to ponder over it. We need to think about it. We need to let it sink in to us. The birds are ever ready to pluck it away. The Word that is only superficially ~~there~~ is ready to disappear. We need to bury it in our minds and in our hearts, to meditate upon it.

Jeremiah has a word that is helpful here. He says, "Break up your fallow ground." You cannot secure salvation for yourself; you cannot secure growth in grace, but you can break up your fallow ground. You can break up some of the clods, some of the things that are in the way of the Word of God getting root within your heart, and when you see somebody else and you give the Word of God to them as this woman spoke of, you give it to them and they may have absolutely no interest in it, at least show no interest in it. Who knows what may come into their life tomorrow or the next day? Who knows what may have come yesterday that you do not know about? God may break up the fallow ground. He may disturb the even tenor of the life. He may cause an upheaval there that makes them feel their need of something real, and in that situation if the seed is there it may find good lodging. It may grow into something worthwhile, and if the seed isn't there it will never grow into something worthwhile. There was many a man in a fox hole who declared he would be utterly different thereafter, and in few cases was any change made. A situation of misery and terror and fear alone does not make reformation, but a situation like that may make one ready to listen to the Word. It may break up the fallow ground and put one in a situation where he is ready to receive^{it}, and God breaks up the fallow ground of people and we should plant the seed that it may be there to grow when He does and God may choose to break up the fallow ground of our own hearts. I do not think we should pray the Lord to save us from sickness, from misery, from accidents, from difficulties. I think that is a wrong and selfish prayer to pray for the . I do not think it is God's