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Chapman College Chapel Address

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*Introduction
Reading
Two years ago* Chapman College Chapel Address 10

May 20, 1942

To be with you here today is a privilege
I wish I had command of words to express the joy in my heart created by being ~~here today~~ with you. You form a group of choice, ambitious young people who have come to this institution to better prepare for life.

As you leave college to enter the activities of life, in whatever line, you will find a world torn, shattered. Every phase of life is disrupted. The tragedy of all time among Nations is upon us. It is to you and others gifted and trained as you are being, that the ^{task} ~~task~~ of reconstructing a wrecked world will be given. May ~~all of~~ you be Divinely guided ~~so~~ that you will rebuild so that never again may a few ambitious men destroy it.

I have from the beginning of this institution stressed two distinct, yet all comprehensive achievements of those who come here, - the building of a Christian character and the development of an attractive personality.

These accomplishments will carry one further on in a career of a useful happy life than any other I can think of. In this last talk here on our beautiful campus, at least for some time, I want to briefly ^{again} stress the same thought.

When you have formed a noble Christian character you will have enriched your life as no acquisition of wealth, position

or possession of worldly power can do. It will do for you far more than anything else you may possess. It is the highest and noblest possession in life. Therefore, be careful how you build *That Character is power. It is true in a much higher sense than knowledge is power. You may have a mind ripe in knowledge and be exceedingly clever and if without heart of goodness, you will be a dangerous person*

Although a man may have comparatively little culture, but little genius and not much wealth, if he has a noble character he will always command an influence with his fellows.

A great English statesman said, "My road must be through character to power; I will try no other course. Though not perhaps the quickest, it is the surest".

Franklin attributed his success as a public man not to his talents or his power of speaking, but to his known integrity of character.

I have enjoyed much success in life because I had in a measure, this quality. *I have distinct & convincing evidence of this*
~~McLean; Heironymus~~
~~Booked on Von Christenicht - Mason degree etc~~
 Others respect one who has builded for himself a Christian character.

Only last week while sitting about the table with the Directors of the National Title Insurance Co., Mr. Dockweiler, before using a mildly profane word, turning to me said, "Pardon me, Mr. Chapman".

The kind of a character to which I refer is a composition of good qualities, such as integrity, truthfulness, self-respect

industry, kindness, gentleness, good habits, good morals and good manners, all inspired by abiding faith in Jesus, and determination to be the kind of a person that He would have you be.

All of these qualities however highly developed, must be bound together by that higher quality, the spiritual, the Divine, within us. Without this, one is like the rough block of marble. With it, like the beautiful statue.

All of you are building character. You began when boys and girls. The process is going on, whether playing, dreaming or working. Wherever you are or whatever you may be doing, you must carry on this sublime work.

If earlier in life you may have done some poor work, used questionable material in building, I am sure, since you have been here, in fellowship with other fine young people, and led and taught by as ^{consecrated} ~~able and splendid~~ group of instructors as may be found in any institution of learning, you have been inspired to nobler living, ~~by being in the presence of these consecrated teachers who are wholly devoted to your welfare.~~

May I, in a word, further emphasize the importance of this process of building character, and the danger confronting you on every hand. - - - - -

As a Nation we have become intoxicated with respect to material progress. We have reached out into every physical

realm and become almost masters of every force in Nature. These achievements have so fascinated man that we have abandoned much in life that is fundamental to our happiness. This has brought a waning in our interest even in religion.

So, be on your guard. Only a strong character, faith in the Christ and fellowship with good companions, good books and activity in the Church, can ~~save you~~. *make you useful & happy*

Now a word about personality. The small college provides the atmosphere conducive to the development of a desirable personality much better than the crowded University

Here you have easy contact with the Faculty, every member of it being desirous of helping you.

Personality is the combination of all your qualities, - intellectual, social bearing and contacts. Be gracious, not cold and grouchy. Wear a smile and not a frown. Enrich your mind with wholesome learning, care for your body, develop your spiritual nature and be gracious, - be cordial.

Long Beach girl

In all of my investigation I find that educators speak highly of the small church-related Liberal Arts College.

Colleges of this type have been called "the seed beds of leadership". We need today as never before in political,

social, industrial and religious life of the Nation, sane and safe leadership and in ^{in the} institutions of this kind is

where they are more properly prepared. *than in the great universities*

This disturbed world awaits you. Go, when you are prepared and play well your part.

Ever gratefully remember your Alma Mater, your capable and respected professors and your fellow students.

If some of you do as well in this latter respect as my son and grandson did, you will always be grateful that you came to Chapman College.

By Charles C. Chapman

May 18, 1942.

A closing word to the Faculty and about the disturbed condition of the College.

I am happy that at the very beginning and during the years I had a voice in calling to the institution some of the most capable instructors to be found, giving us a scholarly and consecrated Faculty.

I well remember the days of the beginning, when Dr. Cheverton was one of the two teachers with ten students. During these more than twenty years he has labored in the interests of the College with a devotion that is most commendable and as an instructor with remarkable ability.

Others of this group have made a distinct contribution to the on-goinh of the College. Not only has their professional work been thorough, but their personal influence with students equally as valuable. They have given the College a splendid reputation for scholarship and for character building, so successfully carried on during the years.

War, cruel, relentless war, has come to disturb and disrupt our life of peace and tranquility. Our College and many other colleges have not escaped. We have suffered and my heart and mind have experienced this emotion in close fellowship with all of you.

We know that God cares for His own and out of all this disturbed and disappointing experience He will lead us, ~~it may be even to better days~~, if we are willing to be led and I know we crave His leading.

The Trustees have most earnestly prayed ^{for} God's guidance and it seems that He has opened a way for us during these dark days, so that we may not only carry on, but when peace is again established ^{among Nations} ~~on earth~~ we may return to our attractive campus findings buildings repaired, with much of our financial obligation met, and with the rest of the disturbed world, readjust ourselves to proceed with our Divine program.

We have chosen a capable President, one of our very own and we are happy that we prepared George Reeves for leadership and grateful that we may now use him. We are also to hav that other ^{Prince of} Christian leader, Dr. Royal J. Dye, as a helper. ^{in the on going of the College}

May Faculty, students and friends ever cherish grateful and happy memories of our beloved College and loyally support it, - an educational institution born of a Christian impulse and financed thru' the years by the Church, is my prayer.