

Phineas F. Bresee Sermon Notes - Isaiah 60:17-20

Every attempt has been made to transcribe these notes accurately. Indecipherable text appears in brackets [-]. Abbreviations transcribed as they appear in the notes.

Isa LXI.17-20 (**Several lines of sermon notes are faded and hard to decipher**).

For [brass] I will bring [gold]. Here is the riches, the peace, the light and the joy of the Redeemers presence. I take the first of this as my theme this primary [-]. The riches of the Redeemers presence. It speaks of Ch. wealth comparatively. It refers to the [-] [-] [-] [that] come to me by the natural providences of God. Under the figure of the [baser] methods. [-] of them beautiful and all useful. But the 'R' comes & transforms them into greater ability & purer beauty. It does not underestimate the blessings flowing from the all loving Fathers hand to all his creatures. But it tells how much richer the blessings of his presence & love. You will notice that there is a graduation in value of the transformed blessings of this life. Some like brass &c. There are the comforts of this dying body. This perhaps the [greatest] of all. Both on account of the blessing itself and that for which it is used. Our food & [-], how quick they perish & have to be rescued. The body itself is but for a day. Then there is the blessing of [society,] [home,] and of kindred Spirit. Blessings of knowledge. Here the choice blessings the man that was thankful he did not have to know &c. The joy that knowledge gives &c. Blessings of memory. Hope. Man is more [desperately constituted] to be happy [-] in his marred condition. It takes all the force & power of sin to at last crush him. But unless he has something [more] it at last succeeds. All fades &c. The Redeemer the mighty Savior comes to our race bringing not only the work at whose touch all these elements of our nature are transformed. But brings his own infinite blessedness [to be in us a well of joy & glory]. A living experience of the religion of the L.J.C. makes every blessing of his providence & every noble element of our being many times more blessed. The very robes we wear and food we eat give undoubted joy when we rec it with thankfulness as from the hand of God. The family becomes more sacred & precious when there is an altar &c. The love becomes purer & stronger &c. Home becomes a sweeter place when there are songs of praise &c. And there is a higher type of friendship. Friendships are usually formed on affiliates & by association. None like these. It opens up to us an internally new philosophy. The philosophy of salvation. Knowledge. For the first time in life can a man realize the depth of his sinfulness, the wants of his nature, the value of his being & the glory of his destiny when he stands beside the cross and studies it in the light of the infinite love of God. Traces in the blood. God's hatred of the sin that stains his soul & in the depth of his humiliation the height of the glory to which man is to be raised. The knowledge of man when touched by the life giving cross springs up into God & eternity. Religion touches memory & hangs about her neck. The choicest jewels of heaven. Memory to all men one of the choices & blessings of God. Without it the present would be almost valueless & joyless. True it may be turned to a curse &c but to most a great joy. How dark would life be, if no past, we go back and live it all over again &c. But when converted memory is laden with new beauties adorned with new jewels. We still love the scenes of childhood &c. but more the joys of Religion &c. Religion lays her [armorial fingers] upon hope & makes it glow with the light of the [-]. Hope is one of the powerful elements of the human soul. It is that which girds the young man with strength. But when I ask for things that lie beyond. How dark. I look out on nature & see the things my soul would cling to fade away. The sunlit beauties that look to my impassioned soul like the gates of day fades &c. I tend a flower and learn to love it &c. I lie down among the fossils of the past. Here is the fair creature of the oceans depths hardened in his coral grave &c. Here the strong wing of the once beautiful bird &c. I gather around me the friends that I love but they pass away. I feel that this form begins to feel the lapse of time &c.

End of notes