

that dazy but most interesting was at the top of that hill to come to the remains of what was one of the most famous ~~xxxxx~~ hotels in Europe -- a great, beautiful hotel that had been there for the previous ~~4~~ 50 years that was considered one of the great places for all the well-to-do in Europe to visit. In that hotel just about two weeks or less before the day that I came there, in the middle of the night a fire started. That fire started and before people realized it it was under way, and it swept through that hotel. I talked to people who had been there, and they said it sounded like a tremendous storm as the fire just raged through that hotel. The result was that people were rushing and trying to get out. Many of them jumped out through windows and were dashed to pieces on the rocks below on the side of that hill.

They told me about one woman there who was in a room in the section of the hotel where the fire was slower getting to than the other sections. This very well-to-do woman was in the room, and heard the cry of fire! Hurry up and come out, hurry the fire is coming! The woman said, Yes, I'm coming right out and she went and pulled out the drawers from the bureau and she took out her expensive dresses and threw them out of the window and then she took her jewel box and took the things here heart was set on and threw them out the window one after the other. She got all these valuable things out the window, and far enough away that they all came safely through the fire. By the time she had finished with them, it was too late. The fire was pouring through the wall and came through the door and all they found of here was a few charred bones, and of the fillings in her teeth which were recognizable by which they could establish her identity. She could easily have escaped, but her heart was set on these good things she had. Valuable things. She wanted to save them. She clung to them and clung to them until there was no longer a chance of her escaping.

The good things of this world, if they stand in the way and prevent us from getting that which is most important. If they take up time and energy from that which is most important, nomatter how good they may be, may become like these which destroyed the life of that woman. They may keep us from that which will make us possible for us to be saved eternally, or perhaps even more important they may take up the time and energy which God has used in using us to lead others to the knowledge of salvation, to lead others to be saved through all eternity, so that they and we together could enjoy the good things God has made through all eternity.

God wants us to enjoy the good things of life, but if the good things get in the way of that which is most important then they can become bad things. Paul says, What things were gain to me these I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless and I count all things loss for Christ. I count them but refuse, dung in order that I may win Christ. Compared with Christ there is nothing else in life worth anything. They have their place. They should have their place, but their place must be properly understood and always subordinate. to that which is most important.