

views of different people and see what different Christian leaders through the ages have said. They look at all these things, and they are ~~ka~~ trained to do it, but they said, We can open up the Word of God and see what the Greek and Hebrew is, what the Bible says and draw it from it. That is easy to say but hard to do. And that is our big stress here. That is why we require so much language.

Sometimes I feel sorry that your first year so much time has to be put into languages if you don't know Heb. and Greek. But our students say that our second year after they had the foundation of these languages is worth twice what the first was. The reason is because they have the first to build upon. And the third year they say is worth as much as the first two together. But it is because they have that to build on. So that is our second great emphasis here--understanding the Scriptures.

A number of years ago I knew a very wonderful Christian, a very godly man. A man who preached such wonderful Christian sermons standing so true to the Scriptures in most instances that I thought very highly of him, but once I was terribly disappointed. I went to his big church. I sat there and I heard~~x~~ him give a marvellous sermon on the text, Thou shalt say unto him, No!" And the way he rolled it out over his tongue, THOU SHALT SAY UNTO HIM, NO! The power of saying No. The power of resisting evil. The power of refusing to be led astray by temptation. It was impressive. Do you know what his text was? If you know the Bible as well as I hope you do(or at least hope you will before you graduate here) you will immediately recognize that when Sissera fled--that leader of the wicked forces trying to destroy the Israelites fled after God had given the Israelites the victory -- he came to the tent of Heber the Kenite. Heber's wife Jael let him in. Let him hide there. He said to her, If someone asks you if a man has come this way, Thou shalt say unto him No!

So a wicked man asked a woman to tell a lie, and this was the text the man used. I said to myself then, The good that man did in stressing and driving home to people's minds the importance of saying No to temptation, is far less than the evil that that it is of leading people to think that the Bible is simply a lot of texts to hang ideas to instead of a book you should look at and see what it really teaches. So that is our second big emphasis here: to understand the Scriptures. To do this right we could spend every minute of our time for 3 years. All we can do is to give you a good start. But if you work hard, you can get an excellent start and go on in learning to understand the Scripture the rest of your life.

God has taught me many things even during the last week, and there are many more (things) I trust He~~x~~ will teach me~~s~~ as I study the Scripture. But you get a good start in a 3 or 4 year course.

There is one other stress we make here that you don't find in the average seminary. I'm sorry to say, and it's strange. That is we put stress on speaking effectively. It is strange how many theological students don't realize the importance of learning to speak effectively. Very strange. But I think it can be explained because none of us ever hear ourselves speak. We hear some sounds inside of our heads, and it doesn't sound a bit like it does to others.