Hedonism

He was thinking of people of his congregation whom he 'would be taking care of as they were getting elderly. So he spoke to the church about it. They agreeed it would be a fine idea, a fine objective. They allowed him to select certain people from the church. I'm not sure whether there were out-sides in it at this timeor not. But they formed a corporation. The Open Door Estates, and bought a large stretch of land right next to the church. He got busy studying plans, and making arrangements to build a home for the aged and built a fine satisfactory place and people came to it and were very happy.

But he discovered what he may not have suspected before that he had a very special ability along this line in arranging the finances and arranging the management. He found also that at times there were members of the church who were not able to afford to pay enough there to pay expenses, and he threw the doors open to almost anyone who could afford to pay sufficient to keep the thing going properly. He found he had unusual buisness ability.

So when he finished building this he suggested to his Board that there were other people in PA who would qualify in having a place where they could go and be taken care of. The Open Door Estates proceede to build 4 or 5 other large homesfors for the aged in various parts of PA, and he was (indistinct) all this time. Soon the houses were taking anyone who could afford to pay money to go to them, and he had no time left to prepare his sermons or do much pastoral work.

Eventually he decided to leave the church. He left it altogether. His salary, I believe, he said to have been\$10,000 a year some years ago, much more than that sum would be today, but 2 or 3 years ago the church brought suit in order to gain some control over the property that was using their name and they declared he madmexmad had made over a million dollars in the previous year.

There was a man who had followed the lust of the dsyea eyes, the desire of the eyes in a very proper way, but then finding that it could work out to his own advantage he was taken up with it to the point where his life and ministry has been completely ruined, and how much Christian -- how many Christians will be getting into the houses he established even in the one next door to the church, there is a differing opinion about today.

How easy it is for us to be led astray by the lust of the eyes. The answer to it is not ascenticism, I believe. It may be desirable in many cases for us to go without many things that we might otherwise have. But the important thing is where our love is. Is our love set on the will of God, or is it set on the necessary and important proper things of the world, but so set on them that it has allowed them to have a place they should not have. Jesus said, If anyone hate not father or mother he is not worthy of me. Some people go to the other extreem and say It is a duty for a man to say what his father and mother want regardless of what they tell him to do.