

Bags - Bottles - Books

by Walter Wilson

God collects and accounts for every single sin and iniquity, and being saved by grace means living a godly life that reflects our salvation.

Duration: 36:22

Scripture: Malachi 3:16-17, Matthew 6:33, John 3:16, Ephesians 1:7, Philippians 1:6, Revelation 20:12

Topics: "Christian Life"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of confessing our sins to the Lord. He explains that at the judgment throne, the Lord has evidence of our actions and a book for our thoughts. The preacher uses the analogy of a queen wearing expensive jewelry but being unaware of a small stain on her chin to illustrate how we often prioritize worldly things over spiritual matters. He also shares an anecdote about two women who were amazed by the depth of God's presence in nature and in people's hearts. The preacher concludes by encouraging listeners to have their thoughts focused on God in all aspects of life.

Transcript

Friends, here is Dr. Walter Wilson, as he comes to the microphone to address us again. This morning here at Billy Sunday Tabernacle, this great crowd again. Dr. Wilson, this appears to be the largest crowd yet for this, the sanctuary hour.

Dr. Wilson. Thank you, beloved. I'm going to talk to you about a bag and a bottle and a book.

You'll get a great deal of help, beloved, if you use your concordance, and look up things when you come across them in your study, your Bible study. Don't just read through and pay no attention to what it means. You get such a blessing if you look up what it's talking about.

For instance, it says about how beautiful are thy feet with shoes, in Psalm 7-1. Well, look up shoes. See what it says about them, and do some thinking about shoes, and you'll be surprised how quickly you get a wonderful blessing from heaven because you learned what God said about shoes.

I want to talk to you about a bag this morning, a bag for our sins. We find in Job 14, verse 17, My transgression is sealed up in a bag, and thou sewest up mine iniquity. Now, he tells about the two things being put in a bag, his transgressions and his iniquities.

Now, iniquities, beloved, are the things in the heart that are wicked, but they may never come out. You see something that you wish you could have, and you'd like to steal it, but you know it's wrong, so you don't do it. But the desire is there.

There is the desire of the eyes. We see things that we shouldn't see, but we don't say anything about it. One night my daughter was trying to get a drawer open.

We'd had a week of rain, and she was trying to get a drawer open, and she couldn't get it. And I said, What's the matter, dear? She said, I wish it wasn't wrong to swear. Well, that's iniquity.

See, she wouldn't do it, of course. But then the desire was there. And iniquities are the things in the heart that may never come out, or in the mind that may never come out at all.

But they're wrong. Now, he says those iniquities are put in the bag. And then transgressions, of course, that's things that we do that are wrong.

And there are five kinds of those, you know. There are sins of omission, things we do not do that we should do. And sins of carnation, things we do and we know they're wrong, but we do it anyway.

And sins of ignorance, we do wrong things and we don't know it. Like the other day, my wife and I were driving downtown, and she went through a stop sign in front of a school. Well, the reason why, she was talking.

And the thing was on this side, and she was turned this way, and she didn't see it. Of course, the cops saw it and took her down to the court. And it happened to be the woman's day, and my wife being a W, she was at the end of the journey, you see.

She was the last one called, and the women were whining and complaining. Judge Gardner said, What are you in here for? I said, I ought to be here. I went past the school stop sign.

I shouldn't have done it. I'm glad you had an officer there to arrest me. That's what I needed.

And you can fine me, and I'll pay the fine gladly. But I don't see, he said, how you can stand sitting up there and listening to these whining women. He said, Woman, you get out of here.

You don't owe me a dime. That's the first kind word ever heard in this court. So you see, such a thing as to be nice.

Well, the transgressions are put in a bag. Then there are sins we make other people commit by the way we act or dress or undress or something about us. And the other person commits a sin, and we're the cause of it.

Well, all those sins, all those transgressions, he said, are put in a bag, sealed up in a bag. Now, why? Well, we put lots of things in bags, you know. The Federal Reserve Bank has a basement full of bags of money, and they're sealed shut, and they know how much is in each one.

When I went out on the farm to visit my friend, he had me picking potatoes, and I put them in a bag. And we tied the thing shut because he wanted to save those potatoes. When I have in my surgeon bag, just like my dear brother Carter here, I have all my surgical instruments in a bag so that they won't get rattling around in the place and get all dirty and lose the edge on the sharp ones.

I have in a bag to preserve them. Well, now, Lord, Job says, God did that to me. My transgression is sealed up in a bag, and now so is my iniquity.

Because, now listen, every single sin and iniquity must be put away before we go to heaven. Everyone, thoughts, words, and deeds. And he puts them in the bag so they're saved, they're collected.

They don't get away from us. Every single thing. You remember he was delivered for our offenses and raised again for our justification.

Offenses are things that hurt God's heart, even though it isn't a sin. If I'd come along and step on your foot, and you had a sore foot and I stepped on it, well, that'd be an offense to you, but wouldn't be a sin because there's nothing in the Bible about not stepping on anybody's foot. But it would be an offense.

Now, the Lord Jesus, beloved, gave himself for all our offenses. Think of that. All of them.

If he omitted any, he isn't going to come back and die again. He had to do it when he died once because he wasn't coming back anymore to die for us. He had to do it then.

He brought out all the offenses. Now, he has to put them in a bag so that when it comes time to go, everyone will be taken care of. Our lovely Lord accounts for everything between the cradle and the grave.

That's an offense. We ought to thank him for that and love him for it. And you remember his laundry in the fourth chapter of Ephesians.

He presents it to his father without a spot. The washing takes that out, or a wrinkle. The ironing takes that out, or a blemish.

And the mending takes that out. So if we're absolutely perfect in his presence, and the Savior does it, it's by grace. Absolutely by grace.

If you only got forgiven for the one you confessed, sins you confessed, you don't remember. You can't remember. You don't remember what you did yesterday, let alone all the rest of the years.

Now, suppose we commit one sin a day, just one, of these five kinds. Well, at the end of the year, you've got 365 sins against you. And at the end of 10 years, you've got 3,650.

At the end of 20 years, you've got 7,300 against you. And keep on going. Because you don't get rid of any of them until you get rid of all of them.

They're all little ones. When you trust Jesus Christ, he brought every sin out from the cradle to the grave. And makes us fit for heaven.

So that if we live to be 90, there'd be a long list of those sins that we needed to confess, and we couldn't remember them. So he comes and blocks them out when you trust him with your soul. And he puts them in this bag so that there'll be every one accounted for.

Now, suppose I was a queen, and I'm all dolled up with beautiful pearls and diamonds and whatnot. I have \$3,000,000 worth on me. And I have a nice long satin dress, beautiful big long crane with six women to hold it up.

And I go into the banquet room, you know, before I go on to the throne to receive the ambassadors and the other folks. And while I'm eating, of course, I have a double chin. And I brought some gravy, you know, right there.

But of course, I don't know it. I don't see it. It's up there, you know, where you can't see it.

And then I go sailing into the banquet room, and I sit on the throne, and all the royalty around looking at me. And what they're looking at? Pearls? Diamonds? \$3,000,000 worth of jewels? No, one penny's worth of gravy. Isn't that right? Wouldn't do for us to go to heaven with a spot on us.

Every angel would see it and say, What's the matter? Did the Lord Jesus overlook that? I remember up at Medicine Lake, Minnesota, a woman came to the Christian Endeavor Convention and brought 17 boys and girls with her. And I saw her Bible. It was all marked up and railroaded and dog-eared, and I knew she didn't get those that are dog-bound.

Those are handmade. And she had a lovely Bible, all marked up. Well, while I was speaking one morning on the gospel in the Old Testament, and I was using the story of the Passover lamb, and she turned around, she seemed like where this lady is, just at the end of the seat on my right.

I saw her turn around and lean her head back on the top of the bench and cry. She was sobbing. I could see her shoulders shaking.

So when I finished speaking, I went to her and I said, What's the matter, sister? She said, Dr. Wilson, I don't think I've been under the blood at all. I think I've been deceived. I don't think I've been under the blood.

Oh, I said, I'm sorry. I'll tell the Lord Jesus about it. I don't think he gave you a fair deal.

So I kneeled down on the sodas right beside her. I said, Lord Jesus, I certainly am ashamed of you. Here you died for a lot of people, and you forgot this woman, didn't do anything for her.

She said, Shut up! What are you telling me that for? Well, I said, That's what you're telling me. You have to let me finish my story, because I'm talking to the Lord Jesus about you. I said, What have you got against this woman, that you didn't do anything for her at Calvary, and you did so much for other people? She said, Shut up! Don't you tell me that.

And then a smile came. And in one minute, she was out of her dumps. I saw her look up and said, Lord Jesus, I'm mistaken.

You did it for me. And she got peace at once. You see, she didn't know all the sins were in the bag, that he put them all away by his grace.

But you see, the Lord wants us to live it, too. I read of a story, a man told me a story about a tailor who had another tailor working for him. And this tailor who was working for him was accused of stealing a pair of trousers.

And so the tailor had his workman arrested for stealing. And the trial came up. And this fellow, the defendant, had a very fine lawyer who persuaded the jury to believe that he wasn't guilty.

He proved he wasn't guilty. And the judge believed he wasn't guilty. And the jury brought in a report he wasn't guilty.

The judge says, You can go, sir. The jury finds you're not guilty. But he didn't move.

He was sitting inside of an enclosure, one of these kind of a booth-like business. And so the judge said again, I tell you, the jury has found you're not guilty. Get up and go.

He didn't move. So the judge asked his lawyer to come up and said, Go and tell the man to get out of here so we can go on with the next case. He went over to the tailor and said, The judge finds you're not guilty.

The jury finds you're not guilty, and he wants you to get out of here. He says, I know it, sir. But you see, the tailor's sitting over there, and I've got the pants on.

When we go and tell folks we've been saved by grace, they're going to look as if we've got them on. That's the reason the lawyers and dear brother last night was telling us about the godly life. The Lord expects that.

People expect that, too. We say we're saved by grace, and He's put our sins in the bag, and He's brought it all out, and folks are going to look and see if it's so. Because we ought to be different when He saves us.

There's another case, a very strange thing. A woman came into a doctor's office, and she pleaded poverty. She had some lung trouble, and she wanted the doctor to help her.

She was so poor she couldn't pay him. But would he please do it for nothing? Well, he was moved with sympathy, you know. You may know that doctors and dentists give about half their work for nothing.

So he said to his secretary, Take the lady in, and let's take an x-ray of her chest. And she did, and the film was developed. He saw some funny things right here, about as big as a quarter.

Some funny things right in front of the woman. And he looked at her, and he says, Why, I didn't hear any abscesses. I didn't find any abscesses.

There's something wrong there. What's the matter with that? Take her in and take another x-ray. So the woman took it and laid the woman on the x-ray table, but she felt something underneath there, and she kind of lifted up the edge.

She found this woman had three \$10 gold pieces sewed in the front of her dress. She was so poor. Now, that's what our Lord does.

We say, Oh, I am wonderful. I am saved by grace, and I am nothing wrong with me. And then God's x-ray comes along, and he opens up this bag a little bit and finds there's a lot of things in there that have been hidden.

Our blessed Lord wants us to be absolutely pardoned, saved by grace, and redeemed, and living godly lives. That proves it. It proves that it's so.

Over in England, there was a murder. And the doctor, the coroner, said that this woman died of apoplexy. No, it was a man.

He died of apoplexy. And so they buried him. And a few years later, a storm came along and went through the cemetery, and it washed out this grave, and a section went down to see the damage and found a skull lying there near this grave where this man was buried.

And so he took it out, picked it up, and it kind of rattled. Some people do it before they die. And so he took it up and washed it off and examined it and found a little nail inside that skull with the head of the nail cut off and a little hole in the temple there just fit the nail.

So he took it down to the chief of police and said, Officer, I found this up there by the grave of Mr. So-and-so, and it looks suspicious to me. And the policeman took it, this officer, and saw this nail, and it just fit in the hole. He sent for the woman that was the wife of this man when he died, and he had this skull sitting on the table, and the door shut.

And when the woman came and they opened the door, he said that the chief wants to see her in his private office. And when the door was opened for her to see what was in there, and she saw that skull with the nail sticking halfway through, she offended him. Come to find out, she'd killed her husband with this nail.

Drove that nail in, a small nail with the head cut off, and drove it clear in inside the skull, and then covered it over with hair. They hung her about six months later. She murdered her husband so she could get another fellow.

See, we claim, and then things happen that shows that we're not what we claim to be. That's what I was talking about. He puts our sins in a bag.

Not always that kind of sins. A man came into my office one time selling a book on sinless perfection. Absolutely, my father-in-law said, Say, if I could reach that place, I'd be proud as I could be.

Have you sinned lately? He said, No, I haven't sinned for many years. And Mr. Baker said, Well, if I could reach that place, I'd certainly be proud. He said, I am proud of it.

The worst sin in the Bible, pride. See? God puts all the sins in the bag. The little ones and the big ones, and the black ones and the white ones.

And then when we trust that lovely Savior, really trust Him, really born again, it's all blotted out. Having forgiven you all trespasses, Colossians 2.13, or Acts 13.8, Acts 13.38 and 39, Be it known unto you, therefore, men and brethren, Be it known that through this man, Christ Jesus, is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins, and by him all that believe are justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. Our blessed Lord blots it out.

That's the bag for our sins. Then there's a bottle for our tears in Psalm 56, verse 8. He put my tears into his bottle. Now, that's lovely.

He saves them up, because we shed tears for different reasons, you see. And in the Bible, there are a lot of folks who shed tears. Do you remember the farmer in Psalm 126? He's a goer forth with weeping, carrying a leaky seed basket.

That's what it says in the Hebrew. A leaky seed basket. Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

As you go around different places, you drop the word here, and the word for the Lord here, and the word for the Lord there. It isn't any planned meeting. You just drop it as you go along.

A leaky seed basket. And then God blesses that. And things come up.

I was in Havana, Cuba, holding a missionary conference one day, when a man came up and said, Dr. Wilson, my name is so-and-so. I'm pastor in such-and-such a Baptist church here. And I'm here because of something you said to me 13 years ago in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

I had the slightest idea of what caused, nor even meeting him. But something said to him just on the spur of the moment at the end of the meeting, made him a missionary. Well, that's what he's talking about in that verse.

You go forth with weeping. Your heart is touched. You want to be a blessing to folks.

And your tears show you really mean business. And you drop a word here, and you drop a word there. I was speaking to a bunch of nurses in the hospital in Minneapolis one night.

And five years later, when I was preaching in Philadelphia, a young woman came and said, Do you remember me? I said, I'm sorry, I don't. She said, I was a nurse in that hospital when you spoke to the nurses. And I didn't say anything to you at the service, but I went upstairs to my room and trusted Jesus Christ.

And now I'm in full-time service for the Lord here in Philadelphia. Well, that's just dropping the seed. I have the slightest idea what I said to her.

I don't know what I preached about, but the seed was dropped there. Well, that's what he's talking about. You go forth with weeping.

Your heart is touched. You want to be a blessing to somebody. And the farmer's weeping brings seed.

And then King David wept. Oh, what a weeping. Do you remember when Absalom was killed? Oh, Absalom, my son, my son Absalom.

Good to God I died for thee, oh Absalom, my son, my son. And he wept bitterly for King's weep too. Let's remember that weeping over the loss of his boy, a wicked, wicked boy.

He was so wicked, beloved, that the only thing God could say about him was he had a good head of hair. Do you remember he went to the barber shop once a year? And the hair they cut off weighed six pounds. That's more than they'd get off of some of us.

Six pounds. And that's all a good thing God could say about him. He had a good head of hair.

Isn't that awful to have that kind of a life? But David wept over that boy. And then there was a baby that wept. God makes notes when babies weep.

And they do. I remember in my, when I was bringing babies from 35 years, one of the first things I wanted to know was when did the first tear come? And then they wished they had the best. When Pharaoh's daughter opened up the ark, it says the baby wept.

Dear little Moses in there was weeping in that ark. I was having breakfast one time in the Curtis Hotel in Minneapolis with Dr. Ironside. I said, Dr. Ironside, why didn't Moses take Keith into the ark? And if you knew him, you'd see that quizzical little eye of his.

He looked at me and said, now, Dr. Wilson, you've got better sense than asking me that question. He said, you know that Moses wasn't born for 500 years after the ark was built? I said, I'm surprised at your ignorance. Didn't Pharaoh's daughter take him out of the ark? He said, you rascal.

Pharaoh's daughter opened up the ark, and there was the wee baby weeping. And God notices the tears of a baby. And then there was a queen that wept, Queen Esther.

When she went in before the king to save the lives of her fellow citizens, her Jewish people, it says she wept. She wept as she stood before him and begged for the lives of her people. You know, our eyes are pretty dry, aren't they? We don't do much weeping over folks.

And we read of the most horrible things in the paper, but we don't weep over it. We're so hard-hearted. There's something.

And even quite often when our own relatives get in trouble or death comes, we don't have much in the way of tears. Somehow our hearts get so hard. But here was a queen that wept, and then Paul wept over the Christians at Ephesus and at Corinth and at Galatia.

He wept over God's people. We never read about him weeping over sinners, but he wept over God's dear saints. Over and over again he cared so much for them that the tears rolled.

When he saw how poorly they were getting along and how poorly they were getting saved, how few were getting saved, and he wept. It says, Man of God with tears. And then Jesus wept.

He wept at the grave of Lazarus, and he wept there when he stood on the Mount of Olives. And I stood on the Mount of Olives one Sunday morning. I was addressing the travelers there, tourists.

And I could look down on the city. And you know what filled my mind that morning? Why don't I have some tears looking down on that city? There are no Arabs there. There are no Jews in the old Jerusalem at all.

The Arabs, they've driven them out. A Jew wouldn't dare show his face over there. And I looked down on that city wholly given to idolatry.

And one of the filthiest cities I ever saw, the worst city I ever saw, was Nazareth. And when they said, Can any good thing come out of Nazareth? I knew why. It was as filthy and dirty as I ever saw any slums in my life.

But here at Jerusalem I looked down on the city, but there were no tears. And I felt bad about it. It showed me how little I was like the Lord Jesus.

He looked at the city and wept over it. And then there was a man who had a son that was a lunatic. Remember when Jesus came down from Mount Transfiguration? And this man brought the boy to him.

He said, When did this enter into him? He said, Of a boy, of a child. And Jesus cast out the demon. But the man pleaded and said, Oh, if you can do anything, take care of my boy.

Do this for me. And I tell you, if more of us fathers went to the Lord Jesus weeping about our boys and girls, we wouldn't have so much delinquency. But we don't.

We don't seem to care very much. A bottle for our tears. And the Lord puts down our tears.

Remember it says about Peter after he went out denying the Lord Jesus, he went out and wept viscerally and God put it down. He puts down what we cry about. And if it were his children who were crying over the things we should cry about, he puts them in his bottle and saves them because he keeps all the evidence, beloved, of our lives, our victories and our defeats.

The blessed Lord puts them down, takes charge of them, and tells them all about it. So at the judgment throne he has the evidence of ourselves. And then he has a book for our thoughts, Malachi 3.16. Look at that passage.

That's the most delightful passage. Malachi 3.16. We read there a very helpful word. Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another, and the Lord hearkened and heard it.

And a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord and that thought upon his name. He had a book for our thoughts. You know, we say sometimes, a penny for your thoughts.

Well, he wants to know what we're thinking about. And what we think about usually makes an impression in our lives. Let's ask our hearts.

Are we thinking about the things of God, thinking about scriptures, trying to unfold them? I was on my way to Chicago once from Warsaw, going up on the train, and I had a clergy ticket. And when I got on the train, there wasn't a seat in any chair car. And the conductor, seeing I had a clergy ticket, he says, Reverend, you know I am a reverend.

My wife reverences me. And so he took me up into the Pullman car and into a little parlor at one end of the car. And there were four other women, I mean four women in there.

And when we started out, I thought, I don't know who these women are, but I'm going to give them the gospel. So right out of Warsaw, we went past a cornfield. And I said, see ladies, look at that cemetery.

Cemetery? I didn't see any cemetery. Yeah, I put a very stalk of corn in a tiny grave. The seed was buried there.

Oh, and just then we came across a chicken farm out here a little ways. I said, isn't it wonderful the Lord compares himself to a mother hen? How often would I gather thy children together as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings? He wants that to do. He wants to do that for you folks.

Then we came past a great big barn out here about ten miles, a huge barn. And I said, don't you remember the man that said, I'll tear down my barns and I'll build bigger ones? Because he was such a fool. He cared more for the things he could see than for the things of heaven.

And then we came across a river up here somewhere. And I said, you know, the Lord said, oh, the clouds hearkened unto me. Then as I peace been like a river, and thy righteousness was like the waves of the sea.

And I kept that up till we got to the corner of Chicago. Everything we saw was in the Bible. It made a wonderful opportunity.

And then I saw their thinking had changed. And two of them who were sort of religious ladies got up to tell me goodbye. And one of them said, I never knew that there was that much about God in anybody's heart nor in nature.

The other one said, I thank you, I learned something today. Their minds were put onto the things of God. Well, that's what we want.

The Lord wants us to have our thoughts, no matter what it is, no matter what we're working at, in the kitchen. I'll tell you how to make dishwashing interesting. How many of you would like to make dishwashing a pleasure, huh? Well, I see, I don't believe the rest of you.

I'll tell you how to make it pleasure. Every time you pick up a dish to wash it, quote a verse. If it's a little butter dish, quote a little verse like Jesus wept.

If it's a great big platter, quote a long verse like this one, Malachi 3.16, or John 3.16. And you find a verse to fit each dish, and you wish you had more dirty dishes before you get through with it. Then we read about our blessed Lord, he understands our thoughts far off. He understands our thoughts, and he writes them in a book, the book of remembrance.

Now, I want you to notice in verse 16, they that feared the Lord, that's their character, spake often one to another, that's their conduct. And then verse 17, no, at the end of the verse, a book of remembrance was written before him, for them that feared the Lord, that's their character, and that thought upon his name, that's conduct, and they should be mined, saith the Lord of hosts, that is, the mine of ownership and the mine of workmanship. Because this Bible is mined by ownership, but not by workmanship.

These glasses are mined by ownership, but not by workmanship. And these clothes are mined by ownership, but not by workmanship. But we are his by ownership because he bought us with his precious blood.

And we're his by workmanship because he's working on us, remember? We are created in Christ Jesus unto good works, so we're his in a double way. They should be mined, saith the Lord, when I make up my jewels. Make them up, not make the jewels, make them up, just like this one I have on.

That pearl I gave to my wife about 30 years ago, and the diamond I gave to her about 40 years ago, and the setting wore out, so she had it made over and given back to me, into this pin. Well, the jeweler didn't make the jewels, he made them up into this sort of a stick pin. Now, those of us who work together here and love to be together in the service of the Lord, evidently we shall be together over there.

And he says about sinners, bind them in bundles to burn them, in the 13th chapter of Matthew. The sinners want to live in sin together, God punishes them together. And the saints love to work together, he lets them be together over there, he makes up his jewels.

They should be mined, saith the Lord. As a man spareth his own son, that's character, that serveth him, that's conduct. Then shall you return and discern between the righteous and the wicked, that's character.

Between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not, that's conduct. And our Lord writes in his book, our character and our conduct. And he writes it down in the book, so all you have to do is open the pages.

Now, that is not the book of judgment. There are a number of books mentioned, and the book of judgment just has one thing in it, that he gave you eternal life. It's called the Lamb's Book of Life.

I have one at home, I don't carry it with me on my trips. But when a person comes to me to be a patient, a medical patient, I put the name in there. And then I put the diagnosis of the case, and the medicine, the treatment, I give that case.

I don't put any charge, because I quit charging in 1930. I've never charged anybody since then. No use, if they've got any money, they give it, and if they don't, no use putting it on the books, because they'll never pay it.

And so I do it all free. But you know, I keep a record of those to whom I give my attention, those that came to me to get help. Now, the Lord Jesus has a book called the Book of Life.

He puts down there whether you ever came to him to get eternal life from him. And if you're not in there, all the rest of the books are just the records of the way you lived, the book of records. But the Book of Life, he puts down if you came to him and trusted him and took him and made him yours, fell in love with him and joined up with him, then he puts your name down that you're his.

And he's going to take care of you as long as you need him. You know how long that will be? Forever, forever, forever, forever. Beloved, it's a wonderful thing to have your name in the Book of Life.

And then in the Book of Remembrance, he wants to see that you did something for him. You know, I rode from Sharon, Pennsylvania to Canton, Ohio with a preacher, and I couldn't get that man to say one word about God or Heaven or Hell or the Devil. Not a word.

He wanted to talk about baseball and a lot of other things, but I couldn't get him to talk about the Savior. And I rode with a bishop from St. Louis to Louisville, Kentucky. I couldn't get that fellow to say one word about God or Heaven or Hell or the Devil.

He could talk about church and what do you call it, prohibition, all sorts of things, but nothing about my blessed Lord. He puts down our words, what we say, what we talk about, what we think about. And, beloved, it's a wonderful thing to turn your mind over to your Lord.

So to all of these, you're looking for something that pertains to him. And that Book of Remembrance becomes yours and becomes his. In Psalm 139.23 is that beautiful song that Edwin R. wrote the words to.

Search me, O God, and know me. Try me and know my thoughts. Aren't you glad you have a thick head? Huh? How would you like to have a glass head? So everybody can see what goes on in there.

Boy, wouldn't that be something. How many of you would like that? Put your hand up. That's what I thought.

No, no. We're glad we have a thick skull so nobody can see what we're thinking. I remember a woman used to come into our house.

She lived three doors from us when I was a boy at home. And she'd come in at five minutes to twelve every day to visit my mother. And Mother's here coming up.

There comes our little hussy. She always comes in at night. She knows I have to invite her for lunch.

And then my mother goes, How do you do, Ms. Webster? I'm so glad to see you. Come in. I'm sure Ms. Webster, if she could have seen inside that skull, she'd know the thing was a problem.

And how often we do that. Now the Lord wants our thoughts to be thoughts that he can see and read and be glad and rejoice that we have those kind of thoughts. A book of remembrance was written before him.

Well, the Lord grants that we may fill that book, that he may fill that book with things we'll be glad of when we meet him face to face. I saw in a printer's office this sign, Live a life of no regrets. Live a life of no regrets.

And on my way back to my office, I was saying that over to me, Live a life of no regrets. Oh, my. Wouldn't that be wonderful? The Lord helped us to do it.

Let us pray. We look to thee, blessed Holy Spirit, to make these things real to our hearts, the things of life and the things of death and the things of eternity, so that when we meet thee face to face, meet our lovely Lord Jesus, meet our Father, we shall not be ashamed there. We ask thy benediction today.

Fill the hearts of thy people with joy and peace and gladness. For Christ's sake, amen. Amen.

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