

## Sermon to the Graduates.

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The many friends of Dr. Colegrove will read with pleasure an extract from his Baccalaureate address before the students of the University of Washington. It is taken from the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. Dr. Colegrove ably fills the chair of Philosophy and Psychology in that institution. His text was from Psalms, 16-2, "Thou wilt show one the path of life."

He said in part

"Our text speaks of the higher life' It is our life that comes from God. In it the condition of the soul is strongly contrasted with that implied in the preceeding verse. In the latter case the soul is helpless; in our text there is a rich fullness found in the path of life marked out by God. This paradox of the power and weakness of the soul is often met. According to one view, the soul is all. The hope, light and beauty voiced by poet and seer are its heritage. It is no wonder that

the ease with which the child apprehends new truth was regarded by the ancients as a proof of pre-existence.

Wordsworth expresses the thought,

“‘Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting  
The soul that rises with us, our life's star  
Hath had elsewhere its setting,  
And cometh from afar.’

“We have realized the power of the higher life by an acquaintance with those who believed in and lived this life. But whose voices have been hushed forever. We are different because we knew them. We shall be different until ‘the stars grow old and the sun grows cold, and the leaves from the judgement book unfold.’

“We will notice three phases of the higher life. The first is faith. ‘A man who has no faith is so much flesh, he has no past for reverence, no future for reliance.’ Faith harnesses Niagara and lays ocean cables. Faith in another life gives soul power.

“A second form which the higher life assumes is that of ideals. An ideal is a standard of duty or perfection which one is to imitate and strive to realize. Each system of truth may be judged by its ideals. ‘Beyond the poet's sweet dream lives the eternal epic of the man.’

“There are few who can say with Agassiz, ‘I have no time to make money.’ And money is a blessing. One may be altruistic, but without money he can give nothing. ‘He hath no power who hath no power to do.’ It is right to ask that ideals and faith stand practical tests.

“Education is a power. It took a boy from the tow-path and made him president. It is, all things considered, the best avenue by which a poor boy or girl can rise to positions of responsibility and trust.

“Members of the graduating class: You stand upon the portals of the larger life, for which you have been making preparation. If anything has been omitted by way of instruction or ideals from your course, it is useless to add it now. I will only say, Trust in God and He will care for you. In the mountains to our east I have been told that there is a lake which was formed by the sinking of land. As the traveler looks down into its waters, he sees fish swimming among the tree tops. The same God who used to care for the bird life in those trees, and noted the sparrow when it fell, now watches over the fish life among the same branches. Your circumstances may change, but God will care for you. As you go out into the world, each of you will make room for many others. It will become your duty

to lift up others and to point them to the ideals. I recollect the first time I ever saw the stars. My sister took me to the window, one evening, and pointing upward, said: 'Look, there they are.' A little later she went out to make her home on one of them. I have forgotten how she looked, but I shall never forget that she was the first to show me the stars.

"There are enough to point downward. It becomes your duty to point men to the stars and to God. As you go forth, let knowledge and faith go hand in hand. Throw your minds open to the latest theories and facts in science. Neurologists tell us that there are parts of the brain unmedullated to the last and because they are unmedullated, they do not function.

"On the physical side, then, there is a possibility of making new attainments until old age. Let your spiritual life develop with your mental and when your hands have grown nerveless with age and forgotten their cunning altogether, already upon your wasted cheek and pale brow, you will feel the breath of the eternal morning."

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