

6-1-1958

Notes: Baccalaureate: Matthew 7:24-27 (Fragments), 1958

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Recommended Citation

Kretzmann, O.P., "Notes: Baccalaureate: Matthew 7:24-27 (Fragments), 1958" (1958). *O.P. Kretzmann Collection*. 158.
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1/17/64 - last meeting - Morgan - return in June - but a
special word of farewell.

DATE 6/1/58 OCCASION Baccalaureate

THEME

Matth. 7, 24-27. Senior

1. Copress - each year more difficult to
right, ^{with some sense of anxiety} the area of finality & farewell
which surrounds this occasion - for the
last time you and I are united in
a relationship which has existed for a
number of decisive years - I am speaking
to you, not as an individual, but as a
representative of your Alma Mater - as a
part of an institution which has most
certainly become a significant factor in
your life.
2. Perhaps this area of finality & farewell
can best be expressed, not in my
own words, but in a few sentences from
the final editorial in the Torch issued
yesterday - in his volubility the editor
wrote: "It will be hard to leave. For
four years we have put our hearts &
souls into U. life; we have dedicated
our energies and talents to cause good
& small; we have, in short, become part
of Valpo. We have met people whose
influence will last as long as we live.
We have formed friendships which will
indeed be monuments more lasting than
bronze. Our ties to Valparaiso have
become stronger every minute we have
spent here. We can really never leave.
And we have revelled this too late!"
3. I ^{knew} knew the editor very well - and I

11/17/6A

III

DATE 6/1/58 OCCASION BaccalaureateTHEME Matth. 7, 24-27

to a house built by an ^{unwise} man -
 and then the great final, eternal
 X difference - the one ^{house} stood - the other fell -
 and this is Life - and this is all of
 X it - this is the evolution of the matter -
in the small house of life & time -
 X when the sun is darkened and the moon
 does not give her light - when upon the
 X earth is distress of nation - when the
 X hearts of men fail them for fear and
 the reapers are the angels - then - what
 X about the house of your life which you
have begun to build here? - then - I
 must say it finally - you will not ask:
 Is it the biggest? - the richest? - the
 finest? No, the will be only one
 question: Will it last? Is it
 sturproof? Is it ^{evil} ever proof? And
 the answer, our heart says again ^{today} (today)
 with holy pinclity - the answer depends
 on the foundation - they are either the
hard granite of the living God - this
 word and this word in J.C. - or they are
 the shifting sands ^{of men} - moving & drifting - at
 the ^{mere} mercy of every wind of doctrine and
 every storm of disaster. This the great
 either - or - and certainly your Wise Mother
 must remind you again ^(this morning) (this morning) that
 she has tried to help you build good
 foundation - lasting - true - solid upon the
 rock of the Eternal -

DATE 6/1/58 OCCASION Baccalaureate

THEME Matth. 7, 24-27.

5. Now. I am quite sure that with most of you, as of tonight, the U. has succeeded - the house of your life - the house of your faith - seems to be built upon a rock - a part of your education has been to see clearly the curious ^{sands} sands of modernity which have become popular in our time - instead of the rock of God the sands of wealth and intellect and power and lust - and because this is a mark of our days & our years - I must take our text and hand ^{it} into the years before you - ~~this must be said now~~ ^{but} ~~recombined these~~ for you it is fair ~~with~~ tonight - but you already know enough of life and time to be sure that the rain of sorrow and bitter tears may come to you - floods of temptation, doubt, ^{mental} ruin of ~~mental~~ or physical pain may surge around the walls of your house - all the winds of hell may beat upon your faith - these things have happened to some of those who once sat where you are tonight - and sometimes their house was not built upon a rock - and it fell - and only the sand was left - the sands of a life without God - aimless & ^{anxious} ~~aimless~~ & lonely - without meaning and purpose and peace - most tragic ^{really} ~~house~~ fall and nobody noticed it - the walls seemed to stand - but there was no strength in them - eyes of men - nothing left.

when the storm comes - the winds - the rain descends

x
x

11/17/64

VII

After Rhoads II. 1960

DATE 6/1/58 OCCASION BoccaleonateTHEME Matth. 7, 24-27.

8. And that I would have you know before you leave [tomorrow] this is the great diagnosis of all that you have learned here - you are going into a world in which sorrow has its kingdom and the storms are great. but in your home, built upon the rock - you can live quietly & securely - for you have found the lost meaning of life - This I wish you with all my heart - for it will give you one day a greater [recognition] ~~communion~~ with all the lessons well learned and all the examination passed - and it will make you until that day, not only good sons & daughters of the U.S. but above all, strong children of the blood royal of the living God - God love you!