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Harding University (Sermon Outlines)

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WHAT DID I LEARN AFTER 58 YEARS ON HARDING'S BOARD?

- I. First there is no place on earth like Harding.
- A. Compressed here is amazing talent.
 - B. Seated here is unquestioned power.
 - C. Concentrated here is a strength for the Lord that's amazing.
 - D. Anyone privileged for this unique experience is magnificently blessed.

II. But may I single out entities all entwined around the name of Jesus the Christ.

- A. The Board I've known for over half a century of noble men and women.
- 1. I've been blessed as they reasoned together.
 - a) Sometimes heated.
 - b) Ever genuine.
 - c) Wondered via comparison whether I could stay on such a Board.

Never saw a put-down, a pressure tactic, a slang word.

- 3. Never witnessed a decision pointed to a personal benefit.
- 4. Never an obscene, ugly statement.
- 5. Infallible decision on next president.

B. That brings me to the Administration.

- 1. In some capacity I've worked with all four:

And Secretaries



Armstrong, the god-fearing preacher; Benson, the administrator - (I was sent to ask him Board or Chancellor); Ganus, the consummate traveling historian; Burks, the man trained for the job. Jim Cone's finest hour as we unanimously chose Burks.

- 2. Blessed by Woodson, Sally and Marguerite, Louise, Leah--without them the achievement would not have been as great.

C. The Administration chose great faculties.

- 1. Convocation breath-taking in its potential.
- 2. The only thing that exceeds their competency is their willingness to share.
- 3. They will develop the best--from you.

D. And that brings me to mh final gratitude--the students.

- 1. Put the pencil to it--it's for you.
- 2. Give you the best chance for success in life.
- 3. Build you to be stronger in the Lord and face world confidently.
- 4. June 4 I graduated, June 5 I went to my job and I've never been without work since 1942.

5. Genesis 46.

6. God wants to present you!

Harding University - 10/24/08

(2 Chapel speeches)

HARDING, THE CONTRIBUTOR

- I. It is not backwards--we are not giving to the school--it is to us.
- A. Others give to it. *You're gonna die*
 - B. She gives to us. *Blind! He don't look good!*
 - C. I give to partial payment on glorious debt. *75 years - 80 getter 90 target*
 - D. I want to cite reasons I feel indebted.

I Tim. 6:17-18 "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;" (KJV)

II. 12 Statements of Gratitude.

- A. I was taught to trust the living God.
 - 1. In 40's little material wealth but gold mine of trust. *Inherit 9 million*
 - 2. J. A. Harding & train story.
 - 3. J. A. Harding & coat to pray.
 - 4. No Monday school--preacher boys.
- B. 2nd, it's always been big vs Ken Starr's little school in Arkansas.
 - 1. Are you the President--how do you define President?
 - 2. 300 produced Joe Pryor and Jack Sears--Kern in our class.
 - 3. Big men left big tracks.
- C. 3rdly--God gives us richly all things to enjoy.
 - 1. Able classmates--Louis Green.

2. Previously Preacher Roe.

3. Campus players--Griff Copeland--
don't do it.

D. 4th--Students be pure and do good.

1. Sister Armstrong saw weakness to
correct--you say "hoss".

2. Say America.

E. Ever helpful faculty. *Dear Gentleman*

1. Keep distance but shorten it.

2. Ethel Barrymore & Alex Templeman--
rode with President Benson.

F. 6th--Salute the Sacrifices

1. \$2400 for me--Benson under \$200
per month.

2. Kirk--\$60 per month.

3. Wanted senior ring--can't show
diploma always.

4. Armstrong & \$800 lambast.

G. 7th--Moving Right Along--Bob Helston.

1. Superior mission work.

2. Burks to Australia.

3. Ken Elders.

4. Mission spirit is alive.

5. Lord willing--J. D. Bales.

6. Board grateful for the spirit and
the reports that come.

7. All on mission list to help.

H. #8--School is Catholic.

1. 50 states.

2. Flag ceremony.

3. If all 48 states in my day sent a
student, none over 4.

4. Rub shoulders with all regions.

Proud Actor see in movies? Sit where

5. Ganus cajun to Arkansas squirrel stew.
6. Bronx to Kansas wheat; Texas oil to Detroit assembly line.

I. #9 is memories.

1. Pattie Cobb & Ma Chandler & Zip.
2. Godden Hall & Hidden phone.
3. Chorus trips--find a Sinclair station.
4. Petit Jean & beltline.
5. Sears--with smile assigns 8:00 AM class, Shakespeare, Brick.
6. Fellow Trustees--men & women.
7. Dog show entry.

J. #10--Location

1. "You've got to be kidding."
2. Nation elect man from Arkansas.
3. Benson & farmer's daughter.
4. Apologize for ignorance of those who deride Searcy.
5. Gives industry & originality.
6. No fatal, big city attractions.
7. Hill in Port Arthur--see Searcy quickly.
8. Came--Saw--Conquered--Went home.
9. Love Searcy.

K. #11--Visitors

1. Chapel speakers.
2. Lectureship--kids attend, not lectureship when students are absent. *Press pants ez time he weaves them*
3. Jimmy Allen--Romans.
4. Lyceums.
5. Ford, Bush, Thatcher, Clinton, S. Walton.

6. Board with CEO's, doctors, chemist, bankers, brokers, preachers, missionaries, the mighty.
7. Mingle with amazing talent.
8. Takes a Village--without interstate, airport, Amtrack.
9. Magnetism of you who come make it a glistening jewel.

L. #12

1. Barbed wire fence that Don Shores sells.
2. #1--Lord.
3. #2--Swings--"3 swings & a ring."
4. Sports great but can't whisper "sweet nothings" to a sweaty girl.
5. Football--how say "I love you" with a helmet on.
6. Unknown in smelly chemistry lab--can't make love amidst fumes.
7. Administration approved--all see, no one hears--if only swings could talk.
8. Search for self, knowledge, discipline, partnership.
9. Here I found Betty--engaged--she was.
10. Joy of my life--Sears did \$35.00 ceremony--sent money annually.
11. She ever a recruiter--why not Harding?
12. Balance budget
Sharpen recruitment
Build new buildings

Get rid of the railroad
Win championships
Baptize the lost
Strengthen faculty
But keep the swings
Serve another 75 years,
but swings sway the future.

13. Lay in store good foundation
"against the time to come that
they may lay hold on eternal life."

14. Ease in formation
V - know zng other letters?

Elders/Preachers Dinner, Harding Univ. 9/28/98