

1923

1923 - A.C.C Bible Lecture Week, Abilene Christian College

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Recommended Citation

Dunn, G.A.; McMillian, E.W.; Rhodes, B.F.; Colley, A.O.; Smith, Oscar W.; Sewell, J.P.; Campbell, W.D.; Cox, J.F.; Swinney, W.L.; Shepherd, F.B.; Bills, W.D.; and Etter, Carl, "1923 - A.C.C Bible Lecture Week, Abilene Christian College" (1923). *Lectureship and Summit Programs*. 12.

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Reading from left to right, top to bottom: G. A. DUNN, SR., E. W. McMILLAN, B. F. RHODES, A. O. COLLEY, OSCAR W. SMITH; J. P. SEWELL, W. D. CAMPBELL, J. F. COX; W. L. SWINNEY, F. B. SHEPHERD, W. D. BILLS, CARL ETTER.

Sixth Annual Bible Lecture Week

One of the greatest events, if not the greatest, in the history of Abilene Christian College was the Sixth Annual Bible Lecture Week which was held during the week of February 18-25. Over three hundred men and women; ex-students, graduates, patrons, friends and trustees of the college from all parts of Texas and from several other states, came for the feast of good things which was afforded by the thirteen able men who had been engaged to speak during the week.

Because of a lack of space it is not possible to print a synopsis of all the lectures delivered during the week; each address was a masterpiece.

Two of the members of the local college faculty opened the series. B. F. Rhodes spoke on Sunday morning on "Making Missionaries." The same evening J. F. Cox gave an address on "The Authority of Christ." Both these men showed their reverence and consecration in bringing important spiritual messages.

Gustus A. Dunn Sr., of Dallas, impressed a large audience on Monday evening in his great sermon on "The Fundamental of Fundamentals." His frequent quotations of passages of scripture together with the impressive manner of his delivery drove the message home to each hearer.

One of the sweetest messages of the week was that brought by E. W. McMillan of Waco, one of the younger generation of the defenders of the gospel of Christ, and without doubt one of the ablest young men of the brotherhood. His subject was "The Christ of Calvary."

R. L. Whiteside, formerly President of Abilene Christian College, and one of the men who helped the institution through the dark days of its early existence, spoke on Tuesday afternoon on "The Christ of Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." He presented his message in his characteristic logical manner, approached the subject in such a way as to make it particularly striking.

A. O. Colley, minister of the Church of Christ meeting at Pearl and Bryan Streets, Dallas, spoke to one of the largest gatherings of the week on "Why Instrumental Music Should Not Be Used in the Worship." The speaker brought out the scriptural arguments against the practice referred to in no uncertain terms, much to the satisfaction of all those who are connected with Abilene Christian College.

Oscar Smith of Houston spoke on Wednesday morning on "Christianity, the Revelation of Jesus Christ." This sermon was one which showed much careful preparation through years of experience and was another of the precious things which were to be derived from the services of the week.

One of the most touching messages of the week was that by W. L. Swinney of Canadian, head of the Canadian Orphans Home, who spoke on "Of all the Things Jesus Began to Do and to Teach."

On Wednesday evening W. D. Campbell of Detroit began his series of addresses. His first sermon was on the subject "The Book of the Past, the Present and the Future." He spoke on Thursday evening on "The Church Which Was Built By Jesus Christ." On Friday evening his subject was "Today's New Testament Message to Mankind." He spoke Saturday evening on "The Gospel of Christ, the Power of God Unto Salvation." On Sunday morning he delivered a great sermon on "The More Excellent Way." The great week came to a close on Sunday evening when he preached on, "Conversion," which stirred the hearts of every one.

F. B. Shepherd, of Amarillo, brought one of his characteristically clear and heartfelt messages on Thursday morning when he spoke on "A Vital Factor," personal evangelism being stressed in his sermon.

When the entire audience gave President Jesse P. Sewell a rising vote of appreciation at the close of his address on Thursday afternoon on "What Abilene Christian College Stands for Religiously," they voiced their support of eight great fundamentals for which this institution stands and for which it will stand as long as it is under its present management. No one who heard the address went away with a doubt in his mind about the religious status of A. C. C.

W. D. Bills, of San Antonio, who is widely known for his work for Christ spoke on "Following a Worthy Example," on Friday afternoon. The speaker sent a lesson straight into the hearts of the large audience which could not but help them in living for Jesus.

The faculty and students of A. C. C. were especially interested in the address which was delivered on Saturday morning because it was delivered by a young man who was graduated from A. C. C. only last June and who is looked upon as one of the strongest men in the brotherhood today. He is Carl L. Etter, now a member of the faculty of Western Oklahoma Christian College, who spoke on "The Church of Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow."

Although many of those who had the opportunity of attending the last Lecture Week may never again be permitted to be here, they were permanently impressed while they were here. Many of them said they would return next February without fail. Others said that they were determined to do more for Abilene Christian College.