

4/15/59

...Some of you I believe knew Dr. Duncan. Dr. Duncan was a professor of Physics in the University of Pennsylvania, retired just a few years ago, he has been very active in the West Philadelphia Bible Presbyterian Church. Just last year I visited his class a number of times. And on those occasions Mr. Dunzweiler preached, afterward, I remember Mrs. Duncan was so thrilled with Dunzweiler's opening of the Word and with the way that he brought the different passages together, she could hardly contain herself with joy.

Well, last Sunday--Dr. Duncan had been ill for some time, off and on recently--last Sunday he seemed better so his wife came to church in the morning. She came home at noon, <sup>they</sup> ate lunch, and then Mr. J. Wesley Smith, and his wife, phoned that ~~th3y~~ they would come over and visit them, and they decided that an hour from then would be a very convenient time, so they came in. She left him in the room, went to the door to receive them, and when they got back to the room, he was lying there dead. He had gone just like that. And so Dr. Duncan is today in the presence of the Lord. One who during a long and useful life constantly witnessed for the Lord, one who bore a good witness, one who stood stalwartly for the faith of the Lord, had suddenly left ( $2\frac{1}{4}$ ) and gone to be with his master. Death is a shock even when it comes at the end of a long useful life. To be talking with one one morning, full of life, no reason to think but that he will be with you a long time, and then to see him lie there, no strength in those muscles, the eyes look but there's no observation, you talk and you have no reason to think he has any understanding of what you say. The body is dead, the soul has departed. It is a shock to ~~us~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~them~~ <sup>they</sup> comes at the end of a long, useful life. But often it comes earlier.

In 1951 I attended the chaplaincy conference in Washington. There at the Pentagon, sitting next to me, was a man of about my age whom I had known in Seminary. He was now Dean of Students in a theological seminary. He told me of how he had just been in Wales preaching, told me of some of his recent experiences. I hadn't seen him for some time. It was pleasant to ( $3\frac{1}{2}$ )