

And that man had been completely misled as to the Scripture. We must trust the Lord and put Him first in all things, but we have a responsibility to care for those who are dear to us. And this was such a dramatic, vivid illustration of the fact that God wants us to look to the future and <sup>to</sup> prepare for it in a reasonable way, not of course in an unreasonable way.

4. This Appraisal must be done for the purpose of determining how we can best serve God. And we do not serve God by leaving our family in conditions where their future is questionable, neither would ~~we~~ we serve God of course by making the --- by giving them everything <sup>that</sup> they could possibly want or desire in life. We must take reasonable care of them, but we must consider how we can best serve God and what resources we have to do it.

We must not consider this for personal gratification or ~~for~~ abasement. Ps. 84:10 says it is better to be a door keeper in the house of the Lord than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. The difficulty is that so many people go to one extreme or the other. They look at ~~themselves~~ <sup>themselves</sup> and they think they can turn the world upsidedown. I've known several students who have graduated from the seminary and gone out determined that in the next two or three years they were just going to reverse all the conditions that were wrong in the world and going to establish everything just right, and they have fallen on their faces as they have faced forces that were much too great for them. And/they have quit Christian work altogether and have gone off into some other thing and maybe done something for the Lord still, but they should have realized that their life should count for the Lord but they can't expect to go with Him two or three years way beyond their resources, that the Lord has given them. How easy, they have gone from one extreme to the other. How easy it is for us to go from the one extreme of thinking we are capable far beyond our ability, or to the other extreme of going of not beginnigg to use the ability that the Lord has given God wants us to take stock, to appraise our ability. And we have to do that usually by seeing how well we succeed in certain lines or by seeing what opinon we get from