

very anxious to become a Christian if he could only get something to do. He wanted to make a bargain with the Lord. Now we are to come to the Lord and make no bargain. If the kingdom of God is set up in our hearts there will be no trouble about our coming to want. For years in Chicago I visited the poor, and I want to say that I never found yet the consistent Christian who went to the poor-house. I never have found yet any consistent Christian, a member of any church, who was really starving or whose children were coming to want.

Men don't seek first the kingdom of God. After the Chicago fire we had about a thousand boxes of clothing sent out from New England; some of it was pretty old clothing, and I couldn't help but be amused to see the crowds flock in after those old clothes, and many of them from parts of the city where they hadn't been burned out. The police could hardly keep them back while they were being given away. You just give out old clothes here and see how the people will flock. But tell them how the Gospel is given to them, tell them how they may be saved for time and eternity, and they will just laugh at you. That is the trouble; men don't follow the kingdom of God; they trample it under foot. It cost God the richest jewel in heaven. He gave up His Son to redeem us, and yet men turn their back on the precious gift of God and laugh at it. It is said that when Rome was once taken by a foreign foe, as the soldiers went through the palace plundering all they could get, one man came to a beautiful bag, and it was filled with diamonds and precious stones, and he just took those diamonds and stones and emptied them out on the palace floor, and carried off the bag. And a great many men nowadays are like that soldier. They just want the form, they want to use religion to get something; they get the bag, but they don't get the diamonds; they don't get the real thing. Now, the richest thing any man can have in this world is Christ formed in Him the hope of glory; Christ setting up His kingdom in his heart. See how men disobey God, They seek for honour; they seek for position; they seek for wealth; they seek for everything else; they seek for pleasure, all before they seek for the kingdom of God. A father gave his son advice once and said:

"JAMES, BE SUCCESSFUL IN BUSINESS

before you attend to religion. Let that not take the first place in your mind, because if you do you can't be so successful in business." What right has a man to give his son such advice as that in the face of such Scripture as this? "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto thee." "Let the dead bury