

Guide to

William W. Orr Papers

1933-1943 and undated, bulk 1933-1937

.33 linear feet

Accession Numbers: 2012-01 and 2016-12

Collection Number: CN 033

Prepared by Lolana Thompson

May 2012

revised August 2016 to include a new donation

Abstract: Class notes, two assignments, and notes for forty-four sermons by a Dallas Theological Seminary student who graduated in 1937.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of the Item], William W. Orr Papers, CN 033, Folder [number], Archives, Dallas Theological Seminary.

**F. Frederick & Mary Della Moss Archives & Special Collections,
Dallas Theological Seminary, 3909 Swiss Ave., Dallas, TX 75204**

Biographical Sketch:

William Wreath Orr was born November 15, 1905 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. His parents were William and Anna Orr. William W. Orr graduated from Pasadena High School. He attended Moody Bible Institute one semester, then was accepted at the Evangelical Theological College, now named Dallas Theological Seminary (DTS), with the understanding that he would complete his B.A. degree later. Orr attended DTS from 1933-1937 to earn his Th.M. During his last two years in seminary, he managed the school dining room. He completed his B.A. at Pepperdine College in about 1951. Orr married Isabel Smith on June 1, 1928 in Pasadena, CA. They had two daughters, Joanne Isabel and Grace Elizabeth. After completing his work at DTS, Orr returned to California. Orr served as interim pastor of Tropico Presbyterian Church in Glendale in 1937, then was Director of Christian Education for the Church of the Open Door in Los Angeles from 1937-1939. Orr organized and directed the summer Sunrise Hills Bible Conferences for young people from 1939-1946. He was Vice President of Biola College, now Biola University, from 1945-1952. Orr was a part time interim pastor at Hope Union Church in Rosemead, CA, from 1949-1952, and became a full time pastor at Hope, serving from 1952-1963. Then Orr's part time radio ministry became full time. Orr wrote about 100 booklets for lay people concerning Christian life. Orr served primarily in non-denominational churches because the local Presbyterian presbytery did not approve of the seminary he attended and therefore would not accept him as a member. William W. Orr died August 27, 1992 in Somerset, CA.

Reference:

Wilson, Joanne Isabel Orr. "William Wreath Orr: Brief Biographical Sketch." February 25, 2012. Reference File for William W. Orr, Archives, Dallas Theological Seminary.

System of Arrangement:

This collection is organized in four series.

Series I. Moody Bible Institute Class Notes and Assignment, 1933. .01 linear feet (2 folders)

Typed notes from one class and a typed paper for another.

Series II. DTS Class Notes and Assignment, 1933-1936. .18 linear feet (17 folders)

Class notes precede one assignment and are arranged alphabetically by title. Typed and handwritten pages.

Series III. Sermon Notes, 1933-1943 and undated .14 linear feet (7 folders)

The majority of sermons are arranged chronologically by the first date recorded. Some which were received attached together were filed by topic.

Series IV. Photograph, 1937. (1 item , 1 folder)

Scope and Content Note: This collection, housed in one half size box, consists of class notes, assignments, and sermons by William W. Orr, and one photograph. There is only one set of class notes and one paper from Orr's time at Moody Bible Institute. There are notes from sixteen classes at Dallas Theological Seminary and one assignment. Included are notes for several of Orr's sermons. The collection also contains one photograph of Orr and his family taken in Dallas. The contents date from 1933-1943 and undated, but the bulk of the collection is 1933-1937. Most of the pages are small notebook paper, approximately 5" x 8", with holes for a small ring binder.

The collection is organized in four series. The first series, Moody Bible Institute Notes and Assignment, 1933, provides an example of work Orr did as an undergraduate. The second series is DTS Class Notes and Assignment, 1933-1935. The third series, Sermons, 1933-1943 and undated, contains notes for forty-four sermons Orr gave. The fourth series, Photograph, 1937, consists of one family picture.

This collection provides insight into the curriculum at DTS between 1933-1935, and a sample of sermons by a graduate.

Selected Search Terms:

Dallas Theological Seminary—Curricula
Dallas Theological Seminary—Students
Orr, William W.
Sermons

Donor/Source: Joanne Orr Wilson donated the papers in February and March of 2012 and August 2016.

Custodial History: Mrs. Wilson inherited the papers from her father, William W. Orr, and gave them to the seminary.

Literary Rights: It is the researcher's responsibility to determine requirements of copyright laws. Mrs. Wilson has transferred copyright which she held to Dallas Theological Seminary.

Related Material: The DTS library collection contains several booklets written by William W. Orr.

Note to the Researcher: See the attached Container List for more details about this collection. Please handle the papers carefully because some of them are slightly torn.

Processing Information: Orr's titles were used to arrange the course notes alphabetically. Sermons were arranged chronologically unless they had been grouped together by topic.

Separated Material: None.

Container List:

Series I.	Moody Bible Institute Notes and Assignment	1933
<u>Folder#</u>	<u>Title, Dates, Description</u>	
1	Doctrine of the Holy Spirit, 1933 Typed notes which include the name Fitzwater, who might have been the instructor.	
2	Analysis of the Book of Philippians, 1933 Typed paper by Orr for Dr. Fitzwater.	
Series II.	DTS Class Notes and Assignments	1933-1936
<u>Folder#</u>	<u>Title, Dates, Description</u>	
3	Archaeology, 1935 Handwritten notes from class taught by Everett F. Harrison.	
4	Bible I, 1934 Handwritten notes from class on Genesis-Leviticus taught by Merwin A. Stone.	
5	Bible I, 1935 Handwritten notes from class on Psalms taught by Everett F. Harrison.	
6	Bible Synthesis, 1933 Typed notes from class on poetical books taught by Dr. Gray.	
7	Christology, 1933-1934 Typed notes from class taught by Lewis S. Chafer.	
8	Dispensational Outlines, 1933-1934 Typed notes from first semester of class by Henry C. Thiessen.	
9	Dispensations, 1934 Typed notes from second semester of class; includes a brief description of seven dispensations at the end.	
10	Evangelism, 1934 Typed notes from class taught by Lewis S. Chafer; only 2 leaves.	
11	Galatians, 1936 Handwritten notes from class taught by Everett F. Harrison; only 4 leaves.	
12	Hamartiology, 1933 Typed notes from class taught by Lewis S. Chafer.	

Series II. DTS Class Notes and Assignments (cont.) 1933-1936

<u>Folder#</u>	<u>Title, Dates, Description</u>
13	New Testament Introduction, 1934 Typed and handwritten notes from second semester of class taught by Henry C. Thiessen.
14	Old Testament Introduction, 1933-1934 Typed and handwritten notes from class taught by Everett F. Harrison.
15	Old Testament Theology, 1934 Handwritten notes from class taught by Lewis S. Chafer.
16	Practical Work, 1933 Typed notes from class taught by Mr. Foster.
17	Questions on Christian Evidence, 1933 Typed notes from class taught by Mr. Wuest.
18	Spiritual Life, 1933-1934 Typed notes from class taught by Lewis S. Chafer.
19	Brief Treatise on Each of the Books of the New Testament, 1934 Typed paper by Orr for Henry C. Thiessen's class, New Testament Introduction.

Series III. Sermon Notes 1933- 1943 and undated

<u>Folder#</u>	<u>Title, Dates, Description</u>
20	Sermons, #1, 1933 Typed notes for two sermons: "Jesus is Coming" and "Safe in Christ."
21	Sermons, #2, 1936 Typed notes for five sermons: four about Satan, and one titled "If Christ Came to Winnetka Congregational Church."
22	Sermons, #3, 1937 Typed notes for ten sermons: one on healing and nine on "God's Eternal Plan."
23	Sermons, #4, 1941-1943 Typed and handwritten notes for seven sermons. Topics include prayer, the apostle Peter, and a message, titled "What's Next?" given December 7, 1941 after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor.

Series III. Sermon Notes (continued) 1933- 1943 and undated

<u>Folder#</u>	<u>Title, Dates, Description</u>
24	Sermons on Beliefs, 1937, 1939 and undated Typed notes for nine sermons on belief in God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, prayer, and the Christian life.
25	Sermons on Christ's Return, 1936-1937 Typed and handwritten notes for six sermons.
26	Sermons on the Holy Spirit 1936-1938 Typed notes for five sermons.

Series III. Photograph 1937

<u>Folder#</u>	<u>Title, Dates, Description</u>
27	Orr Family Photograph 1937 William, Isabel, Joanne, and Grace Orr, one black and white 2 1/2 x 4 1/2" photograph, which looks like it was taken on the DTS campus.