

1943 Sermons¹

- January 3, 1943 Face to Face: Things We Take for Granted
[*Great Com.*, page 247 (edited passage of Genesis 32:22-30); Thy Kingdom Come, Holt; R.R. 64th 113 ??? of ???; also reference to James Russell Lowell's 1845 poem, "The Present Crisis"]
- January 10 A Thought about Prayer
[Matthew 26:36-44; Matthew 6:5-6; G. Eliot Stradivarius; also reference to Michael Pupin's 1923 book, *From Immigrant to Inventor*]
- January 17 The Language of Prayer
[Job 28; Notes reference the importance of personality]
- January 24 The Dignity of the Individual: Freedom of Opportunity. Initiative.
[Luke 15; quotation from Henry Wallace's 1942 address, "The Price of Free World Victory,"]
- February 7 Freedom of Speech and Press, Ser. 1
[Acts 22:22-29; quotation from 1941 book, *They Speak for a Nation: Letters from France*; quotation from J.B. Bury's 1913 book, *A History of Freedom of Thought*; first of several sermons focused on Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms."]
- February 14 Freedom of Worship
[Acts 19:23-41; Civil Liberties; Portion of Lincoln's Gettysburg]
- February 21 Freedom from Want
[Acts 4:32-5:11; The Lord's Prayer (Explanation: The four freedoms are an epitome of the Lord's Prayer)]
- February 28 Deliver Us from Evil: Freedom from Fear
[Psalm 25; The Song of Man IV]
- March 7 Freedom from Want
[Galatians; quote from Everett Dean Martin's 1932 *Civilizing Ourselves*]

¹ Davis collected the notes for his sermons in 1942 and 1943 in a small booklet. Given the length—101 separate sermon entries—I have divided the transcriptions into a set for 1942 and a set for 1943. Here I list the sermons for 1943 by date and subject. All locations are Petersham, Massachusetts, unless otherwise noted.

- March 24 Events that Nurture Faith
 Lenten Vesper Service, Philadelphia
 [Mark 9:2-8; mention of Victor Hugo and Jean Valjean]
- March 28 Jung: Modern Man
 Lancaster, Pennsylvania
 [Galatians 5:13 in part to 6:10]
- April 11 Dan Fenn, preaching
 1st Sunday after vacation.
- April 18 Palm Sunday
 [Text: "Bound in the Bundle of Life with the Lord thy God." 1 Samuel
 25:29; Reading: John 14, parts of]
- April 25 Easter Sunday
 [Mark 16:1-9; John 4:19-24; Browning's "Saul." Also Biblical quotations
 from 1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 4:6, Acts 17:28]
- May 2 Jefferson's Four Freedoms
 [Matthew 5:1-20; Jefferson's Bible]
- May 9 From Age to Age
 [Soul of the Bible, pages 44-45]
- May 16 No Title. Service Flag Dedicated
 [Soul of the Bible, 100; Ruskin, Human Nature]
- May 23 Weaving the Fabric of Life
 [Matthew 13:24-32; Carlyle, "Church Clothes"]
- May 30 No Title; Memorial Day Union Service, North Church
 [Matthew 17:1-8; Sandburg's poem, "Fog;" Quote from "Sayings of Jesus
 Outside the Gospels."]
- June 6 The Church Universal (The Invisible Church)
 [Matthew 7:21-27; Channing, *Great Companions*, 217]
- June 13 Children's Sunday. Christening
 [Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Luke 2:40-52. Mention of the Prophetess Anna,
 Luke 2:36-38.]

- June 20 Union Service for the Senior Class Baccalaureate
 Sermon by Rev. James T. Carter
- June 27 “I had fainted, unless I had believed to see The goodness of the Lord in the land
of the living.” Psalm 27:13
 [Luke 4:14-24; Doan, page 70.]
- July 4 The Anchors of Thy Hope
 [Isaiah 40:6-11; 41:1-7; Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, “The Ship of State;”
Roger Williams’ “A Letter to the Town of Providence”]
- July 11 The Mind that was in Christ Jesus, Compassionate
 [Mark 12:13-17; 38-44]
- July 18 The Mind that was in Christ Jesus, Free in Thought
 [Matthew 7:13-23; Luke 18:9-14; Prophecy, Diana Powell; Madame Curie’s
Credo]
- July 25 The Mind that was in Christ Jesus, Steadfast in Purpose
 [Mark 4:21-29; From Josiah Royce]
- August 1 The Mind that was in Christ Jesus, Stayed in Thee
 [Matthew 7:7-12; John 4:19-26; 5:30-36; High Flight]
- August 8 To the West
 [Psalm 19; (Isaiah 55:6-13); Sunset. Conckling]
- August 15 No Title
 [Matthew 25:14-30; John 18:38; Justice Holmes. Discussion of the parable of
the talents and Pilate’s judgement of Jesus]
- August 22 Service conducted by Dr. Frederick R. Griffin
- August 29 No Title
 [Proverbs 3:3. Reference to William Allen White’s 1909 novel, *A Certain Rich
Man*; reference to J. M. Barrie’s 1922 talk, “Courage,” and the story of the
monk and the lark.]
- September 5 The King’s Highway
 [Hosea 6:1ff; G.P.—Actually, *Great Companions*—Page 93—which contains
John Bunyan’s “The Doubting Castle.” Also reference to Floyd Dell’s 1926
book *Intellectual Vagabondage*]

- September 12 The Return from a Spiritual Vagabondage
[Hosea 14; Song of Man 4; Word “God”]
- September 19 To Love Thine Enemy
[Matthew 5; Matthew 12; M.R.U.+P. page 265]
- September 26 A Reasonable Service
[Mark 2ff. Reference to Thomas Lindsay’s *History of the Reformation*;
reference to the Lollards]
- October 3 Communion, Real and Formal
[Amos 5:16-24; Luke 22:14-24; Micah 6:6-8; Emerson, “Be of Good Cheer”]
- October 10 The Age to Come: The Spirit of Adventure in Human Life, the Push of Life
[Revelations 21:22-22:9; Bjornson. Reference to Pope Benedict XV’s 7-point
peace plan to end WWI]
- October 17 Wisdom at its Best: The Path of Life
[Isaiah 61; Matthew 5:13-20; mention of “four great men:” Willard Gibbs,
Abraham Lincoln, Herman Melville, Walt Whitman; also a news clipping from
October 9, 1943 quoting Dwight Eisenhower on the role of the Bible in the
War.]
- October 24 Scape Goat
[Leviticus 16:1-10; Luke 18:9-14. Comment by Gen. Eisenhauer]
- October 31 Mr. Smedley’s Guest. Cited in *Marks of an Educated Man* by A.E. Wiggam, P. 281
[Soul of Bible, P. 373; M.R.L.V.+P. 129, Browning; Jesus’ thought, according
to John]
- November 7 Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
[Soul of the Bible, Page 101; *Great Companions*, Page 247—quote from
Epictetus. Also a quote from Vernon Bartlett in the *Nation* for October 30,
1943 and John Thompson Whitaker’s 1943 book, *We Cannot Escape History*.]
- November 14 The Undercurrents. Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
[Isaiah 32:1-8; 41:1-7; Francis Thompson’s poem, “The Hound of Heaven.”
Reference to John Whitaker’s 1943 book, *We Cannot Escape History*]
- November 21 Union Thanksgiving Service
- November 28 Surveying for a New Day
[Mark 1:1-13; Matthew 6:5-15]

December 5 The Bibles

[Isaiah 11:1-9; Matthew 7:7-12. Reference to William Tyndale]

December 19 Sunday before Christmas

[Matthew 2:1-11]

December 26 The World: As is, as we think it

[Luke 2:38-52; Ruskin]