

CHAPPELL, CLOVIS G., 1882-1972.

Clovis G. Chappell papers, 1922-1945

Emory University
Pitts Theology Library
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-4166



Collection Stored Off-Site

All or portions of this collection are housed off-site. Materials can still be requested but researchers should expect a delay of up to two business days for retrieval.

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Chappell, Clovis G., 1882-1972.
Title:	Clovis G. Chappell papers, 1922-1945
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection No. 365
Extent:	4 cubic feet (4 boxes)
Abstract:	Consists of the sermons and meditations of Clovis G. Chappell, a Methodist Episcopal minister and influential preacher in the twentieth century.
Language:	Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Pitts Theology Library in advance to access this collection.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Clovis G. Chappell Papers, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Anne Marie McLean and Brandon Wason, 2015.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Clovis Gillham Chappell was born to William Brown Chappell and Mary Zipporah Gillham on January 8, 1882 in Flat Woods, Tennessee, an unincorporated community in Perry County. He graduated from Webb Prep School in Bell Buckle, Tennessee and continued his education at Trinity College at Duke University and Harvard. Chappell served as the first principal of EW Grove High School in Paris, Tennessee for two years before entering the ministry. Clovis Chappell was ordained by the Methodist Episcopal Church South in 1908, which marked the beginning of his forty-one yearlong career as a minister.

Clovis Chappell was a minister to fourteen churches, whose locations ranged from Texas to Washington, D.C. During Chappell's career as a minister, he wrote over thirty-five books and was a popular author of sermon collections. Chappell's southern preaching style was marked by several distinct characteristics. Rhetorically, he engaged the warm mannerisms of Southern speech, embracing rise and fall cadences, pauses for emphasis, and variations in pitch, tone, and tempo. While his topics were first and foremost biblical, Chappell also addressed humanism, social consciousness, and faith not only in God, but also in man, which distinguished him from his more Calvinist counterparts. Chappell also embraced optimism, highlighting hope and the potential good in the human experience through practical illustrations. Lastly, Clovis offered his audience both rhetorical and literal questions, which invited listeners to actively engage in his sermons. Clovis Chappell's rhetoric and ability to articulate theology to laypeople was key to his success and influence as a preacher and minister in the twentieth century.

Clovis Chappell retired in 1949 at the age of 62, after which he continued to lecture and publish books. Clovis was praised for his preaching ability a number of times by bishops and other religious authorities during his career.

Chappell died in August of 1972 in his home at the age of 90 in Waverly, Tennessee, and was survived by his wife and two children. His funeral was held at Waverly Methodist Church and he is buried at Richlawn cemetery in Waverly.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains the typed sermons and meditations of Clovis G. Chappell, some of which are marked with handwritten notes. The sermons themselves address common issues confronting humanity and are linked to specific bible passages, stories, or figures indicated by the title or subtitle. These sermons date to the early to mid-twentieth century from roughly 1922 to 1945. Chappell's typed meditations record his reflections on specific Bible verses followed by a short prayers on how they apply to people's lives.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Topical Messages
1	2	Chappell's Meditations New Testament
1	3	Jesus and his Bible
1	4	What Jesus Taught about God
1	5	Prayer
1	6	Notes on Revised Version
1	7	The Choir
1	8	The Church
1	9	Teachers
1	10	Why I am a Protestant
1	11	Scouting
1	12	War and Peace
1	13	Surprises in the Bible
1	14	Living with Royalty
1	15	Meet These Men
1	16	The Official Board
1	17	Characteristics of Jesus
1	18	Baptists
1	19	Preaching
1	20	Christmas Sermons
1	21	Choices Make a Difference
1	22	Unidentified
1	23	Liquor and the Church
1	24	Easter Sermons
1	25	Family Sermons
1	26	Family Sermons
1	27	Anointed to Preach
1	28	Series on the Disciples
1	29	Series on the Disciples
2	1	Old Testament Books of the Bible
2	2	Genesis
2	3	Genesis
2	4	Genesis
2	5	Exodus
2	6	Genesis
2	7	Numbers

2	8	Deuteronomy
2	9	Judges
2	10	Joshua
2	11	Ruth
2	12	I Samuel
2	13	II Samuel
2	14	I Kings
2	15	II Kings
2	16	I Chronicles
2	17	Nehemiah
2	18	Ester
2	19	Job
2	20	Meditations on Job
2	21	Psalms
2	22	Psalms
2	23	Proverbs
2	24	Song of Solomon
2	25	Isaiah
2	26	Meditations on Isaiah
3	1	Jeremiah
3	2	Lamentations
3	3	Daniel
3	4	Ezekiel
3	5	Amos
3	6	Hosea
3	7	Micah
3	8	Zachariah
3	9	Malachi
3	10	Books of the Bible New Testament
3	11	Mathew
3	12	Mathew
3	13	Mathew
3	14	Meditations on Mathew
3	15	Meditations on Matthew
3	16	Mark
3	17	Luke
3	18	Mathew
3	19	Luke
3	20	Luke

3	21	Luke
3	22	Luke
3	23	Meditations on Luke
4	1	Meditations on John
4	2	John
4	3	John
4	4	John
4	5	Romans
4	6	Acts
4	7	Meditations on Acts
4	8	Acts
4	9	Acts
4	10	I Corinthians
4	11	II Corinthians
4	12	Galatians
4	13	Ephesians
4	14	Philippians
4	15	Colossians
4	16	Titus
4	17	I Timothy
4	18	II Timothy
4	19	Hebrews
4	20	I Peter
4	21	II Peter
4	22	James
4	23	I John
4	24	Revelations
4	25	Thessalonians
