

3-17-1971

## "Plans for ORU," ORU Chapel Transcript - 3-17-1971

Oral Roberts

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Wed. Chapel  
 3-17-71 10:00 A.M.  
 Oral Roberts Plans

ORAL ROBERTS: The sailor, and after having squandered a very useful part of his life came to realize that he was throwing his life away, and came into a little mission in London one night and there met Christ. And as he thought about how God had entered his life and saved him and changed him, he wrote this song, Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Life that saved a wretch like, I once was lost and now I'm found, was blind but now I see. This was a song that the early Methodists used way back in the 18th century. That was the rallying cry of Wesley, Whitfield and men in England. And it's very interesting to me that now it's come back, one of the most popular songs today as sung by Judy Collins and others. And it just shows you how that the real important things of life never fade away. People get away from them and then they come into a crisis and they come back. This is why and many other reasons why, I'm encouraged that there is coming to this country another spiritual revival. I just read yesterday about some 700 of the young people have joined the Jesus movement of going into the capital at Sacramento, California and there giving a witness. It was brief but no doubt it was powerful. And it's amazing to me how God is using different types of people, old and young, high and low. And God is concerned about this country, concerned about all countries, concerned about us. And young men and women, the uniqueness of our campus is at this point. God raised us up for a certain life style, a certain witness for our Lord. And I am persuaded that God is determined to bring our young people, our faculty, our administration, all of us into a oneness, a witness, into a life style that will help change our little part of the world. I'm committed to believing the Bible. And I look upon our world historically. The Bible does not teach that this world will be saved. This world is lost and will be lost, but the Bible teaches that there'll be a remnant, a saved. And it's that group potentially there waiting to be changed that we are sent to. And since we don't know who they are, then we have to work with whoever appears on the scene, hoping that that's the one, or he or she is the one that will turn to the Lord. There's a uniqueness about this campus,

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it's the most important thing that we are and do. And I know that it's important to you and me we never lose sight of it. That we keep our priorities straight, we keep first things first. The key issue is the spiritual development of our lives. Development of yourself as an individual for Christ. And hopefully that the academic and physical programs here will contribute to the development of yourself. But with the great overriding higher purpose of changing that part of the world with which you come in contact, I notice everytime that our graduates come back and we get a chance to sit down and talk with them that this is what they talk about. No matter while they were here, if that's not what they talked about as often as you would like, yet once they graduated and particularly if they have married and now have a baby or two but it becomes terribly important that Christ is first, and that they have a purpose for their lives. And their prayers, at least those who talk to me, are that each one of us will more deeply understand Jesus and His meaning for our lives. In a moment we're going to share with you some of the further plans of the University. I promised several Chapels ago that we would do that, and then some of you might have comments or questions. Let us reach out in our prayers this morning, praying one for another. The Bible said, pray ye one for another, that ye may be healed. Let's stand, please. Will you remind yourself this morning that everybody has a problem, or is a problem, or he lives with one. Will you remind yourself that everybody has a need? Will you remind yourself that everybody needs healing in some way? Either in his spirit, his body, or his circumstances or his mind or his family? And I know that you have needs this morning and it's very important that God meet those needs. Will you touch someone near you and let's pray one for another and for other people. Heavenly Father, we all join our voices and our hearts in a concert prayer asking the living God to reveal Himself to us personally that we shall know You as our Lord and Savior. We shall feel your presence and we'll be able to do something for God. We'll be able to help people to fulfill our own hearts. I pray for every young man in this room that his needs will be met. For every young woman in this room that her needs will be met. And

Father, better than anybody, you know what his needs are and her needs are. You know the healing that each one needs this day. In the Name of Jesus, God heal you from the crown of your head to the soul of your feet. In the Name of Jesus, God meet your needs. In the Name of Jesus, the Holy Ghost fill you and help you to release your faith, to release your love, and that you will truly bring a blessing to people. God, we believe, we pray and we expect many miracles through Jesus Christ our Lord and everybody said, Amen. Thank you so very much. One of these days I just hope everyone of you to stand up here during the prayer time while all the students are praying and feel what I feel right now. You can feel your love, you can feel your prayers and truly it feels this room. Hallelujah, praise God. I felt the presence of God the last 2 weeks, it's been on me day and night and how thrilling it is to feel the power of the Holy Ghost and to know that you're a child of God. God bless each one of you this morning and He's very near to you and may He meet your needs. Across the street, across 81st, which is south of us, we have a 160 acres dedicated to the endowment fund. And our purpose is to build. Many different types of buildings and lease them out to local and national companies. We'll build and pay off the loans and then whatever profit is made will go into the endowment fund for many reasons. Number 1, the cost of higher education is rising so steadily and abruptly that people are distressed all over the country. Tuition and board room are going up in schools. Some of them are twice what we are and say that they have to go beyond that. We're trying to hold ours down and we never intend for it to be to have abrupt rises. They'll be as small as possible. In order to do that, we need investments that will make a return so that that return can go into the operation of the University and pay some of the difference of what the student is able to pay and what it takes to run the campus. So I thought you'd like to know some of the plans that are now on the drawing board and remember one thing as we present these plans it represent studying and planing but it is not finalized. Because once we get deep into it, and give more thought and study we'll try to improve even what we present today. So I'm going to ask Mr.

Eskridge to bring a drawing up that I can show you now. Just conceive across the street on 81st we have. These are just sketches of the types of buildings that will be constructed. Okay, now to give you a better insight, we already have the office and association and that building is owned by the endowment. And the endowment borrowed the money, build it, leased it and it's to be paid for in eight years which will be in about five years from now. So at that time then the lease money that comes into the endowment will be released into the University's operating fund. University Village is also owned by the endowment fund. But it was now built to make a profit. It was built to provide a service. However, within seven to eight years there should be some return to the endowment fund. And whatever return that will be will also be released into the operating expenses of the campus to keep the tuition down and the room and board down. So we have the office, plus the University Village already there. The rest of the land will be developed according to a master plan. Mr. Eskridge, will you come and tell us what types of companies are negotiating with us now for us to build buildings for them, and what types we're interested in?

BOB ESKRIDGE: You may have noticed the advertisement in the paper regarding a zoning application by the University which called it an industrial research center. This is a little bit misleading. Because we will have various types of uses in this university part. We're presently negotiating with a financial institution regarding a long time lease. There's another company that is interested in the location here which is in the education field. They produce audio-visual tapes. We have inquiries from a printing, a publishing type company. There, undoubtedly will be further inquiries from data processing type corporations. You may or may not know, Tulsa at the moment has more online computer capacity than any city in this area. This includes Houston, St. Louis, Denver, Kansas City. Tulsa is probably the largest center for data processing and this area of business will certainly continue to grow. So these are a sample of the types of buildings. There will be four different areas of development from prestige locations to lesser locations will give a company that wants to begin small and then grow and move into larger, more

prestige quarters, they will have this flexibility in development. Also, there's another possibility in this area of university related type businesses. We have had some discussion about the production of educational materials, maybe even textbooks from research in various fields. So this is a development that will be tied in very closely with many aspects of the university as well as provide some support for it's endowment. It's a long range program, probably 15, maybe 20 years down the future. But we will begin hopefully within the next several months to start this project with the erection of some type of a building. At the present, as I say we're in negotiation with a financial institution and perhaps we will have an announcement along this line.

ORAL ROBERTS: There'll be various other types of businesses, certain types of stores, restaurants, things of that nature. And I anticipate quite a lot of employment will be available to our students. We also have one graduate who is negotiating with us now to build his business over there. At least one of our graduates is really going to town in the area of investment. And I don't know many millionaires as friends, but I'm praying for every one I know. And especially if they are graduates and they're on their way to becoming millionaires. We'll going to hold it to a master plan so that it will be the quality of construction that we have on campus. It will always be a beautiful area and never take away from the value of the university community. Perhaps before I go into other areas of building, here on campus there might be a comment of a question concerning this master plan across the street. Yes. Will there be any apartments? Quite possibly, quite possibly. Because if we bring in enough businesses there'll be lots of people working there and it would probably draw together a well-rounded type program. Seminars? Yes, I'll get to that in a moment because I think it'll be in a different area. I do have a plan to present to you there, okay? Possibly a Holiday Inn Hotel will be there, or some type say for families who come to visit. It's the whole area that we're just now putting our minds to. Yes?

QUESTION: The point I'm interested in, in this part for accounting students, would it provide part-time work for accounting students?

ORAL ROBERTS: I would think so, and by the way we are working down on some courses in computers. We're getting ready to make a move in our curriculum in some areas. And I'm sorry I mentioned that because you might ask me some questions I can't answer right now. But just the fact, let me say we're going to make another move that will provide certain types of courses that are not now available. Investment opportunities for the students. You're really talking my language, brother. Do you have anything in mind right now that you could advance? Who knows, some of our students could be leasing buildings over there. And that may not be what he had in mind. Opportunity to plant seed? Brother Bob Stamps just made that unique contribution. That's right too. That's investment, I'm quoting him as he hands it to me. Any other questions on that before we pass to another area? If not, and you think of it later during a point in this service, well you can do so. By the way, Senator Hatfield is coming tomorrow. We will not have Chapel on Friday. The Chapel will be tomorrow. Someone please clap, come on please. You know you wanted to. Okay, I believe, was there another question before I move on to another area? Such as the partner facility, new dorms, and chapels of that nature. Alright, we'll pass on then. What's on the other side there? Hand me the partners facility, will you? Before I show you this, it's only a sketch and it probably does not represent how it will look. We've just begun on these things. Oh my, oh my. I'll show it to you in a moment. But to show you these things, I should step ahead a year and a half to two years to give you the rationale for them. In the master plan for the campus we have provided for a Chapel also for a special partners facility. This has been our thinking from the very beginning. But because we built larger facilities to begin with, we have been utilizing them until they're full. Now visualize between Shakiarian and Braxton Hall and west of Timko-Barton, into the big open space west of Timko-Barton, that whole area there. Our thinking now is that we will build an entire partners facility, both

dorms and auditorium and eating, prayer rooms, everything that goes with it. There will still be interaction access between partners and students. But the partners would have their own meetings in a facility built specifically for them and tied into Shakarian Hall and Braxton Hall. This is a sketch. And since we made it, our thinking has undergone another change. But to just give you an idea, I'll turn this way first. Timko-Barton is here in the back with Shakarian on my left and right and inbetween these large buildings the center would be for meetings and dinners and a dorm on the side. Now let's see if that makes any sense to you? Understanding that there'll be some changes in the design because we're just now, I'm moving to fast, aren't I? And you can ask questions on this in a moment. Just think of this now west of Timko-Barton in that open area, the only thing I dislike about this, it takes up too much of the open area. I want a lot of open space left, and I think that'll be reduced to where we'll leave a lot of the open space. Have I gone too fast? This ole boy was taking his films like that, saving film you know. Okay, any question on this. Chapel? I'll get to that next, Okay.

QUESTION: I was wondering if these facilities will be used for student purposes too or for university purpose or does this mean that your partners meetings will increase in number during the year?

ORAL ROBERTS: What it probably would mean is that we would have about the same number of partner seminars, depending upon the time that I can get to them. But other groups would be allowed to use the facilities or if there were certain types of student activities, we certainly would want to make maximum use of the facilities once we have them. What we're trying to do is provide a place for the partners to live and to meet and to eat without interrupting the flow of the campus particularly as we are now getting larger. When we were smaller, it really was not a major problem, but it will be a little later, unless we provide facilities. I believe I saw a hand here. Certain types of conventions? Yes, I would think so. Yes? Youth Seminar? It will be the same. In other words, when you think about a large group coming on



campus just think of those facilities for that purpose. I would anticipate there would be a large use of the facilities by other groups.

QUESTION: How big are you planning the student body to become eventually, say within the next 5 to 10 years?

ORAL ROBERTS: 5 or 10 years. Alright, I'll answer that question as I get into the Chapel. Are there any more questions on this before I get into that area. Okay. Pardon. Oh, the Chaplain brought the Chapel up. I appreciate the vision and burden Bob has for this Chapel. I say something right or wrong? By the fall of 1972, is that very far away? How many months? A year and a half, say? Of course, this room at that time will no longer be adequate but we'll probably be moving into areas of it with the library. But I've been very grateful that at least we've had a place. We should have this new facility by the fall of 1972. I wish I could promise it, I can only hope at this point. Here is a sketch. Now, think of the Prayer Tower itself, and you're now driving in at the entrance from Lewis. And with the Prayer Tower in the background, think of a Chapel at least outwardly that would look something like this. You would see the Chapel in the background. I'm sorry, the Prayer Tower in the background. This is just a sketch you understand. The idea I want you to see is we hope to make the Prayer Tower the background like a spire. Instead of building a great steeple or a spire like on a church have the Prayer Tower itself to be in the background, Am I moving it too fast? Yes, and no. That's a good answer. So without the Prayer Tower, the Chapel would be something like this. We're going to meet at the proper time with our Student Senate and the rest of the students and get their ideas. We're thinking of 3,000 seats in the Chapel, but with a very important divisible section where you could have 1,000 and 2,000 and 3,000. Depending on the crowd, you have a full house. That sounds very deep, but I don't think it is. In other words, if you had a 1,000, in other words we could divide the building to where it would be full. I think I'm going to ask our architect to come up and describe some of the ideas we've been talking about on the Chapel. And would you give our architect a nice hand, Frank

Wallace.

FRANK WALLACE: Thank you. Well, in planning this building and in working with Brother Bob and President Roberts, we were trying to find a location to put the building. So we decided on the west ends of the garden and when this came about and working into a Chapel, I thought well we have a real nice Prayer Tower structure, and we don't want to hide this structure so we have to design to use this as he explained. But as you drive down Lewis, well more or less the Chapel would be in the background. It makes the steeply or the high part for the Chapel. The Chapel would be a concrete structure and these would be like large A frames or something like flying buttresses like you see on the old Catholic churches. And you would walk around inside in the A-frame type structure. And this would all be some type of a gold glass or bright glass. And on the outside, well we would have sculpture, panels of different stories in the Bible would be on it, and at the entre way, well we've have big plaques that would come up and Reverend Stamps, suppose you come up here and tell them about it. He does my talking for me.

BOB STAMPS: Well, we were flying out to California. I said, now Frank, let me just show you some of ideas I have and I'd discussed them here with the President already about having two plaques. And Frank said, just a minute, let me show you what I've got planned. And he pulled them out, and he'd already planned these in, so we know this must be the Lord's Will. These are two large tablets like. This will be two passages of scripture that have been indictive of the ministry down through the years and the ones the Presidents had in mind was the passage , Ye shall know the Son, He was the truth, he was paraphasing, Is free indeed, you know ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free, and then we don't know what the other one will be. But that idea on one. And tell them about the structure of the Lord's Supper and that part of it.

FRANK WALLACE: Well, we would like to make sculpture f the Lord's Supper as you enter the Chapel which will be a fountain. And it wil be a sculpture that you

could see all the way round. You know most of the picture you see of the Lord's Supper it's all on one side. We want to fix it so that if you were walking around the Lord's Supper you could see a three-dimensional sculpture completely. And tell them about the different languages that you had an idea about.

BOB STAMPS: Oh, are we going to do that, Well it's an idea.

ORAL ROBERTS: I'm glad to learn of some of these new plans. That's the truth. And they sound fascinating. I should have known your mind was arranged down the road. What else have you got planned for this Chapel?

BOB STAMPS: The one thing that we've always seen through the theme of the whole ministry is the meeting of human need. It's been the emphasis of Oral Roberts' ministry from the very beginning and we hope to follow the theme and the architecture along this line. One thing that I had in mind and I hope we can, I looked at some sculpture of this. It will be a large stature in the Chapel. It will be of our Lord. It'll be abstracted enough to where it won't look brogue or anything. A statue of our Lord point at the door and then the statement underneath, our Lord I'm sorry, our President's paraphrase of the great commission, go into every man's world with our Lord pointing out the world. We'd also thought in terms of in the little prayer chapel or in a we're going to have a little prayer chapel that will be opened 24 hours a day or at least as long as the door's open. A prayer chapel and a wedding chapel the President said.

ORAL ROBERTS: I don't know whether that is necessary, will be needed or not, but it's something to think about.

BOB STAMPS: Right, have the weddings in here instead of the hill out there. We've had two weddings out there.

ORAL ROBERTS: Yes, go ahead and explain yourself.

BOB STAMPS: I told the President we had two weddings out on the hill last spring, so we need a Chapel. But we had thought of the idea in this little chapel of having

the 7 major languages of the world and the word of praise to Christ in those 7 major languages of the world so that everyone would find if not his own language the root language of his nation represented in the Chapel of words of praise to God. And then in smaller pictures, smaller frames, all around the Chapel would be 7 of the most primitive, obscure languages of the world with words also of praise to Christ. So that we could have the idea of all the nations, all tongues giving praise to one God. And that's just little ideas that we have and have been going around.

ORAL ROBERTS: They sure sound expensive. But we want, I'm sorry, you're liable to forget that thought, go ahead.

BOB STAMPS: What I said, expense really isn't the thing. It's how we. You know I went with the President on a, to a convention this last weekend and I was, I marveled at the way people respond when faith is given a handle. When you give people something to work their faith out with, to work their faith with. You know faith without a way to work is useless. Just like faith without works is dead, what good is faith trying to work that has no way to work. And you give faith a way to work, investments, planting a seed of faith of all of us and we all know that Mr. Eskridge is back here dying for me to say this, expense certainly is important. But oh how much more important if we just believe enough and plant enough and trust enough and hope enough, oh brother, this just won't be any problem at all.

ORAL ROBERTS: Well, I hope that we can form some student committees and others to help us plan it, also to help us raise the money. What are you backing off for, Bob, you don't want to run now.

BOB STAMPS: Well, raising money, Mr. President, that's your business.

ORAL ROBERTS: You don't want to put any seed in yourself then?

BOB STAMPS: How much?

ORAL ROBERTS: How much? It's going to take more than you've got in your purse this morning. But that might be a start. Anyway you can see the plan has begun.

And we'll want help in thought and planning and build something that we all can be proud of and also be useful and practical for God's service. When he mentioned that we thought about putting it at the west end of the gardens, that would take board action, that's just us talking. But it does seem like a nice place. Because it would be near the learning center where our students would not have to go far for Chapel. We might even consider a tunnel from this building to that. Yeah, you got to heat the fences if not a covered walkway. Cause, I don't want to expose our students to the elements. Especially on a windy day. Did you hear we had a day the other day when there was no wind? You can't remember that, huh? Are there any questions now concerning the partners facility or the Chapel?

Yes sir, we do plan to construct for married students? Are you considering the need of a facility soon? You are? How many are, may I see your hand? You're considering, oh I thought there were a lot. Well, they can relax now, I can see that. Oh, are you considering getting married, Madam? Yes, Sir. This has been the end of that talk, she stood up during that time? Hi, Jean.

JEAN: Hi. In the Chapel you mentioned a wedding chapel, will there be an area for a reception? This is a big problem.

ORAL ROBERTS: Right, that's why we need your thoughts and your help and we're going to ask the committee from the student body. I'll just tell you this, students I know when you get on this committee and start helping us, your plans and dreams are going to be bigger than mine, if that's possible. But, yes?

QUESTION: Will there be a varsity football team? Will there be do you think?

ORAL ROBERTS: There never has been. I can tell you what I personally say about it. I don't know, I can't speak for the Board. I would say if we did, it'd be a long time down the road because we should get good in the four or five sports we're in now, get them good. By the way, you know our baseball team has won 7 and lost 1. Did you know that? I drove over to watch them and never could find the place so I drove one hour and we're going to have the new baseball facility built by next

fall right out here by the tennis court so we can all watch the games. Evidently it's way north of the town. You know, even I, anyway I couldn't find it. You know our tennis team is now ranked ninth in the nation, including major universities. Did you know that? Yes sir, one of the greatest opportunities for witnessing in America is at the point of our athletics. Providing that we conduct ourselves in the right way. Yes? Extra land? Let me share my thought with you. All the buildings on this campus are built in the center of this land. And the land flares out on all 4 sides. I don't know if you're aware of the land. Most schools don't have the land we have flaring out like this. There're hundreds of acres flaring out from the campus. That's why we put the building in the center of the campus rather than at different parts. Yes? Well, I think some of these things are in the works, but we must not start them until we're prepared, and we can do a good job. Alright?

He asked if we had talked about a chancel area. We really haven't gotten that far but we will and we will be asking for various committees to help us. Okay. We have about 3 or 4 minutes. Yes? Yes, the master plan calls for 3 attachments to this building. One is possibly a science building. Another would be a fine arts building. Pardon me? Humanities building would probably come second. Let's call it western civilization, let's forget about the word humanities right now. Somebody who planned that course used a big term to describe mostly a western civ class, although it is a larger course than that. Okay. Those plans are here and also we will have to be thinking about when we will limit our enrollment. We have never planned that ORU will be a large campus. That's never been our thoughts at any time. And once we reach the capacity of our present high-rise dorms, we probably will go one or two years with only 1200 resident students. And look at ourselves, and look at ourselves and see how this works. And then if we feel we should go a little larger, then we'll build another dorm according to that size until we reach what we all believe is the right size for us to know each other and to do a good job with the individual. Right now the enrollment, I'm sorry, the applications for next fall were 26% ahead of this

time last year, they went to 27 and today they're 30% higher than this time last year. However, we'll always be limited and highly selective as I said our whole dream is a life style of a student who wants to be a witness of our Lord. And that will determine, that'll be the first priority, the life style of the student. His life style, academically, physically, spiritually, the whole picture taken into consideration. Yes? Will the dial-excess system be expanded into other buildings? such as additions to this building? Like in the High-Rise? I don't think I could answer that on the spur of the moment. Frankly, it hadn't got to my mind yet. But I'm glad you asked it. Okay? Pardon me? Oh, one or two other ideas. Bodies of water, our purpose is to expand, I call it a creek, some people may call it a crick, but have little lakes jetting out from it. I don't know how soon we can do that. And by the way when the Special Events Center is completed then the present gymnasium will be totally used for intermurials and P.E. That has been the plan for that building. And the whole varsity program will move over into the new building and it's apparent now that we will have the Tulsa Symphony and Opera in our new Special Events Center. That's the way it looks at this point. Okay, I don't want to hold you beyond the time. Do you have a question? The graduate programs we now have on the academic drawing boards. Our graduate programs that will begin probably 1974 to 1975. They have to be funded, that's the most expensive part of education, is graduate work. They have to be funded. And at this time we have to be extremely careful. We had one graduate program that we had to dispense and this time we've got to do it in the way that we can continue it. But it's on the drawing boards. One other question here. We have amalgamated that with our present theology department that'll be expanded within itself in a graduate program. Let us stand together, please, shake hands and be friendly and let's believe. Help me believe, will You? Thank you and so nice to be with you today.