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To President William, Board of Trustees and Staff, it is with great appreciation that I want to thank you for inviting me to come to your lovely campus and share this great moment with our graduates and their families. I want to pay a special thanks to my good friend President M. D. and his lovely wife, Dr. Grady Williams. It is a pleasure to see her with my dear friend Rev. Neil Brown, who is now serving as your Development Officer.

For years I have been acquainted with Mary Holmes College and the great work it has been doing to help shape the lives of

2. Of so many people. I feel akin to the
graduates here today. We have walked the
same paths together. As a graduate of H.C. & know that you ^{have experienced}

As graduates, you have been told, like every
other graduating class, that you face the greatest
challenge in the history of mankind. yet, it ^{is} ~~that~~
that statement is true today than ever before —
your class of graduates will lead us into the 21st
century — a new millennium. None of us here
today have had ~~that~~ ^{the} opportunity to witness a millennium.
What does the future look like?

1. an age of seemingly hopeless, ^{new} despair and utter
cynicism. But has ^{not} that been said by every other
generation? Yes, it has ~~been~~ but this age is different.