

MEDITATIONS ON THE TRUE CHRISTIAN LIFE

....*"This book of the law [the Word of God] shall not depart from [always be in] your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful [take heed] to do according to all that is written in it; for THEN you will make your way prosperous, and THEN you will have success".... Joshua 1:8 NASB*

March 10th

* The Cross of Christ is the sinner's cross. And why? Because the whole Adam life of nature is absolutely fallen. It cannot be improved. It is fallen and poisoned by the serpent in root and branch. The whole scheme of Redemption lies in the fact that God must begin again, so to speak, and make a new creation. Through the Cross He plans to bring to an end the old Adam-life of the fallen race, and build again a New Creation in the midst of its ruins. There is not even a "divine spark" in the fallen man which He can fan into life as the basis for the new.

This fact is vital for the understanding of God's plan of Redemption through His Son's death upon a cross. The Devil opposes the doctrine of the Fall, because he knows that if men believe there was "no Fall", they have no sense of need of the Cross. The two hang together. We must therefore be brought by the Holy Spirit to the place where we realize that we have nothing in us that can be "improved", and be willing to come to that Cross, and to say "When He went to Calvary, He took the sinner too".

O defeated child of God, take the simple fact of faith in His words, that you died with Christ upon His Cross; that you were baptized "into His death" - put right into Him, and buried out of sight - and there leave yourself, reckoning that you have died unto sin, and as far as you are concerned, have finished with it. Then reckon upon union with Him in resurrection, i.e. that you have in Him a new life. If we would put it briefly, we might say that when you take the attitude, or place of death, God undertakes to put into you all that He wants out of you. What a Gospel for the people! Let us give it to them. It is truly a Gospel of glad tidings - the Cross the place of victory over sin as well as the place of reconciliation with God.

....*"I have been crucified with Christ [past tense]; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the [life] which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me".... Galatians*

2:20 NASB