

## 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*

**May 19th**

\* Ezekiel 36:26-27:

“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my ordinances and do them.”

This is a prophecy of the New Creation of a re-created human spirit.

“A new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh.”

That is the heart of selfishness of the natural man.

“I will put my Spirit within you.”

The New Creation is going to have the Holy Spirit.

Ezekiel 11:19 develops the thought a little further.

“And I will give them one heart.”

That means they are all ruled by love.

“And I will put a new spirit within you.”

The old human spirit, the real man, is to be re-created with the nature and life of God.

Again he says,

“And I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh.”

This is the New Covenant man.

The Jew entered the Old Covenant by circumcision. We enter the New Covenant by the New Birth.

The Old Covenant made them servants. The New Covenant makes them sons.

Colossians 2:11:

“In whom ye were also circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, in the putting off of the body of the flesh.”

The Spirit’s argument is easy to understand.

Our circumcision is not physical but spiritual. It is God taking away not a portion of the physical body, but putting off the body of the senses or flesh. That means He is taking away the dominion of the physical body over the human spirit.

When man was created his spirit dominated him, but when he sinned the physical body gained the ascendancy and his spirit was dominated by the body. Here he says he is “putting off the body of the flesh.”

Or, he is doing what he tells us in Romans 6:6: “Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away, that so we should no longer be in bondage to sin.”

Here the Spirit is trying to make clear in the language of the Senses, the fact that when a man is re-created the physical body loses its dominion.

If we should put it in another way – in Adam the physical body gained the ascendancy in the Fall; in the New Creation the spirit wins back through Christ the ascendancy over the physical body or the Senses.

The reason why men could not love God and love one another under the First Covenant was because the heart was selfish, dominated by Spiritual Death.

The only love that he had was “phileo.”

“Phileo” love is based upon selfishness.

Now we are prepared to understand what He meant when He said, “A new commandment I give unto you that ye love one another even as I have loved you.”

The natural man cannot do this, only the New Creation man.

You can see the absurdity of telling the world folk that they must love. They cannot until they receive the nature of love in the New Birth.

John 15:9-10:

“Even as the Father hath loved me, I also have loved you: abide ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in His love.”

The word “abide” comes from the Greek word “meno.” It means “to settle down,” “to remain.”

Jesus said, “I want you to settle down in my love just as I have settled down in my Father’s love. I have remained in my Father’s love. I want you to remain in my love.”

In other words this new kind of love has created a new realm, a new kingdom.

We are to settle down in that kingdom as permanent inhabitants, never to move out of the realm of love.

One ceases to be dangerous to others when he moves into the realm of love. Every migration out of the realm of love is into a danger land.

Love becomes beautiful and very attractive as we continue to abide in love and let love abide in us.

I John 4:16 helps us to grasp it more fully.

“And we know and have believed the love which God has in our case. God

is love; and he that abideth in love abideth in God, and God abideth in him.”

I wish we knew what that meant in reality, in daily life, to have faith in love, greater faith than we have in any other law of life, for us to consciously know that we are living in the love realm, that we are acting as citizens should act who live in that realm, that we are taking our place as sons of love in the realm of love.

I am convinced that we would have to learn the love language, the love etiquette, and the laws that govern that wonder kingdom.