

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

September 26th

SIN-CONSCIOUSNESS

[part 1 of 2]

The sin consciousness can be traced the reason for practically every spiritual failure. It destroys faith. It destroys the initiative in the heart. It gives to man an inferiority complex. He is afraid of God. He is afraid of himself. He is ever searching to find someone that can pray the prayer of faith for him. He has no sense of his own legal right to stand in the Father's presence without condemnation.

The inferiority complex that is bred of Sin Consciousness is faced everywhere in the church. It has been said to me many times, "If I could get rid of this Sin Consciousness, I'd get my healing. I'd be a power for God, but I can't get rid of it." Has God provided a Redemption that cures this sin disease? I am sure He has. If He hasn't planned to take it out of man during his earth walk, man can never stand right before God because Redemption works only in this age.

God has made provision to make a New Creation. He has planned to impart His own nature to him-taking out the old sin nature and replacing it with His own nature. This will destroy Sin Consciousness. Few theologians have recognized the fact that Sin Consciousness is the parent of practically all human religions. Man has sought to heal this awful disease. The sense of unworthiness destroys faith, robs us of our peace of mind, makes ineffectual the most earnest and zealous prayer life.

It robs us of all fellowship and communion with the Father. Our theologians since Luther have never found a cure for this condition. The Holiness people have attempted bravely to meet this issue, but so far they have never been able to permanently cure a patient.

Man's cure has been repentance of sins, sorrow for sins, and deep agony in prayer.

Others have tried to quiet their consciences by going to church, doing penance, fasting, giving money, saying prayers, doing good deeds, giving up pleasures, confessing their sins, fighting bad habits, putting themselves under discipline of self-denial and self-abasement, by neglecting the body. Some have even gone so far as to lacerate their bodies. Others have taken long pilgrimages. All these methods have been tried. Every earnest spirit has attempted some of them.

A new movement has just arisen in which men and women are finding temporary relief in confessing their sins to one another. Confessing sins may bring temporary relief from the pressure that is upon them, but no works of any kind whether they be works of self-abnegation, repentance, penance, saying of prayers, or self-denial can ever rid the heart of Sin Consciousness.