

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*

November 16th

THE SOULICAL AND THE SPIRITUAL

[part 4 of 6]

**"Watch over your heart [inner man, spirit] with ALL diligence, for from it flow the springs [forces] of life*

The apostle Paul proceeds to explain why the soulical man is incompetent to receive and to know matters pertaining to God: "Because they are spiritually discerned." Do we not notice how the Holy Spirit repeatedly stresses the fact that man's spirit is the place of communion with God? The focal point of this particular portion of scripture is to prove and demonstrate that man's spirit is basic to, and exclusive in, any fellowship with God and the knowledge of divine matters.

Each element has its own particular use. The spirit is employed to know the Heavenly realities. Now we are not trying to disparage the use of the soul's faculties [*mind, will, emotions*]. They are useful, but here they must play a secondary role. They should be under control and not be the controller. The mind should submit to the spirit's rule and should follow what intuition fathoms of the Will of God. It ought not conceive its own ideas and then demand that the whole man comply. Emotion too should obey the dictates of the spirit. It's love or hate must follow the affection of the spirit [*inner man*] and not its own. The will also should bend to what God has revealed intuitively in the spirit, it must not prefer those choices which are other than the Will of God. Were these soulical faculties kept in secondary position the believer would make tremendous strides in their spiritual walk. Unfortunately most Christians give them first place, thus eliminating the spirit's position. Is it any wonder that they do not live a spiritual life nor are of any spiritual worth?

The spirit needs to be restored to its ordained position. A believer must

learn to wait in the spirit for the revelation of God. Unless it ascends to its rightful place one is barred from knowing what the spirit alone can know. That is why 1 Corinthians 2:13 adds "interpreting spiritual truths to those who possess the Spirit" for only the spiritually sensitive can know things in the spirit.