

# 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*

**December 4th**

## CONSCIENCE

**[part 3 of 5]**

\* A good conscience which attests God's good pleasure in the believer [*since there is nothing between them and God*] is absolutely essential to a life walked after the spirit [*inner man*]. That attestation ought to be the believer's goal: they should be satisfied with nothing less. This indicates what should be a normal Christian life: as it was the testimony of the apostle Paul, so must it be with us today. Enoch was a man of good conscience for he knew God was pleased with Him. This attestation of God's satisfaction with us helps us move forward.

If our conscience consistently attests God's satisfaction with us, we shall have boldness to look to the Blood of the Lord Jesus for cleansing each time we unfortunately fail. To have a good conscience we must not depart for a moment from the Blood which continually and forever cleanses us. Confessing our sin and trusting in the precious Blood are unavoidable. Without the cleansing of the precious Blood we could never be at peace. But once it is sprinkled on our conscience it shall continue to do its work of cleansing. The apostle confides that what he seeks is to have a good conscience towards God and men.

These two directions, God-ward and man-ward, are deeply entwined. If we wish to maintain a good conscience towards men, it must first be clear with respect to God. An unclear conscience towards God automatically brings in an unclear one towards men. Consequently, all who want to live spiritually must seek to have a clear conscience towards God [*1 Peter 3:21*]. Only a clear conscience towards men effects a good testimony before them. Man's misunderstanding does not affect the testimony: "keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are abused, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame" .... [*1 Peter 3:16*]. Good conduct cannot appease an evil conscience; but neither will much reviling

by man cast a shadow over a good conscience.