FIRE BY NIGHT

"Reflections Upon Reflections" [of The Father's Heart]

...."You, in Your great compassion, did not forsake them in the wilderness; The pillar of cloud did not leave them by day, to guide them on their way, or the pillar of fire by night, to light for them the way in which they were to go".... Nehemiah 9:19 NASB

December 30th

THE WORK [AND LIFE] OF THE CROSS

Words of prophecy:

* It is very easy for one who denies the life of the Cross [and, thus, the ministry of My Spirit] to slip into a form of "self-righteousness" without even realizing it. Truly I say to you, if one continually draws near to Me [and My Word] in the "inner chamber" on a daily basis it is certain that self-righteousness - and the "unauthorized" activity that is its spontaneous fruit - will not be able to take hold of one's heart.

...."Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his [self] life will lose it; but whoever loses [denies] his [self] life for My sake will find it ["zoe"- divine life]"..... Matthew 16:24-25 NASB

...."When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees [what is done] in secret will reward you".... Matthew 6:5-6 NASB

...."Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven [will enter.] Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you [intimately]; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness'''.... Matthew 7:21-23 NASB"For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, [that they are] enemies of the cross of Christ, whose end is destruction, whose god is [their] appetite, and [whose] glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things".... Philippians 3:18-19 NASB

Wonderful experiences in the Presence of the Lord and "signs and wonders" are certainly an excellent thing but just a part of all that the Father uses to teach and bless His people with. The main thing is still the work of the Cross *[by the Holy Spirit]*. For without that holy work "self" still remains on the throne of one's heart and, in that positioning, one can neither obtain Kingdom-revelation or know *[gain a revelation of]* the Heart of Father and the Mind of Christ where "self" is allowed to exalt itself above the Word/Will of God.

Prayer of Proclamation:

Father, we thank You and praise You that You are faithful to finish the precious and holy work that You have begun in us. We thank You and praise You for the deepest work of the Cross that is preparing us perfectly for the glorious Kingdom tasks You have call us to - both now and right through to the end of the age. And we declare all of these things DONE *[on an ongoing basis]* in Jesus' Name - to Your greatest Glory. Amen.