

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*

January 1st

THE NORMALCY OF THE REGENERATED HUMAN SPIRIT

[pt. 12 of 16]

A Newness Of Spirit

**"We should serve in newness of spirit".... Romans 7:6 Darby*

This too is a serious facet of spiritual life and work. An old spirit cannot inspire people: the best it can do is pass on some thought to others: even so, it is weak and therefore powerless to stimulate earnest consideration. Whatever issues from an old spirit *[words, teaching, manner, thought, life]* are but old, stale and traditional. Perhaps many doctrines do in fact reach another believer's mind, but they gain no footing in their spirit; as a consequence, it is impossible to touch the spirits of others because there is no s[S]pirit behind one's teaching.

Time and again we meet various Christians who habitually convey something new from the Lord. While we are with them we feel they have just left the Lord's Presence, as though they would bring us right back to the Lord. This is what "newness" means; anything else is oldness. Such ones appear to enjoy renewed strength all the time, soaring like eagles and running like youths. Instead of imparting dried, corrupted, and worm-eaten manna of the mind to people, these give fish and bread freshly cooking on the fire of the spirit.

Deep and wonderful thoughts never move people as a fresh spirit can. We must maintain a fresh spirit continually. How can we face people if our inner man does not give the impression of having been newly with the Lord and newly blessed *[empowered]* of the Lord? Moment by moment we must receive everything anew from the Lord. To imitate the experiences of another without ourselves having it in life is forbidden; but to copy from the relics of our own past

experience is likewise ineffective. Thus we can grasp the import of what Christ enunciated as recorded in John; "I live because of the Father".... John 6:57. Our inner man shall remain unceasingly fresh if we momentarily draw upon the life of the Father and His Word to be our life. A stale spirit generates no fruit in work, inspires no walk after the spirit, and achieves no victory in warfare. An old spirit cannot face others because it has not faced God. To enjoy a spirit that is always fresh and new, one's inner being must be in constant touch [*communication*] with God.