

# 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 15th**

## FEEDING ON THE WORD

**[part 1 of 2]**

\* ....*"Your words were found and I ate them, and Your words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart; For I have been called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts".... Jeremiah 15:16 NASB*

....*"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it".... Matthew 13:44-46 NASB*

In this verse you have three actions: the "finding" of God's Word, which only comes to those who seek diligently for it. Then the "eating", which means the personal appropriation of the words of God for our own needs. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." and then the rejoicing. "The Kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in field which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for the joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field." In the foregoing verse, too, we have the finding, the appropriating and the rejoicing.

The central thought here is eating. It is preceded by the searching and the finding. It is accompanied and followed by rejoicing. That which is aimed for is used, and there is a result. Much depends on eating God's words in the "inner chamber".

There is a great difference between finding and the eating. It can be illustrated by comparing the corn a farmer has stored up in his barn with the bread

he has on his table. Sowing, cultivating, harvesting his grain is essential, but cannot profit him until he eats the bread in daily portions as his body requires. In the finding stage, great quantity and speed of work are important. Eating is the opposite - a small quantity at regular intervals, appropriated slowly, is the need.

Do you see how this applies to your Scripture study in the "morning watch"? You need to find God's words, master them by careful thought [*meditation*], store them in your mind and memory [*spirit*] for your own use and that of others. Certainly there is joy in this, too; joy of harvest or of victory, the joy of treasure secured, or difficulties overcome. Yet we must remember that this finding and possessing the words of God is not that eating of them which is the only thing bringing divine Life and strength to us.