

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

February 12th

SPIRITUAL DEATH

[part 1 of 3]

SPIRITUAL DEATH IS UNIVERSAL

"And He (Christ) shall destroy in this mountain the face of the covering that covers all people and the veil that is spread over all the nations; He shall destroy death forever and the Lord Jehovah shall wipe off tears from all faces and the reproach of His people shall He take away from off the earth for Jehovah hath spoken it." Isaiah 25:7-9.

This covering that covers all peoples; this veil is the veil of Spiritual Death.

Now mark, it says here that it is a covering over all people, a veil that is spread over all nations.

Romans 5:12 declares "death passed upon all men, for all sinned."

Matt. 4:16 says, "the nations that sit in darkness shall see a light and they that sat in the shadow of death to them did light spring up,"

Romans 3:9, 23 declare "that all are under sin," and "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

From these Scriptures it is clear that the human race is universally under the dominion of Satan, that they have all become partakers of his Nature.

They have no legal right to approach God, and Satan is now their God and ruler.

Jesus in speaking of this in John 5:24-25 says, "He that heareth my word, and believeth Him that sent me, hath eternal life, and cometh not into judgment, but hath passed out of death into life."

Jesus is speaking of the spiritually dead who by hearing His voice may come out of the Realm of Death into the Realm of Life, out of the family of Death into the family of Life.

In the story of the Prodigal Son Jesus makes the father say, "This is my son that was dead and is now alive, was lost and is found."

In 1 John 3:14-15 it says, "We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer, and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him."

Here we have the contrast of Death and Life: that is the contrast of the manifestation of the Nature of the Devil and the Nature of God; one manifests itself in hatred, and the other, in love.

"And you did he make alive, when ye were dead through your trespasses and sins,

"Wherein ye once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the powers of the air, of the spirit that now worketh in the sons of disobedience:

"Among whom we also all once lived in the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest: but God, being rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace have ye been saved)." Ephesians 2:1-5,

Let us look critically at this section of Scripture: first, we were made alive when we were dead.

Second, we walked according to the prince of the powers of the air.

Third, this prince is now working in the sons of disobedience just as the

Holy Spirit works in the sons of obedience.

Fourth, we all once lived in the lusts of our flesh and were by nature children of wrath.

Fifth, but God being rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us when we were dead in our trespasses made us alive together with Christ.

Take this statement with Col. 2:13, "You being dead through your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, you, I say, did He make alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses."

From these Scriptures the case is made: Man is spiritually dead, under the dominion of the prince of the powers of the air, and this spirit is now working in and through man's life carrying out the plans and purposes of this prince.

All this substantiates our foregoing argument: the universal man must be Born Again, and the New Birth is receiving the Life or Nature of God. John tells us that when we receive this Nature we love our brethren, and he that does not receive this Nature has hatred for his brethren.