

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

March 15th

THE LIVING WORD

[part 2 of 6]

- * Our contact with the Master, then, is through His Word.

And did you notice, "the eyes of Him." The Word then has eyes. It sees our conduct, our attitude toward it. It is a Living thing. How deeply that should impress us. I hold in my hands a Book with the very Life of God in it, a Book that scrutinizes my conduct; that judges me. A Book that feeds this inner man-my spirit.

It imparts Faith to my Spirit, builds Love into it. God's only means of reaching me is through His Word. So the Word becomes a vital thing. It has been rather difficult for some of us to grasp the fact that during the first century, the Christian Church did not have our New Testament.

The first epistle that Paul wrote to the Thessalonians was the beginning of the New Testament. It was written seventeen years after his conversion. I Thess. 2:13, "Wherefore I also give continual thanks to God, because, when you heard from me the Spoken Word of God, you received it not as the word of man, but, as it is in truth, the Word of God; who Himself works effectually in you that believe." (Conybeare).

Notice, it was "the Spoken Word." That was all they had, whether Paul gave it, or Peter, or John, or any of the Apostles. It was God speaking through human lips. It had not yet been put into writing. Now you can better understand Acts 19:20 telling of that great revival at Ephesus. Luke used this expression : "So mightily grew the Word of the Lord and prevailed." It was the Spoken Word.

The Pauline Revelation was only known to those who had heard him. The other Apostles did not have it. They had what the Spirit gave them to meet the emergency of the hour.

It is a fact that Christianity is what the Word says about Redemption, about the Body of Christ, or the New Creation. We become Christ-like in the measure that the Word prevails in us. The Word is Christ revealed.

The Word is God present with us, speaking the Living Message of the Loving Father God.

The Word is always NOW. It is His Word to me today. It is His voice, His last message. It becomes a Living thing in my heart as I lovingly act upon it. It becomes a Living thing on the lips of Love. It has no power on the lips of those whose lives are out of fellowship with Him, who live in the reason realm.

His Word makes our ministry limitless. His Word is what He is. It is the mind of the Father.

It is the Will of the Father. It shows the way to the Father. The Word is the Father speaking. You notice that it is always in the present tense. The Word is the Bread of Heaven, food for our spirits. Matt. 4:4, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."