

# **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*

**August 23rd**

## **THE REALITY OF REDEMPTION**

**[part 4 of 6]**

### **The New Creation**

\* As long as Christianity was simple forgiveness of sins to me with a theological justification, there was no sense of reality in it; but when I came to know that Jesus was recreated, and read, "Thou art My Son, This day have I begotten Thee," I know that He raised Him from the dead, now no more to return to corruption. (Acts 13:33-35.)

Colossians 1:18, "And He is the head of the body, the church; Who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence." You see, Jesus was made sin with our sin. He became our substitute. We died with Him. We were buried with Him. We were judged with Him. He went to the place where we should have gone, and He suffered there until the claims of justice against us were met, until all the claims were satisfied. Then the grave could hold Him no longer.

1 Peter 3:18 declares that He was made alive in spirit, that is, not of the Holy Spirit, but His Own Spirit; for He had died in Spirit and His body had become mortal, so He must be made alive. 1 Timothy 3:16 declares that He was justified in Spirit. Now we understand the miracle of His substitution, for when He was recreated, we in the mind of justice were recreated. Ephesians 2:10, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God afore prepared that we should walk in them."

That New Creation took place just as Redemption took place, just as Righteousness took place. Our New Creation became a fact in the mind of Justice

the moment He was made alive in spirit.

Then, before He arose from the dead, He conquered Satan as our Substitute. After Satan was conquered, his authority broken, Jesus arose from the dead and shouted to the disciples, "All Hail." Then He said to Mary, "Touch Me not, for I am not yet ascended unto the Father: but go unto My brethren, and say to them, I ascend unto My Father and your Father; and to My God and your God." In this we have the substitutionary work of God in Christ to make natural man a New Creation.

Now we understand John 3:3-8. Jesus says to Nicodemus: "Except a man be born anew from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God." He answered Jesus, "But how can these things be?" Jesus replied, "Except a man be born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter the kingdom." Water, no doubt, means the Word. So, if a man is born of the Word and of the Spirit, he enters the kingdom of God.

You see, the difference between the natural birth and the New Birth is that one of them is physical, and the other, spiritual. It is your human spirit that is recreated. Now you turn to 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Wherefore if any man is in Christ, he is a New Creation, the old things are passed away; behold they are become new." Here is a description of the New Creation that is unveiled to us in Romans 6:1-16, where we have the legal side of the New Birth.