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 27th

NATURAL MAN'S FAITH

[part 2 of 8]

* As he grows in the Word, he grows in Grace. That is, his spirit begins to take on the Love Nature of Jesus. He becomes gentle and beautiful in his spirit. He may have been very critical and hard before, but now the very gentleness of the Master has taken possession of him. The Pauline pictures of full grown faith are a challenge to him, so he feeds upon the Word daily. He studies to show himself approved unto the Father. He begins to take over the burdens of those who are weaker than he. Romans 15:1 becomes a favorite with him, "Now we that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves."

He has been an abnormally selfish man, but he now becomes an abnormally unselfish man. You see, this new babe in Christ is growing very rapidly. The very Life of the Father is being reproduced in him. The Word of Christ dwells in him richly. He is passing out of the bondage that held him. His whole mental life was full of unseemly things. Now his recreated spirit, filled with Love, is gaining control of that unruly mind and imagination. He is bringing it into subjection to the Word. The Word truly begins to dwell in him richly. He feeds upon it, lives in it. He acts upon it.

The Word has become a love letter from the Father to his heart. It is a daily message from Heaven's Throne Room. It is his communication with the Father and the Master.

After a while the Word abides in him to the extent that his Faith life becomes outstanding. John 15:7,8 becomes a beautiful reality.

"If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ask whatsoever ye will, and it

shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; and so shall ye be my disciples."

I hear him say, I want that eighth verse made real in my life, I want to bear much fruit. I want Him to look upon me as a disciple, as a student, as one that is sitting at His feet practicing the Word.

You see, this new man that has been begotten in Him, that new self, has utterly displaced the conduct and the practices of the old self. People cannot understand this. He no longer blasphemes or cares to go with the old crowd. Whenever he goes with the old crowd, it is as an evangelist. He is out seeking the lost. He has taken Jesus' place. The Jesus Life now rules him. You know, this is the most wonderful thing about this life. As a natural man, he didn't understand any of these things; he didn't care about them. Yet his old associates and old life and the habits have all dropped off. He has become an utterly new man.