

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 28th

NATURAL MAN'S FAITH

[part 3 of 8]

The Limitations Of Natural Man

* He is the slave of his senses. We think of him in the Garden, walking with God as a spirit-ruled being. His spirit then dominated everything. God could communicate with him with the utmost freedom, but when he fell, his spirit became a partaker of Satan's nature. He lost his contact with God, and when he was driven from the Garden, he became utterly dependent upon his senses to support and protect and care for him.

He is out in a world now where Satan rules. He must have eyes to see the dangers, and ears to hear his enemies. He must have taste to know what to eat. He must have a keen sense of smell so as to detect an enemy or poisoned fruits. He must have a sense of touch.

He lives in the realm of his senses now. All that man has learned since the fall has come through his senses. Man has had no other means of knowledge. He has been shut away from God. "Now the natural man understandeth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; and he cannot know them, because they are spiritually revealed."

1 Corinthians 2:14. There can come no spiritual revelation to that man from God. If he gets any spiritual revelation, it will be from the devil. That is the reason why angels were the agents of communication under the Old Covenant. God could not reveal Himself to natural man, but angels could be seen and heard. Natural man could receive messages from them. A voice could speak out of Sinai that Moses and the elders could hear.

How different was the Pauline Revelation! No angels came to Paul and told him what to write. God was in his spirit, and the Revelation came through the spirit. God gave to Paul a Revelation of Jesus, an unveiling of Jesus in his spirit. Then his spirit-ruled mind was able to write what the Holy Spirit had given in regard to Jesus. Since the Fall of man in the Garden, he has been ruled by his five senses. Satan has been his over-lord.