

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

April 2nd

"IN WHOM WE HAVE"

[part 2 of 8]

* You understand that man's basic need was Righteousness, the ability to stand in the Father's presence without the sense of guilt or inferiority, and so He declares that God has unveiled a new source of Righteousness, and that source of Righteousness is witnessed by the law and the prophets, "even the righteousness of God on the ground of faith in Jesus Christ."

And the strange thing is that it is based upon simple faith in Jesus, or in acting upon what God has said in regard to His Son. In the 24th verse he says, "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." You understand, He was delivered up on the account of our trespasses, and He was raised when we were justified. (Romans 4:25).

Then he declares in the next verse,

"Being therefore justified on the ground of faith, we have found peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Now we can understand that we were justified freely by his Grace, through the Redemption God wrought in Christ, Whom He has set forth to be a sin substitute on the ground of Faith and His blood. God did this to show His Righteousness because He had been passing over the sins of Israel for fifteen hundred years.

Now it is demanded that the penalty be paid. Jesus met that penalty and paid or redeemed the promises that were each year made by the High Priest on the great Day of Atonement.

Jesus cashed all those promissory notes and brought Redemption to every man who had been blood-covered under the First Covenant. I think we ought to read Hebrews 9:12, "Nor yet with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, entered in once for all into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption."

I want you to note that this Redemption is an Eternal Redemption. That when Christ carried His blood into the Holy of Holies, and the Supreme Court of the Universe accepted it, Redemption was a completed thing. "For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling them that have been defiled, sanctify unto the cleanness of the flesh : how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish unto God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

Did you notice that the blood of bulls and goats only cleanses the flesh? The cleansing of the flesh means the senses; it did not cleanse the heart; it did not make man a New Creation. Now notice the 15th verse: "And for this cause he is the mediator of a New Covenant, that a death having taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first covenant, they that have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance."