

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

May 8th

HOW DOES THE BELIEVER SIN?

[part 4 of 8]

* Do love deeds, think love thoughts, and then you will be able to stand in the evil day because you are standing in love. "Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness." Righteousness means here the ability to stand in the presence of the Father or of Satan without any fear or sense of inferiority. You can stand in the presence of the Father as a beloved son. You can face the hosts of darkness without any sense of fear. You are the righteousness of God in Him.

"Having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace." Love is a peace maker. When it says that the "peace of God which passeth all understanding shall fill your hearts and minds," it means that love has gained such an ascendancy that doubt and fear have been driven out and love has taken the stronghold and is protecting it.

"And taking up the shield of faith wherewith you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the enemy." Faith is a child of love. Hatred has no faith. Love is the faith builder and the faith giver. God is love, and God is a faith God. You are a partaker of the faith nature, of the Faith God. At the New Birth every man is given a measure of faith.

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." That is not only the sword of the Holy Spirit which he uses through the lips of faith, but it is also the sword of our recreated spirits. You see, your recreated spirit is the one that uses the Word, and that Word is always soaked in love so that it is never given in bitterness, but comes pouring out of a heart of love. You meet the needs of the people around you. You are standing before a

large audience . . . there are many unsaved and many out of fellowship, and you are going to open the Word to them now . . . that Word comes from your lips drenched with the love of the Master. No human being has a shield that can protect them from words burning with love.

The tongues of fire in that upper room . . . that was the flame of love. That was love that had set the Words on fire. Man cannot resist the Word of love. The weapons described in Ephesians that we have been studying, are love's weapons for the army of God.