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

March 9th

PRAYER

[part 1 of 7]

* PRAYER is joining forces with the Father. It is a fellowship with Him, carrying out His Will upon the earth.

It seems that God is limited by our prayer life, that He can do nothing for humanity unless someone asks Him to do it. Why this is, I do not know. We get a hint of it in Gen. 18 when God refused to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah until He had talked it over with His Blood Covenant friend, Abraham.

Prayer Under the Old Covenant

Abraham's prayer, which is recorded in Gen. 18:22-23, is the most illuminating and suggestive of any prayer in the Old Covenant.

He said to God, "Wilt thou consume the righteous with the wicked? Peradventure there are fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou consume and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked; that be far from thee : shall not the judge of all the earth do right?"

Here Abraham was taking his place in the Covenant.

Abraham had through the Covenant received rights and privileges that we little understand.

The Covenant that Abraham had just solemnized with Jehovah gave him a legal standing with God.

We hear him speak so plainly, "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" This is his intercession for Sodom and Gomorrah.

All through the Old Covenant we find men who understood and took their place in the Covenant.

Joshua could open the Jordan. He could command the sun, moon and stars to stand still in the heavens.

Elijah could bring fire out of heaven to consume the offering as well as the altar.

David's mighty men were utterly shielded from death in their wars. They became supermen as

long as they remembered the Covenant.

Practically all the prayers of the Old Testament were prayers of Covenant men.

They had to be answered. God had to give heed to their petitions.