

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 19th

ALL THE WORDS OF THIS LIFE

[part 1 of 2]

* IN the midst of the stirring dramatic scenes that surrounded the disciples following Pentecost there is a little drama which we have overlooked. The disciples had been arrested for their testimony and for their healing of the man at the beautiful gate.

The Sanhedrin had been incensed because the disciples had proved that they had crucified the Lord of Life. They had them locked up. They were put in a public ward, but an angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors and brought them out and said: "Go ye, and stand, and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life."

That sentence has been ringing in my spirit: "Go stand in the temple and speak all the words of this life."

The Greek word for life is "zoe" which means Eternal Life. The angel knew what Jesus had brought to the world. He knew what Eternal Life meant. Peter may not have understood it, nor John have grasped it (for the revelation had not yet come to the Church through the Apostle Paul), but the angel understood and commanded them to proclaim it.

The angel's command thrills us:

"Go stand in the temple."

They were to go where all the people were, where the blood of bulls and of goats had been spilled for fifteen hundred years. They were to go where these innocent animals had given their animal life to protect the Covenant people. Such sacrifice of life was now unnecessary because Christ had made the supreme sacrifice and had brought Eternal Life. They were to stand in the temple and speak the words of this New Kind of Life.

The animal's life was given as a covering, as an atonement for the broken law and for a spiritually dead Israel. But Israel no longer needed the atoning blood of an animal. They were going to receive Eternal Life into their spirits. They were going to become sons and daughters of God. The Blood of Christ was not a covering. It was to become a recreating power in their spirits.

Under the old law He had said : "I give you the blood upon your altars as an antonement (or covering) because of the life that is in it." Leviticus 17:11.

Under this new order of Grace He said : "I am giving you Eternal Life to recreate you, to make you My Own sons and daughters. "You will no longer need to be covered. Because you are My sons and daughters you may stand in My Presence as though sin had never been."