

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*

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* Why do you fear to take up the Cross, through which is the road to the Kingdom? In the Cross is salvation, in the Cross life, in the Cross protection from our foes; in the Cross is the inflow of Heaven's sweetness, in the Cross strength of mind, in the Cross joy of the spirit; in the Cross is the height of virtue, in the Cross perfection of holiness. There is no salvation for the soul, nor hope of eternal life (zoe), save in the Cross. For if you have died with Him equally too, you shall live with Him; and if you have been a partner in His suffering, you will be a partaker of His glory too.

....*"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his [self] life will lose it; but whoever loses [denies] his [self] life for My sake will find it ["zoe"- divine life]"..... Matthew 16:24-25 NASB*

....*"let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us, **Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. He, for the joy [of obtaining the prize] that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising and ignoring the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God [Ps. 110:1.]".... Hebrews 12:1-2 The Amplified Translation***