

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

October 5th

THE GREAT SPIRITUAL FORCES IN THE WORLD

[part 5 of 10]

Dominating Faith

* In Moses we see a picture of faith dominating the laws of nature. Ex. 14:15,16. Israel was just freed from the bondage of Egypt. The Egyptians were following after them. They were confronted with an impassable wilderness on the one hand, and the Red Sea on the other. Moses began to cry unto God. God said, "Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward. And lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thy hand over the sea, and divide it : and the children of Israel shall go into the midst of the sea on dry ground." It was faith speaking to the Red Sea. It was faith that lifted up the rod. See the result. The sea opened. That slimy, muddy bottom of the sea suddenly became firm, dry ground with grass growing like a park as the Psalmist tells us.

Faith made a way where reason stood helpless. Faith opened a path in the sea and congealed the waters in that hot climate. They looked up on either side of them and saw the waters frozen solid, holding back that mighty force that would have engulfed them.

Faith ruled the laws of nature. The three Hebrew children thrown into the fiery furnace give us an illustration of faith dominating heat. The laws of nature were absolutely obedient to the faith of those young men. Matt. 8:24-27: "And behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the boat was covered with the waves : but he was asleep. And they came to him and awoke him, saying, Save, Lord; we perish. And he said unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. And the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

Here Jesus is tenderly chiding them because of their fearfulness. He gently said: "Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?" Matt. 14:24-31 relates the story of Jesus walking on the waves in the night in the midst of a storm. The disciples are filled with fear, but He said, "Be of good cheer. It is I : be not afraid." Peter said, "If it be thou bid me come unto thee." The Master said one word: "Come." Peter stepped out of the boat on the waters and walked toward the Master until a huge wave seemed to engulf him and he cried, "Lord, save, I perish." The Lord reached out and took hold of his arm. They walked together back to the boat and Jesus said, "Oh thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

That is a challenge for the church to walk by faith. He wants us to walk by faith.

He wants us to walk in the realm of the miraculous. That is simply living in the realm of the spirit. The non-miraculous life is lived in the realm of the senses. Spiritual things are just as real as physical things. He wants us to dominate the laws and forces of nature.