

God's Holy Presence

Ps. 73:28

In these busy times it is very essential that we exercise sweet fellowship with God. That such is very necessary no Christian will deny. "It is good for me to draw nigh to God." The fact that we may draw nigh to God implies that we may live a distance from God. Peter followed afar off. we may, Christians but do just as little as possible.

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God is always near us. He is not an absentee needing to be brought down from the heavens or up from the deep. There was a simple minded cook called Bro. Lawrence who said, that for 60 yrs he never lost the sense of God's presence but was as conscious of it in his daily duties as when taking the Holy Supper. Mr. Spurgeon said that he had never passed 15 minutes of his waking life without the consciousness of God and His nearness. If we could realize with Paul that in Him we live, move, and have our being then we could experience the Spirit filled life.

This kind of a life is not something visionary but very practical. The presence of God is not a hindrance to every day secular life but a help to it. The happiest business man is the one who can say with Paul "nevertheless I live, yet not I but Christ liveth in me." we need to live the "interior life" which implies an abiding sense of God's presence and which further implies the maintenance of an unbroken consciousness of our union with Him. Unbroken

What is involved in living in God's Holy presence?

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I. The yielding ourselves willingly and cordially to God. Men will gladly give any thing they have to God - except themselves. Most of all and first of all God wants us. If He has us there He will get our money and service to win others. This yielding will be in response to a feeling of duty and love.

Each one who lives in the secret of His presence may say with Ellen Moore of India the words of the poem "In the secret of His presence";

In the secret of his presence how my soul delights to hide!

Oh, how precious are the lessons which I learn at Jesus' side!

Earthly cares can never vex me, neither trials lay me low;

For when Satan comes to tempt me, to the secret place I go.

When my soul is faint and thirsty, 'neath the shadow of His wing

There is cool and pleasant shelter, and a fresh and crystal spring;

And my Saviour rests beside me, as we hold communion sweet:

If I tried, I could not utter what he says when thus we meet.

Only this I know: I tell him all my doubts, my griefs and fears;

Oh, how patiently he listens! and my drooping soul he cheers:

Do you think he ne'er reproves me? What a false friend he would be,

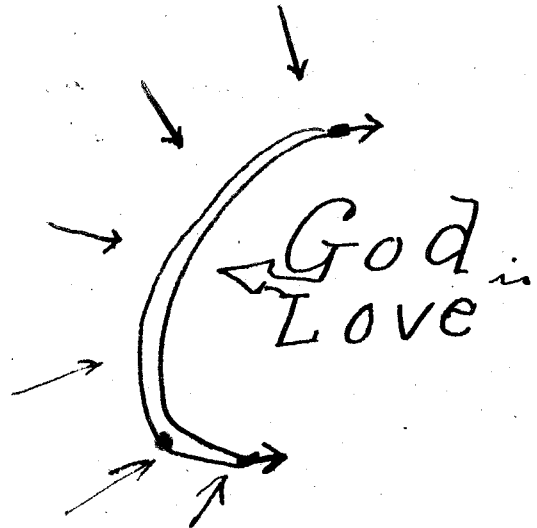
If he never, never told me, of the sins which he must see.

Would you like to know the sweetness of the secret of the Lord?

Go and hide beneath his shadow: this shall then be your reward:

And whene'er you leave the silence of that happy meeting place,

You must mind and bear the image of the Master in your face.



Just as the merchant likes to know now and then the condition of his stock of goods even so the preacher likes to know the spiritual condition of his congregation.

Now all you people who make a practice of being alone with God in your daily devotions come to the altar for prayer. Oh how we need to be alone with God to gain power to face big things for God. With us for instance right now how we need to be alone with God as we face the big job of building a great temple to His glory.



"The devil trembles when he sees
God's children upon their knees."