

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 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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* Fasting and long hours of prayer, no matter how beneficial, do not "build" faith. Reading books about faith and about men and women of faith and their exploits stirs in the heart a deep passion for faith, but does not build faith. The Word alone is the source of faith. Faith is built in us by the Word being "built" into us, by our acting upon it. It is the "word of faith", and so as the Father builds that into us in our daily walk, faith becomes an "unconscious asset".

We come to realize that we are a part of Him as a branch is a part of the vine; that He is a part of us as the vine is a part of the branch; that we have His life, His ability, we have His love-nature, we have His strength. That gives us an "unconscious" certainty as we go into His presence. We know that we are working together with Him to one common end (the establishment of His Kingdom). We know that He is the strength of our life. We know that He is our ability. We know that we are His righteousness in Christ.

....*"But the righteousness based on faith speaks as follows: "DO NOT SAY IN YOUR HEART, 'WHO WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN?' (that is, to bring Christ down), or 'WHO WILL DESCEND INTO THE ABYSS?' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead)." But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART" - that is, **the word of faith** which we are preaching, that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; **for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation [deliverance].** For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED".... Romans 10:6-11 NASB*

....*"So faith [comes] from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ".... Romans 10:17 NASB*