

## 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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\* It is significant that the apostle James places "stumbling not in word" as the supreme mark of a man or woman fully under the control of God. The same man, James says, is able to "bridle" the whole body. The references to Job by the apostle James show that he had studied his "history", and had him in mind as he pressed home his message of "patience" to the "tried ones" of his day, beseeching them to "count it joy" when in manifold trials, for the "proof of their faith" would work patience, and patience must have its perfect work if they were to be perfect and entire, lacking nothing. James well knew that the patience of Christ could only be wrought into the character by the "fire" of trial!

....*"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing [gaining and maintaining a deep revelation of the spiritual reality] that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing".... James 1:2-4 NASB*

....*"If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well. Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well. Look at the ships also, though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, are still directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires".... James 3:2-4 NASB*