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The Living Word

Before Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, godly men of old looked to the Written Word. So it was that God revealed Himself in supernatural ways to a chosen few, in order that they might write the inspired Scriptures for others to read and walk by the light of the Written Word thus given. The day came when the WORD WAS MADE FLESH and dwelt among us! As the written Word was the THOUGHT of God, so the living Word became the EMBODIMENT OF THAT THOUGHT, expressed through the Miracle of the Incarnation, in the Person of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

That is why every throbbing, vital statement, which left the lips of Jesus, was impregnated with this truth:

"I AM COME THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE LIFE, AND THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE IT MORE ABUNDANTLY."

(John 10:10). The words He spoke were SPIRIT AND THEY WERE LIFE! He was the "true Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." (John 1:9), for "God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all;" (I John 1:5) and those who follow Him shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the LIGHT OF LIFE!

We have read what He said, and counted it beautiful! We have read about what He did, and have called it wonderful! We have – but, Oh, that our eyes might *see* the divinely appointed purpose of His ministry and that we might embrace with our hearts the fullness of His redeeming grace! The written word can never be read aright without the revealing light of the Living Word – The Word made flesh. The Word which came once to live AMONG us now has come to dwell WITHIN us!

Happy that day for us when in the history of eternity God reached up to the four corners of the realms supernal – infinite and eternal – and caught all of the glory, all of the grace, all of love, mercy, and truth,

and then by the Miracle of the Incarnation, He wrapped them all up together and put them in a virgin mother's arms in a bundle of pink babyhood and called His name JESUS, for He was to save a lost world from its sins!

He is our Life. He is our Healing. He is our Strength. Not the word of the printed page; not our faulty interpretations of that written word; but the WORD MADE FLESH – THE LIVING WORD The Word of God which once dwelt among us, but now is the Living Word ~ who dwells within us! It is the Word which He is, and which we too can become, as He lives within; for by the flow of His life divine we are changed from glory to glory. When we *awake*, we will be in *His likeness!*

Many have taken a few of His sentences and built marvelous sermons around them. He has become, to a great extent, and Ideal – a Pattern for our living,

and an Example for our conduct. Now that is all very well as far as it goes, but it certainly misses the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. What He said was a divine revelation of what He *is*. The things which He said and did were only the outward manifestations, the effulgent glory of the great dynamic Cause, which He Himself is.

Paul did not cry for wisdom to know more *about Him*; but from the hungry depths of his innermost being, he cried: ~ count all things but loss... that I may *know Him*, and the power of His resurrection! It is this VITAL UNION with Christ which is necessary in our lives. We must *stop* our struggling to become “like Him.” There is no need to spend long hours reading the biography of a king when you are, at last, in his royal presence!

The woman by Samaria’s Wayside Well was greatly concerned as to which mountain it was, in which they were to worship God. Was it in the mountains of Jerusalem, according to the Jews; or in the mountains of Samaria, as contended by the Samaritans? Jesus saith unto her... ~ The hour cometh when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father., the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit; and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.”

By: Charles Price
 “The Real Faith”
 Early 1900’s

Simplicity is an uprightness of soul that has no reference to self; it is different from sincerity, and it is a still higher virtue. We see many people who are sincere without being simple; they only wish to pass for what they are, and they are unwilling to appear what they are not. They are always thinking of themselves, measuring their words, and recalling their thoughts, reviewing their actions from the fear that they have done too much or too little. These persons are sincere, but they are not simple. They are not at ease with others, and others are not at ease with them. They are not free; they are ingenuous, natural. We prefer people who are less correct, less perfect, and who are less artificial. This is the decision of man, and it is the judgment of God, who would not have us so occupied with ourselves; and thus, as it were, always arranging our features in a mirror.

Fenelon, Francois de Salignac de LaMothe
True and False Simplicity

Christ is not only the head and founder of Christianity; He is its only source of life. The Holy Spirit is the channel or agent through which He enters, possesses, and operates in the life consecrated to Him. This reduces Christianity to a beautiful simplicity. We do not need to fill up the various parts of our lives with many different experiences, ideas, or influences. We need only to receive Jesus in His personal life and fullness.

B.H. Clendennen
 School of Christ
 1922-2009

I Corinthians 13

Words of the wise...Second Coming...

Christ’s coming will be marked by the gathering of the Church, the completing of the Bride and the glorious consummation of the new Jerusalem-the edifice of living stones which Christ has been building through the ages and which someday will stand forth amid the admiring gaze of wondering worlds in all the ineffable glory of the vision of the Apocalypse, with the blended light of the jasper and the gold, the sapphire and the emerald, the amethyst and the pearl, the ruby and the diamond, while the glory of God shall flash from His face, and the likeness of the Lamb shall be reflected in His glorified and beloved Bride.

A.B. SIMPSON

