

7. THINKING SPIRITUALLY ABOUT CHRIST

Thinking Spiritually about Christ is dealt with comprehensively in John Owen's book "The Glory of Christ", which we will be studying in our next series. It is a subject that will have a profound effect on the truly born again Christian. I am busy studying this book in preparation for our next series, and most of us will be able to benefit greatly by what is taught here concerning the Glory of Christ. We will learn how to appreciate this Glory by faith, as this teaching enriches our lives.

So here we will consider some practical matters in this regard. For instance, our peace with God depends on what Christ has done for us on the Cross at calvary. This peace comes to us from the Father, through the Son and by the Power of the Holy Spirit. And so, we are able to rejoice that He is now so glorious in Heaven. We look forward to being with Him in heaven, but we will not enjoy being with Him there if we do not enjoy being with Him while we are still here. There are those that seldom have Spiritual thoughts in their minds.

It is also important to think about Christ in a Biblical way. Nothing in the Bible suggests that we need, for example, to have a crucifix or rosary to make us think of Him, or to go on a pilgrimage to bring to mind our glorious Lord. It is the Power of the Holy Spirit in our lives that enables our eyes to see the Glory of Christ. Our means of help in these matters is to be continually in prayer, through the Holy Spirit's help.

Let us concentrate our thoughts about our Master as described to us in the Scriptures. Real communion does exist between Christ and believers.

And this happens when we as believers practice Spiritual meditation in a Biblical way. Does not **JAMES 1:5** tell us specifically that should we lack wisdom, that we should ask God, "... who gives generously, to all, without finding fault"? Those who sow such seeds will reap the harvest. These thoughts are honouring to our Master and will prepare our minds to receive His teaching. **SONG OF SOL 2:4** "He has taken me to the banquet hall, and His banner over me is love." The book of SONGS is a beautiful description of Jesus, and His relationship to His Church.

Failure to meditate will certainly cause believers to lose their joy in Christ, because we are too busy or we are negligent in our Spiritual lives.

We should think about Christ's Glory in Heaven now. Our Lord is a wonderful person, bring both divine and human, and His prayers in intercession for His Church cannot fail. When the full number of God's elect have been saved, we will see Him in His Glory at His coming to judge the world.

Spirit mindedness means that we have a genuine heartfelt delight in these attributes of our Saviour – it is not just an acknowledgement of facts.

Thinking about the eternal glories of Christ will help us greatly to endure the troubles of this life. We will understand more clearly that it is a privilege to suffer according to the will of God. But the only way that we may cheerfully endure our troubles, is by continually setting over and against them the prospect of our future glory with Christ in heaven. Self help schemes do not help us, as our only source of help is the Lord Himself.

There may be many times when sufferings become wearisome, as we see no end to them. There is then only one source of comfort, and that is when the mind is filled with the thoughts of the unseen glories of eternity with Christ. Only then is it possible to understand that even this suffering is “but for a moment” **2 COR 4:17**

As the Lord draws us to Himself in His comforting embrace, we will remember His words. “I will never leave or forsake thee”