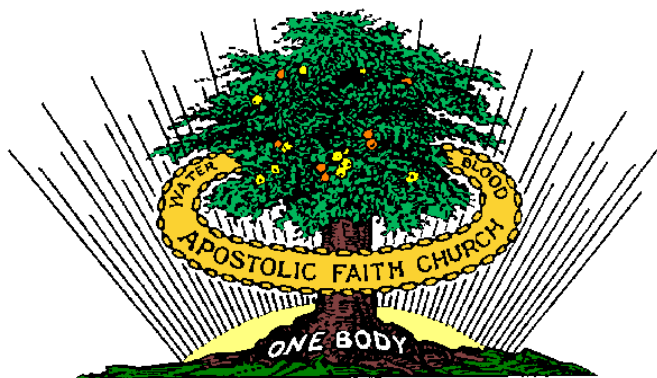


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Showers of Blessing

No. 5470 14/3/24

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Gathering Together In One

When a conscious decision is made to try and find God and turn to Him and go His way, it is probable that at the very beginning, the seeker has little more than the haziest of ideas of what he may find.

In searching, it is promised we shall find; although the one groping for light usually does not know that the way will open up before him. Only the longing in his heart prompts him, hopefully, to discover a place of rest and assurance, wherein his life may find an enduring and satisfying home.

The conditions required to fulfil the promise of finding the ever-living One, are true sincerity, i.e. purity of heart and repentance from dead works on the part of the one seeking.

Many, through superstitions and ignorance, have worshipped idols made of dry wood or lifeless stone - works of their own hands - in which there are no words of life at all! In contrast, the one made the high priest of our Christian profession, Jesus Christ the Word, and who has been raised up in the power of an endless life, is described as a 'living stone'. This 'living stone' speaks words that are the foundation of life for an everlasting kingdom.

These words spoken by the 'living stone' are spirit, which become our life as we receive them into ourselves. We receive them when we believe them; and then we experience a quickening - a rebirth!

When quickened by the spirit of life, we too become as stones which are living, and built up unto Him, a spiritual house. If the child is lusty, its appetite will grow rapidly. The word within him will expand, until he may reach out to a higher plane of spiritual experience, to receive the baptism or immersion under the Holy Spirit. Then he will find himself overflowing, with the spirit speaking through him with new tongues, according to the scriptures. A deepening of the Word will follow: and the power to minister the truth will increase.

It is not possible for a seeker after God to understand by precept alone, much about what life with Him is like, and many are not clear just how they are supposed to approach God's Throne. Quite a large proportion do not know either to whom they are, or should be, praying; whether it is to the Father or to the Son?

We are instructed to pray to the Father, "in My Name" said the Lord Jesus. Always we are exhorted to worship God, who sent the Son to reveal to man what He - the Father - was like.

Thus Philip was taught to see with the eyes of understanding, that the Lord was a perfect reflection of the Heavenly Father's character, and from then onwards, the disciples were able to know what their Creator was like in disposition (John 14:3-14).

The Lord did not mean that they were one and the same person, but one in the sense that they were alike in heart and mind, will and purpose.

There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. All things are of the Father, by or through the Son.

It is to this same disposition of the Father that we are all to be conformed, for we are now called the Sons of God. Thus we may share the one Word of truth, and enjoy the privilege of having the divine plan of the ages revealed to us; that we may all be one in carrying out the purpose of God, and fulfil His righteous aims.

Such a unity in spirit does not mean we lose our separate identities; and neither does the Son lose His identity as a separate being from the Father, whom He points out is greater than Himself.

What a wonderful thing it is that we who have been adopted as children of God, have had made known to us the secrets of His will: "That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: in whom we have also obtained an inheritance" (Eph. 1:10,11).

Further revelation of the Almighty's plan of redemption and restitution of all things, quickens us still the more, as we believe it! With its outworking, the need for the establishment of a new form of government upon the earth has been allowed for.

The day when the Word of God, as a living, spiritual force, arises to smite the old corrupt powers that be, with the righteous Rod of His mouth, is nigh us.

The 'living stone' or word, which smites the image of Babylon on its feet, is a "stone" living today: a Kingdom whose lively words become a great authority to break in pieces and consume all Babylon, until it fills the whole earth. Its government control will stand forever (Daniel 7:27), achieved by the overwhelming force of the spirit of this Faith, arising as the Sun of Righteousness, with healing in its beams.

Twelve thrones of authority of the Apostles of the Lamb will appear, whose Word in its new and quickening power shall stir all His saints with its might - on both sides of the veil - breaking all the kingdoms of darkness, and bringing in the Kingdom of light; and so bind the nations in one.

Being fully aware of this plan of our God, let us seek for a further quickening, and not just wait for it - but knock!

Article written by the late Pastor R. Pain, first published in Showers number 3529, 12/1/83.

