

"There are some who profess to be strict, disciplined Christians, but who never put aside time to meditate on the glory of Christ. Yet they tell us that they desire nothing more than to behold his glory in heaven for ever. They are being wholly inconsistent. *It is impossible that someone who never meditates with delight on the glory of Christ here in this world, who does not make every effort to behold it by faith as it is revealed in Scripture, should ever have any real gracious desire to behold it in heaven.* It is sad, therefore, that many can find time to think much on earthly, foolish things, but have no heart, no desire to meditate on this glorious object. What is this faith and love they claim to have? ...

"But we experience the power of his [Christ's] life in us only as our thoughts are filled with him and we continually delight in him. If, therefore, we would behold the glory of Christ, we must be filled with thoughts of Christ and his glory on all occasions and at all times. *This is the mark of a true Christian*

John Owen 1616-1683



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Please feel free to contact the Pastor for any needs you may have, queries, or questions about our church family.

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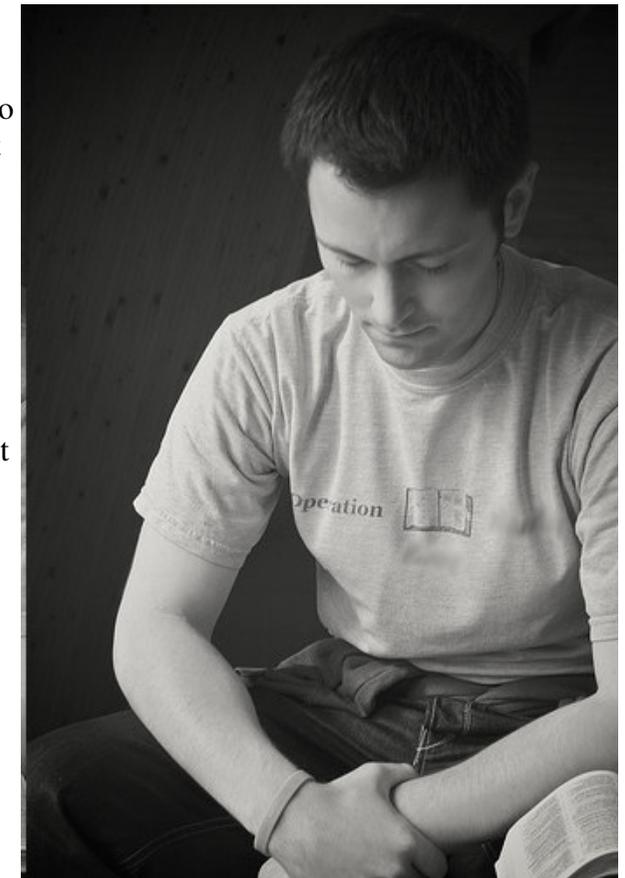
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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Christian Meditation

Having come to the light of the knowledge of the glory of Christ from Scripture or by the preaching of the gospel, let us regard it as our duty to meditate frequently on his glory. It is the neglect of meditation that keeps so many Christians in a feeble state, regardless of their privileges. They hear of these things and assent to the truth of them or at least they do not question them. But they never solemnly meditate on them. They think that meditation is above their capabilities, or they are totally ignorant of how to go about it, or they are not too concerned about it, or they treat it as fanaticism. Many cannot meditate because their minds are so cluttered up with earthly things... so many are stranger to this duty because they do not mortify (crucify) their earthly desires and concerns.





Living Delight The Spirit's Security

In Ephesians 1:13-23 Paul describes how the Spirit of God ministers to believers in 3 ways:

1. He _____ our hearts,
verses 13-14

(Romans 8:9) "... Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His."

(Esther 8:8) ""... whatever is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet ring no one can revoke.""

(2 Corinthians 1:21-22) "Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, {22} who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."

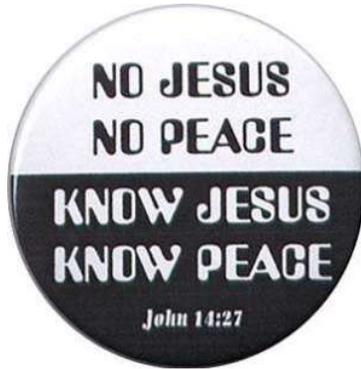
(John 14:27) ""Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

2. He _____ the Word, verses 15-18

(Hebrews 10:32) "But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings:"

(1 Corinthians 2:9-10) "But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." {10} But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God."

(John 16:13-14) ""However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. {14} "He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you."



3. He _____ our experience of _____, verses 18-23
Our experience is evidenced by:

◆ H _____, verse 18

(1 Thessalonians 4:13) "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope."

◆ L _____, verse 18

(Revelation 21:3-4) "And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. {4} "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."



◆ P _____, verses 19-20

(Philippians 3:10) "that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,"

