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Substance of Prayer Meeting Address given by our Pastor
on February 9, 1982.

For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a humble and contrite spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. Isaiah 57. 15.

There is a prerequisite as we make a solemn and sacred venture to speak to this amazing word. The first thing is, the Lord save us from unholy familiarity or lightness or superficiality in speaking, if we are qualified so to do, of the amazing, unfathomed majesty and glory of the Lord. The prerequisite is, we need the seraphim to bring a live coal from off the altar and place it on our mouth, saying, "Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and ^{thine} iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged." This amazing Scripture is one of the most sublime in the Book of God. The Lord gives a description of His dwelling place, and His Name and His character. The Scripture Isaiah was inspired to write expresses the inexpressible. The Almighty God, especially Jehovah Jesus has two dwelling places. He dwells in the high and holy place, and this is a supreme, unfathomed miracle that you will never penetrate, that the majestic Being of infinite glory and omnipotence, power, love and eternity ^{who} dwells in the high and holy place which is Heaven, should make it possible to 'dwell with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit', So our beloved friends will long for the dwelling, the indwelling of His glorious Person. This is the vital red marrow of holy religion, it is the quintessence of vital ^{satisfaction} godliness, the eternal secret of faith unto salvation and the intense ^{of} your ransomed soul that He should also dwell in him that is of a contrite and humble spirit. This is a searching word.

My spirit trembles to refer to the majesty of God. Listen to the language. "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, ~~this immensity, who has the authority to speak of His majesty, it~~ who fills immensity. Have we the authority to speak of His majesty? It dissects and separates the Lord's people from lightness and all of the flesh in religion, yet if the Lord gives you life it will be a delightful theme to your soul; the majesty of your God. It constitutes a ^{great} part of

your ~~religion~~ worship. You adore His majesty; you feel your depravity because you see His majesty and glory, for 'none is holy as the Lord', yet He has made it possible to dwell in the hearts of the contrite and humble. It is divine grace that gives the capacity to think on the Being of God and to revere and worship and tremble before Him. Away with dead formality, easy religion, phraseology that has no depth, no knowledge of His divine Person. If you know the majesty of the Lord you will be a solemn, reverent soul and you will tremble before God. The Hymn says, "Though His majesty be great" and you will dwell on and rejoice in it. You will love the Being, character, perfections of your King, and joy is brought to your soul when you realise you are not ignorant of it. In a small degree you know and worship Him.

"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy." Holiness is the secret of redemption. In its activity it is seen in the incarnation, suffering Suretyship, the vicarious, sacrificial death of the Lord Jesus, the holy law of God, the justice of God, the mercy of God, the satisfaction He received. It is glorious holy redemption. His Name is holy. All He does, has done, will do is holy. His truth is holy. His people are made holy. It becomes one of the blessed ambitions of their soul to be made holy. You feel polluted and you long for holiness without a stain, for the complete absence of sin, for completeness in the Lord. "Ye are complete in him." Is your aim, object, prayer to be made holy? You will never live near Him unless you are made holy. Think of Him as the Holy Lamb of God. The word holy spoken by the Spirit brings to your soul a sense of sacredness, beauty and hope. There is no hope apart from holiness. "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men." That is how He descended to the lowest part of the earth to accomplish the work of redemption. "He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him." This the holy One that inhabiteth eternity. We have the Trinity here, but I am thinking of the Lord Jesus. "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every

name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and ^{things} under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" Beautiful word! Do you love Him, rejoice in His exaltation, hope to see Him face to face? Perfect holiness, no sin, forgiven, washed, cleansed, clothed, sanctified, sealed, glorified. What a delightful prospect you have! ~~"He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens"~~ "Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth." When He had accomplished His work of atonement He "ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things."

Think of His glory and majesty, "that inhabiteth eternity...with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit." It is the work of the Spirit. Your heart is capacitated by the Holy Ghost for the personal advent of the Saviour and the indwelling by the Spirit. Does He indwell you? Is the ark of the Lord with you? Does His glory fill your soul? Are you contrite, broken-hearted, humble? If you know something of the sufferings of Christ and His love you will be humble. The compassion of the Lord, His infinite condescension, His wondrous stoop produce humility. He dwells also with these. Does He dwell with us? There is no greater glory in earth than the assurance that He dwells with you. Have you heard saints say, "The Lord is with you. I can feel it by your conversation and your prayers."? He dwells in the heart of these. How shall I leave you? longing, thirsting, panting, I hope, to be confirmed and assured that the Lord dwells in your heart. "Glory is in them begun." It is the inexpressible realisation of your personal interest in the Lord and in His atonement, and your relationship with Him, and the expectation of being with and like Him. Indwelling is the greatest thing in true Christian religion by His Spirit. Take the wonder of such a Scripture as "For John truly baptised with water; but ye shall be baptised with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." That a person should be baptised with the Holy Ghost! He dwells with the humble and contrite. It is a wonderful experience and efficacious manifestation. It is something we need continually; in the ministry especially because of the continuity of it.

What is the result of indwelling? "to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Reviving stems from

a risen Lord, and the perpetual influence of the plenary power of His resurrection over the whole election of grace. It is the influence, power, heavenly unction, holy dew that distils, flows into your soul and you are revived. An amazing experience it is to be revived in soul, body, spirit. Resurrection power revives you. There is a freshness, beauty in your religion. You do not become moribund, not decay in the inner man. All is revived that is real, good, and of God. Hope is revived, faith is, love is, your understanding is, your wisdom is, patience and endurance are. All the promises the Lord has spoken to you partake of amazing resurgence. Blessed be God.