

2.188a  
LAH 117

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GOSPEL STANDARD BAPTISTS

Sermon preached by Mr W Haddow of Welwyn.

Sunday Morning.

Oct: 15 1939.

Hymns 1016, 408, 177.

Reading I John 5 chapter.

Phil: 3 ch 10,11.

" That I may know Him & the power of His resurrection, & the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death, If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. If one was allowed to place themselves over the word of God, it would probably be that we should keep away from familiar words, but if the Lord led us to these words we should prove that the word is always the same in it's grace, one would speak of the Apostles word leading up to it because if it is in your heart it is an evidence of your life, you will never feel the words of the text without grace. You may ~~never~~ sometimes feel you have an experience like other people, but it came to you in a different way. The Apostles counted all thing as nothing that he may win Christ.

It is hard to say " I could from all things parted be , but never, never, Lord from thee". but sometimes you will be brought there. When you come to this you feel something deeply rooted in your heart towards Christ. You have seen the preciousness of His glory , & you long for the knowledge of Him. St Paul spoke of things that had been great gain to him. He was a man of great righteousness & integrity ,& was a great struggle to let this go for the sake of Christ.

If you hope God has brought you to want the knowledge of his son, he will turn evrything else out. As instances you will find the indwelling of Christ will not make you feel holy , but will show you you what you are, & will reavel the quilt of your heart, so there is not one thing you can lay before him with acceptance. Then you are brought to count all things but loss, that you may know Him. To feel that Gods word writes hopeless against everthing that belongs to you, then turn yours eyes to God. You may say, " I have been

searched, & I know God will never save me for what I am". I stand afar off, & like Christian cannot see the gate, but think I can see a light. You say, "I hope I want to know Him". It is because there is something in your daily experience that makes you realise you will have no real life except by the indwelling of Gods spirit. This is a good religion. You perhaps think it is not much. You cannot talk of hours of terror because of your sins. You cannot lay down laws of conviction. The best is one which brings a man to see he will never be anything in himself except what God makes him in Christ. God will not leave this till He crowns it in glory. There is nothing worthy in a child of God except the work of Gods spirit within him. You will find here & there God will give you a glimpse of something in Christ. The difference between your heart & one ~~me~~ touched by Gods word. The latter says he cant see anything precious in the word, but the former has had his eyes opened & he says

" Lord that is what I want to taste, the beauty & preciousness of Christ in my heart". Sometimes a word is spoken which opens up the beauty of Christ & you long to be in Him. This brings you to choose Christ rather than every thing in the world. That I may know Him". There is something in your heart that has a fitness for Christ, & you will meet at the mercy seat. The desire is rooted in your experience. There is a necessity that there should be a mutual understanding that you are Christ, & Christ is yours. The chief thing in life is the knowledge of Christ & you cannot keep this down. This accounts for the disturbances you get in you life. God will not let you settle down. " That I may know him". Do I really want to know Him. There is only one answer." And the power of His resurrections," & the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death", will be added, Lord if it is tribulation & Christ let me have both. Break my heart with repentance that my sins brought Him into sufferings.

Where He died to sin, you will want to. You will want to walk as He did, & will want to be led in to sweet fellowship & understanding of His grace. You will see if you walk so it will hurt you. You say, if God lays upon my heart a sense of His sufferings it will break my heart. This is one of the most sacred places of Christian experience .