

## *The Secret of Spiritual Transformation*

I will give it to you in two words: loving receptivity – or, if you will, loving responsiveness.

God is a speaking God.

He speaks through nature. He speaks through conscience. He speaks through His written Word, the Bible. And He speaks through His Holy Spirit.

He even speaks through circumstances. And He certainly speaks through the troubles and trials He allows to come our way.

He speaks in a still, small voice to our consciousness, seeking to woo us to Himself.

He created us for fellowship with Himself, and He'll not be satisfied until He has wooed and won us not merely to His salvation from sin and death, but to the most intimate, loving relationship and communion.

### **OUR CURSE**

It's the curse of religion today that, even as born-again children of God, redeemed by His precious blood, secure in our hope of heaven, we content ourselves with merely "being saved."

Oh, thank God for His salvation from sin and its curse.

But, my dear, dear friend, God is not content with only that. Nor must you be. Instead, you must seek to become intimately responsive to a very personal God.

### **ONE THING**

The Psalmist David said it so beautifully, *"One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in His temple"* (Psalm 27:4).

One thing David wanted: to be with God, seeing His beauty and hearing His voice.

David wanted to be close to God, responsive to God, and so must you and I, if we would please Him and receive His transforming grace.

Paul put forward this same beautiful picture in II Corinthians:

*"God ... hath shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ ... we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord"* (II Cor. 4:6 with 3:18).

We are responsive to the look of love on the Face in the glass as we look to Him.

## **LAYING THE UNNECESSARY ASIDE**

Again, Paul puts forward in Hebrews 12:1, 2 the picture of a runner laying aside every weight so he can run life's race well, looking to his Object and Goal, the Lord Jesus Christ, whose look of love urges him on to greater and still greater heights of achievement, leaving ever further behind him the weights and sins which once held him back.

This, my friend, is for you. Make Jesus your goal, your love. Look constantly on His face; and, becoming more and more responsive to His call, His wooing, His look of love, experience Him drawing you into His glorious self and experience the dropping off of the weights and hindrances and sins which seemed once to bind you to the world and the flesh.

### **BEGIN NOW**

Begin tomorrow to take time alone with God morning by morning. Start your day out with God, "Look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace." Look with love.

Be preoccupied there not with your earthly concerns but with His eternal glories and with His gracious, infinite love. Watch Him transform you "from glory to glory even as by the Spirit of the Lord."

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