

Snapshots of Christ's Character *[Humility, Meekness, Selflessness]*

Jesus spake as never man spake. He poured out to men the whole treasure of heaven in wisdom and knowledge. He had not come to utter uncertain sentiments and opinions, but to speak truth established on eternal principles. **He could have made disclosures in the sciences that would have placed the discoveries of the greatest men in the background as utter littleness; but this was not His mission or His work. He had come to seek and to save the lost, and He would not permit Himself to be turned from His object.** He revealed truths that had been buried under the rubbish of error, and He freed them from the exactions and traditions of men, and bade them stand fast forever. He rescued truth from its obscurity, and set it in its proper framework, that it might shine with its original luster. What wonder that crowds followed in the footsteps of the Lord and gave Him homage as they listened to His words! {CT 29.2}

Christ's life on earth teaches that to obtain the higher education does not mean to gain popularity, to secure worldly advantage, to have all the temporal wants abundantly supplied, and to be honored by the titled and wealthy of earth. The Prince of life suffered the inconveniences of poverty, that He might discern the needs of the poor--He who by His divine power could supply the needs of a hungry multitude. **Not to wear the gorgeous robes of the high priest, not to possess the riches of the Gentiles, did He come to this earth, but to minister to the suffering and the needy.** His life rebukes **all self-seeking.** As He went about doing good He made plain the character of God's law and the nature of His [God's] service. {CT 34.1}

When Moses asked the Lord to show him His glory, the Lord said, "I will make all My goodness pass before thee." "And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, . . . **And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped.**" Exodus 33:19; 34:6-8. **When we are able to comprehend the character of God, as did Moses, we, too, shall make haste to bow in adoration and praise.** {CT 30.1}

Note: you can't hold your head high to receive adoration and praise for self, while you are bowing in adoration and praise of your Father.

Note: when we really understand how much our Father loves us and longs to see us face to face, we will gladly give up all and live lives totally submitted to Him.

His life of humiliation and death of shame paid the redemption price for every soul. He gave Himself for the uplifting of the fallen and the sinful. Can we imagine an education higher than that to be gained in co-operation with Him? {CT 35.1}

To everyone Christ gives the command, "Go work today in My vineyard for **the glory of My name.** Represent before a world laden with corruption the blessedness of true education. The weary, the heavy-laden, the brokenhearted, the perplexed--point them to Christ, the source of all strength, all life, all hope." To teachers the word is spoken, "Be faithful minutemen. Seek for the higher

education, for entire conformity to the will of God. You will surely reap the reward that comes from its reception. **As you place yourselves where you can be recipients of the blessing of God, the name of the Lord will be magnified through you.**" {CT 35.2}

Note: when you are bowed down in praise and adoration to your Father, that is when He will be magnified through you.

Those who wait for the Bridegroom's coming are to say to the people, "Behold your God." The last rays of merciful light, **the last message of mercy to be given to the world, is a revelation of His character of love.** The children of God are to manifest His glory. In their own life and character they are to reveal what the grace of God has done for them. {COL 415.5}

The light of the Sun of Righteousness is to shine forth in good works--in words of truth and deeds of holiness. {COL 416.1}

Christ, the outshining of the Father's glory, came to the world as its light. He came to represent God to men, and of Him it is written that He was anointed "with the Holy Ghost and with power," and "went about doing good." Acts 10:38. In the synagogue at Nazareth He said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Luke 4:18, 19. **This was the work He commissioned His disciples to do. "Ye are the light of the world," He said. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:14, 16.** {COL 416.2}

Note: Is there a difference between people seeing your good works.... as opposed to you telling them of your good works?

Note: "Christ came as a light," a light does not shine to draw attention to itself. It shines to illuminate what it is close to. Christ came to illuminate His Father. I am called to do the same.

Christ's Position on Self-Exaltation from the Book of John

12 times in the book of John when Jesus referred to Himself as nothing and His Father as everything:

5:19 – The son can do nothing on His own.

5:30 – I can do nothing on my own [I seek to do nothing on my own].

5:41 – I do not accept glory from any human being.

6:38 – I have come down from heaven not to do my own will.

7:16 – my teaching is not mine.

7:28 – I have not come on my own.

- 8:28 – I do nothing on my own.
- 8:42 – I did not come on my own, but He sent me.
- 8:50 – I do not seek my own glory.
- 14: – The words that I speak to you, I do not speak on my own.
- 14:24– The word that you hear is not mine.

Jesus publicly negates Himself, so that all glory goes to His Father.

Christ was nothing that God might be **all**. [Is this how I live in my community?] He resigned himself with his will and his power entirely, that the Father might work in Him. Of his own power and His own will and his own glory He said, “it is not I. I am nothing, my Father is all.”

Ten Things Jesus Never Said To Other People “I Trouble”

1. So, **I** said to them -----
2. If **I** had known this was going to happen, **I** would have -----
3. **I** told you this would happen -----
4. If **I** had done it, **I** would have done it differently.
5. So, what **I** did was -----
6. So, I said -----
7. If **I** had only known, -----
8. What are people going to think about us [**me**]?
9. **I** knew that -----
10. **(I)** Thank you [accepting praise for “I” rather than humbly recognizing the fact that God used me, as a tool in His hands, and quietly thanking Him for allowing you to play a part]

Application for My Life

Our **growth in grace**, our **joy**, our **usefulness** – all depend upon our union with Christ. It is by communion with Him, daily, hourly, -- by abiding in Him, -- that we are to grow in grace.
– SC p. 69

Consecrate yourself to God in the morning; make this your first work. Let your prayer be, “Take me, O Lord, as wholly Thine. I lay all my plans at Thy feet. Use me today in Thy service. Abide in me, and let all my work be wrought in Thee.” Surrender all your plans to Him, to be carried out or given up as His providence shall dictate. Thus day by day you may be giving you life into the hands of God, and thus your life will be molded more and more after the life of Christ. – SC p. 70

The Battle

When the mind dwells upon self, it is turned away from Christ, the source of strength and life. Hence it is Satan's constant effort to keep the attention diverted from the Savior, and thus prevent the union and communion of the soul with Christ. The

- 1] Pleasures of this world,
- 2] Life's cares and perplexities,
- 3] Faults of others,
- 4] Or your own faults and weaknesses

to any or all of these he will seek to divert the mind. Do not be misled by his devices. -SC p. 73

The Road to Victory

Rest in God....let us keep our eyes fixed upon Christ, and He will preserve us.... In constantly beholding Him, we "are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." -- SC 72

Weekly Reflection

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| 1. What has God done for me. | [His blessings] |
| 2. What has God done to me. | [Teachable moments] |
| 3. What has God done through me. | [I'm a tool in the Masters hand] |
| 4. What has God done in me. | [Evidence of His peace, joy, patience etc] |
| 5. What has God done apart from me. | [In His wisdom, He did not use me] |