

### #93 A SPOKEN WORD.....

*This simple statement is spoken to me in my sleep, "Seek Me in the evening."*

A simple statement, but it relieved me of a great problem. This word came in response to my inquiring of the Lord as to the best time for my prayer sessions. Let me explain. For all my Christian walk I have been a night owl---that is, as to the time I spend in Bible study and prayer. Then I heard a man preach on the importance of rising early to seek God as did the prophets and believers. He influenced me to change, but with negative results. Each morning I would rise to pray and study but found I was not very alert regardless of all my efforts. Going to bed early, walking and pacing to stay awake, and other attempted methods did not solve this issue. I informed the Lord that I was willing and ready to change my time of study and prayer to mornings if He so desired, but I needed His grace to do so. Well after more times of trying to rise early to pray (and to no avail), I finally got this word one night as I slept, "Seek Me in the evening."

What liberty, what peace, what assurance! We often make the mistake of thinking just because God uses a certain method with other people that we are locked into that system also. We must be careful not to impose our method or duty on someone else. We must leave methods and such to God's will. Under the new covenant we are told by the apostle Paul not to be brought back under rules and restrictions concerning rituals and methods. We are told we are free from such, even to the observing of holy days, feasts or any other time-related matters. Those former things were to be a school master in our instruction until Christ fulfilled the patterns. Even Christians that feel bound to keeping Sundays are not walking in true freedom. We may keep that day if it is convenient and reasonable, but if God calls us to other duties we do not have to be brought into the bondage of day-keeping. We have entered a spiritual sabbath---which is every day.

Many may not have the mature spiritual knowledge that enlightens consciences, so we should not offend them needlessly. We have liberty in Christ and are free from those outward ordinances of the older covenant. Christians who do not have knowledge must walk by faith in the light they are given, but once enlightened by God to deeper truth they are freer before Him. If we are obedient to the Spirit He will guide us into truth and give us a clear conscience as to our actions. Of course, we are not talking about sins of the moral nature. These sins are always sin under both the old and new covenants.

In closing, I would remind you that "Seek Me in the evening" was God's word to me. Some may quote Scripture and say to me, "You must give God the first part of your day before anything else if God is to bless the rest of your day." I will simply respond, "My friends, the day began in the book of Genesis in the evening---each day being ended with, 'the evening and the morning being the first (second, third etc.) day.'" If Christ is Lord He owns all we have and all we are, including our time. We do not allot to Him---He allots to us as it pleases Him.