

#105 THE DREAM.....

I am walking, and up ahead I see the Lord Jesus seated in a casual manner. I perceive that He is waiting for me and wishes to talk with me. I approach Him; He seems to be looking in another direction, yet He is aware I am standing nearby. I then quickly turn around and walk away, as I do not want to converse with Him at the moment. I am thinking the whole time that I am somewhat disappointed with the Lord and His dealings with me. I feel He has failed my expectations.

The scene changes and I find myself busy about many things---working and serving to avoid facing the Lord.

We can at different stages in our spiritual walk feel letdown and disappointed in the manner in which God deals with us, or in His methods and timings of answering our prayers. We begin to sulk and act as little children who have a way of letting you know they are put out and expressing their disappointment in you with their pouting and sour looks. We do the same with God as we grow impatient with His methods and feel we know better how to answer our own prayers. We assume, if only He would listen to us and take our advice, matters would be better for us.

Our problem is that God is perfect and not subject to the failures of human parents. We think by pouting and avoiding God it will cause Him to respond to our desires, but it will not. Our hurts and disappointments should not cause us to withdraw from the Lord's presence. This will only open us to resentment, anger and weariness with Him. Christ (as in the dream) is waiting for us to come to Him and discuss our problems. He may not, however, directly confront us for He knows we are not in a reasoning state. We must rise above self-pity and fault-finding with God's ways before we can listen to what He wishes to impart. We need to let our emotions and feelings rest so we can hear more clearly what He would like to say. Elijah, Jeremiah and David were among many who fell into these mental states, yet God at the right time comforted, re-directed and even admonished them as necessary.

If we do not forsake our complaining, bitterness and stubbornness these sins will cause us further defeat. We must again submit to God and be open and honest with Him and He will give us help and wisdom. Whining and complaining will never move God to act more swiftly in regard to answering our prayers. If anything, these sins will hinder the answer and cause us more needless sorrow. We need to remind ourselves that if our attitude toward God's delays is not acceptable it may reveal to us that we are not yet ready for the answer to be imparted. If that desire is not worth waiting God's timing then it is probably not good for us to have at the present time.