

Developing Habits in Right Lines

Recently, the Holy Spirit has revealed a picture I had not thought of or considered from these two paragraphs in Steps to Christ p.21:

The heart of God yearns over His earthly children with a love stronger than death. In giving up His Son, He has poured out to us all heaven in one gift. The Saviour's life and death and intercession, the ministry of angels, the pleading of the Spirit, the Father working above and through all, the unceasing interest of heavenly beings,--all are enlisted in behalf of man's redemption. {SC 21.2}

Oh, let us contemplate the amazing sacrifice that has been made for us! Let us try to appreciate the labor and energy that Heaven is expending to reclaim the lost, and bring them back to the Father's house. Motives stronger, and agencies more powerful, could never be brought into operation; the exceeding rewards for right-doing, the enjoyment of heaven, the society of the angels, the communion and love of God and His Son, the elevation and extension of all our powers throughout eternal ages--are these not mighty incentives and encouragements to urge us to give the heart's loving service to our Creator and Redeemer? {SC 21.3}

This is how God has outlined the Salvation process in order that we can think in right lines. Let's break it down for comprehension. There are several parts to be considered in order as given:

1. **The heart of God yearning** over His earthly children with a **love stronger than death**.
--This is what compels Him (II Cor 5.14) **to give up** His One and only **precious dear Son**. In essence, He poured out all heaven in this one Gift. [Remember, it is a gift, not an offer or on loan.] **His unspeakable gift!**

God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself...for He made Him [Jesus] to be sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. (II Cor 9:15).

--Breaking it down further, we ask what this "poured out" gift includes?
Notice this list:

All are enlisted in behalf of man's redemption

- A- The **Saviour's life** and death and **intercession** - (Rom 8:31-34).
- B- The ministry of angels - (Heb 1:14)
- C- The pleading of the Spirit - (Rom 8:26)
- D- The Father working above and through all - (Rom 11:36)
- E- The unceasing interest of heavenly beings.

Praise God - What Love, what Amazing Love for Man!

2. **O let us contemplate the amazing sacrifice** that has been **made for us**.

Note the following thought on that page (SC 21.3):

"Let us try to appreciate the labour and energy that Heaven is expending to reclaim the lost, and bring them back to the father's house."

The Most under-appreciated event in history—The Cross of Christ!

(Heb 10:29) - We need to earnestly pray that we neglect not coming to the cross daily and receiving all that God has done for us in Christ.

If we would appreciate heaven's "labour and energy to reclaim the lost" the value which heaven has placed on the sacrifice, even the death of the Son of God would thus be cherished far more than it is presently.

AS this SOP
Statement
testifies

"The Cross must occupy the central place, because it is the means of man's atonement and because of the influence it exerts on every part of the divine government." - 6T 236

Back to Steps to Christ p. 21.3:

"Motives stronger, and agencies more powerful, could never be brought into operation."

Up until this point the focus has been on heaven's gift from the heart of God, which is in God's order. It is only a heart appreciation of all God has done and is doing that under the impress of the Spirit produces action in the heart of man.

More on this in Part 3...