

them but dung that I win Christ? Are you ready to count all things in your life that seem good, all the things you might desire, all the things that might be pleasant, count them as if they were just refuse? Because you're so anxious to really know Christ? and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness . . . but that which is through the faith ~~x~~ of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection . . . being made conformable unto His death.

Last time I was here during the interim, I read at some length from the statements of Napoleon shortly before his death, and Napoleo~~n~~ honored Jesus Christ. He point out how Christ continued His conquest after His death. Napoleon said that Alexander, Caesar and I we built great empires, but after we die people forget us. But Christ after His death goes on conquering. We conquer with force; He conquered by love. He admired Jesus Christ tremendously. But did He love Jesus Christ? Was there anything in those quotations I read that would lead you to think he actually knew Jesus Christ? He was a historical figure to him as far as we know. A great wonderful man! But did he know Him? You can know all about Christ, but do you know Him? That is, I think, a vital part of this ~~XXXX~~ goal, of this first semester, to know Jesus Christ.

Now I've mentioned two persons of the Godhead. Should it be your goal to know the third member of the Godhead, to know the Holy Spirit? Well, in Joh 16:13 Jesus said, Howbeit when He the spirit of truth is come He will guide you into all truth, for ~~NA~~ He shall not speak of Himself, but whatsoever He shall hear that shall he speak and He will show you things to come. He shall glorify me, for He shall take of mine and shall shew it unto you. It is important that the Holy Spirit works through us. It is good that we be conscious of the fact that we believe that Christ == that if we believe in Christ, the Holy Spirit has come into our lives, that He wants to take control of our lives. But it is not given as a goal in the Scripture to know the Holy Spirit as we are to know the triune God which of course includes the Holy Spirit. We are to know Jesus Christ. It is in the face of Jesus Christ that we see the glory of God.

The Holy Spirit takes of the things of Christ and shows them unto us. It is a grand Scriptural truth - the truth about the Holy Spirit. We want the Holy Spirit to work through us. But the ideal is to learn of God through Jesus Christ, as the glory of God shines in the face of Jesus Christ.

At this point someone might say, All right, let's go off in the woods somewhere and make a little hut and there we will live alone and devote ourselves to pray and to mystical trying to get a vision of Jesus Christ, a vision of God. Well God has chosen, I believe, in some instances to move people in that way; in some instances to prepare people in that way for a great work for Him. But that is not His normal method for making Himself known. The primary way in which we get to know God is through what He has said. If you want to know a person, you can learn a lot about them by looking at them. You can learn a lot about them by watching them. But you can be utterly mistaken about a great many things, simply form looking at them.