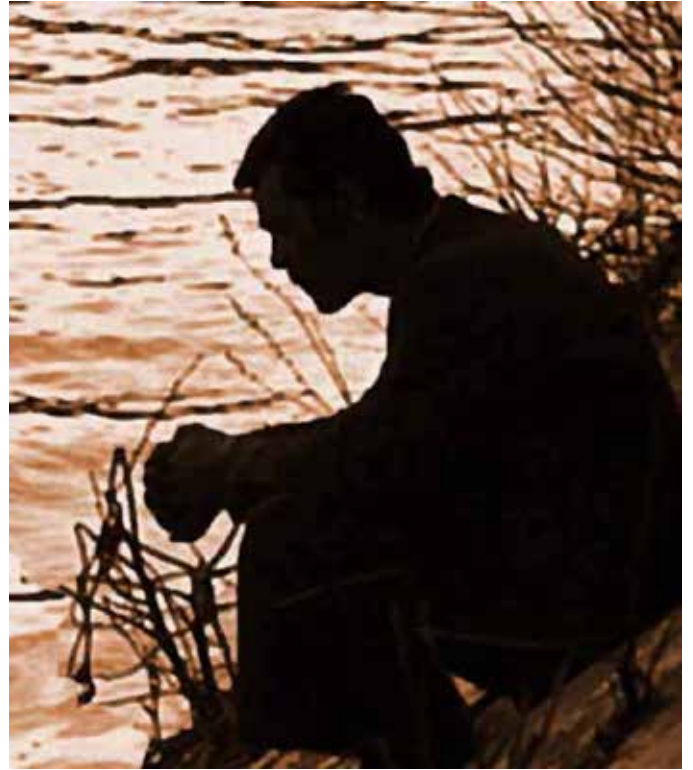


"For these things I weep; mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because The Comforter That Should Relieve My Soul is far from me: my children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed." *Lamentations 1:16 KJV*

Do you find yourself trying to remember what it was like to be right with God and wishing you were there again? Does it seem the Blessed Holy Spirit has ceased to convince you of the sin in your life? Is your spirit so wrapped in the callousness of lust that the Comforter's caress is no longer felt? Do you wince when someone tries to remind you of Truth you've ignored? Are you restless, unsatisfied, and longing for happiness? Have the precious things of God become trinkets and baubles instead of gems and heirlooms? Has faith become duty instead of delight? The root of all these diseases is the triumph of evil through sin and lust. We do not often view acquisition of necessities as lust, but when acquisition of the material overtakes adoration of the Divine, the enemy has prevailed. When perspiration overtakes inspiration, faith becomes small. When imagination overtakes meditation, our path grows dark. When innovation overtakes supplication, peace becomes stress. When rendezvous with God turn into appointments, our Joy becomes mourning. Lovers need only the other to be satisfied. It matters little where they are, what surrounds them, or what they possess as long as they're together. All else is relative to their relationship. The same is true whether your lover is God or self. The question must then present itself; "Who is your love?"



Self-loving fools will never find,
The Peace God's Love doth bring to mind,
For happiness they'll ever pine,
Tis only found in Truth Divine! –CGP

The mirages of pleasure will leave us weak, hungry, and parched. Jesus told the Laodicean Church, "*I Know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I Would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I Will Spue thee out of My Mouth. Because thou sayest, 'I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing;' and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.*" The fountain of all Joy, Peace, and delight is but one step away, but we must turn our soul's eyes to Jesus. "*Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our Faith; Who for the Joy That Was Set Before Him Endured the cross, Despising the shame, and Is Set Down At The Right Hand of the Throne of God.*" We must never look away and ever cry out, "*Jesus, thou Son of God, have mercy on us!*" It is not until we become desperately needy in our own eyes that we will seek the Grace and Mercy of Jesus Christ, which will not happen as long as we neglect the mirror of God's Word to show us our blemishes! A billion dollar a year cosmetic industry proves that women see themselves as ugly. As long as you think you're doing OK, you are headed for destruction. "*There is a way that seemeth right unto a man.*" The most faithful saint is the neediest wretch, because they see themselves in the Light Of Truth as being forgiven much. Perhaps our love of God wanes, because we walk in darkness and sin no longer repulses us. You cannot see dirt in darkness. "*The Entrance of Thy Words Giveth Light.*" If we do not consider ourselves forgiven of much, we will love little. "*To whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.*" God is only your delight as long as He remains your Deliverer!

"Delight thyself also in the LORD; and He Shall Give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in Him; and He Shall Bring it to pass." Psalms 37:4-5 KJV