

The Exchanged Life

Hudson Taylor
(1832-1905)

*A*ll the time I felt assured that there was in Christ all I needed, but the practical question was – how to get it out. He was rich truly, but I was poor; He was strong, but I weak. ... As gradually light dawned, I saw that faith was the only requisite – was the hand to lay hold on His fullness and make it mine. Yet I had not this faith.

I strove for faith, but it would not come; I tried to exercise it, but in vain. Seeing more and more the wondrous supply of grace laid up in Jesus, the fullness of our precious Savior, my guilt and helplessness seemed to increase. Sins committed appeared but as trifles compared with the sin of unbelief which was their cause, which could not or would not take God at His word. ... I prayed for faith, but it came not. What was I to do?

When my agony of soul was at its height, a sentence in a letter from dear McCarthy was used to remove the scales from my eyes, and the Spirit of God revealed to me the truth of our oneness with Jesus as I had never known it before.

“But how to get faith strengthened? Not by striving after faith, but by resting on the Faithful One.”

As I read, I saw it all!

“If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful: He cannot deny Himself” (II Timothy 2:13).

I looked to Jesus and saw (and when I saw, oh, how joy flowed)! ... “Ah, there is rest!” I thought. “I have striven in vain to rest in Him. I’ll strive no more. For has not He promised to abide with me – never to leave me, never to fail me?” And ... He never will. ...

Oh, the joy of seeing this truth! I do pray that the eyes of your understanding too may be enlightened, that you may know and enjoy the riches freely given us in Christ. ...

It is a wonderful thing to be really one with a risen and exalted Savior, to be a member of Christ! Think what it involves. Can Christ be rich and I poor? Can your right hand be rich and your left poor? Or your head be well fed while your body starves? ...

The sweetest part ... is the rest which full identification with Christ brings. I am no longer anxious about anything ... for He is mine, and is with me and dwells in me.

And since Christ has thus dwelt in my heart by faith, how happy I have been! ... I am no better than before. In a sense, I do not wish to be, nor am I striving to be; but I am dead and buried with Christ – and risen too! Now Christ lives in me, and,

“... The life that I now live in the flesh I live by faith of the Son of God, Who loved me, and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).

Do not let us consider Him as far off, when God has made us one with Him, members of His very body. Nor should we look upon this experience, these truths, as for the few. They are the birthright of every child of God, and no one can dispense with them without dishonoring our Lord ...

I change, He changes not;
The Christ can never die:
His truth, not mine, the resting place;
His love, not mine, the tie.

(Horatio Bonar – 1810-1892)

It's all about Love. It's all about Him. It's all complete in Him. Rest from your striving. Enter your rest. *“It **IS** finished!”*

Hudson Taylor's Spiritual Secret
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