Daily Devotional, November 4, 2020

"Worship in Spirit and Truth", (John 4:24, NKJV)

"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:24)

The Samaritan woman at the well had asked Jesus whether Jerusalem or Mount Gerizim was the proper place to worship God in that day. Jesus graciously answers that it is Jerusalem, but then He goes on to prophesy of a time just a few short years after that conversation when the localized presence of God will dwell within the believer, and not a specific geographic place. This same truth is affirmed by the Apostle Paul, who wrote, "Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" (1 Corinthians 3:16).

In light of all of this, I ask you, "Is your "worship in spirit and truth?"" Consider the temple, where the Shekinah Glory of God dwelt. Consider the local church that you attend (or ought to attend), the sanctuary of God, a place of peace, quietness, separateness from the world, and truth. Would you sin carelessly in this place? Or would you have a sense of reverence for the place because of the Person for Whom the building stands? If you are truly a Christian, the Holy Spirit is always with you. And is there anywhere the Father and Son are not? So let us behave as if we are in the temple of God's presence, and consider that instead of considering sinning. It is true that our God is a great Forgiver of sin, but why grieve Him and put Him to the test, making ourselves gluttons for punishment by divine discipline? Today, wherever you go, whatever you do, "worship in spirit and truth." Doing so will bring peace to your life, encouragement and joy to others, and glory to God.