

## HIS FULLNESS

We read in the epistle to the Colossians, "It pleased (the Father) that in Him should all fullness dwell" (1:19); or, as it would be better rendered, "...in Him all the fullness was pleased to dwell;" that is, it is the good pleasure of the Godhead that all fullness should dwell in Christ.

Whatever glory God has been pleased to display, He expresses it always through the Son. The Son is the fountain of joy for all creatures who love God, and through the Son He is made known and learned. This is true, not only in time, but in eternity; not only for man upon earth, but for the angels in heaven; not only for man in this little lifetime, but for the redeemed throughout the countless ages of eternity.

It is well, indeed, for the heart to occupy itself with the glories of the Lord Jesus Christ, with His greatness and His majesty, His wisdom and His love; for it is the pleasure of the Godhead that all fullness should dwell in Him.

With these thoughts before us, we turn to a verse in the first chapter of John's Gospel, "And of His fullness we all have received, and grace upon grace" (1:16). Whoever the believer may be, whether an apostle, a John, who laid his head upon the Lord's breast, to whom was given to see His glories as recorded in the book of Revelation; a Paul, who saw the Lord in His glory at God's right hand, and who was caught up into paradise, and there heard unspeakable things which it was not possible for man to utter; or whether the simplest of the simple, a little child, who believes on the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and who knows hardly more than that that Name is the name of love--whoever it may be--all have received something of His fullness, for "...of His fullness we all have received." It may be according to our experience but a very little portion of His fullness, but there is not one true believer who has not received something of it. The joy that fills the heart, the peace, the blessing, spread abroad by the Holy Spirit within the soul, or the deep knowledge of God that it is the portion which few, comparatively, enjoy--all come from the fullness that is in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Will our reader compare the two ALLS in these two verses, "All fullness dwells in Him," and ~Of his fullness we all have received." The first "all" describes the unlimited fullness that dwells in Christ; the second "all" describes the vast company of the people of God, not one of whom is left out. When we think, therefore, of who Christ is, and of what dwells in Him, what an appeal it is to our hearts to go more truly and frequently to Him in order to receive of His fullness! No believer need lament his poverty, his spiritual emptiness, his misery of soul; for he may receive, at any moment and at all times, of the fullness that dwells in the Lord Jesus.

Where this great reality is truly believed, the soul--instead of occupying itself with the poverty of self--would repair in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ, with the blessed result of receiving from Him an abundance of blessing. Let the blessing already received from the Lord Jesus be our encouragement to go to Him for further supplies. "Grace upon grace" is His way with us. He gives us one grace to fit us to receive another. He bestows grace, and having bestowed, bestows grace again. The self-emptied, but longing, heart becomes wealthy, and possessed of blessings, out of the divine abundance that everlastingly dwells in the Son, and lives this life on earth in the power of the possession of spiritual wealth. -- from "Green Pastures"