

Crystallization-Study – Song of Songs

Delivered from the Self by the Cross of Christ

Delivered from the Self

- **S.S. 2:14–15** – My dove, in the clefts of the rock,/In the covert of the precipice,/Let me see your countenance,/Let me hear your voice;/For your voice is sweet,/And your countenance is lovely. Catch the foxes for us,/The little foxes,/That ruin the vineyards/While our vineyards are in blossom.
- The **attainment** of the lover of Christ in her pursuing after Christ for satisfaction and rest results in a condition in which she **overcares for her spiritual condition** before Christ concerning whether or not she remains in the **perfection she has attained**.
 - Overcaring for her spiritual condition causes the lover of Christ to fall into **introspection**, which becomes the **seclusion** as a wall that **keeps her away from the presence of Christ**.
 - Such introspection **increases the self**, resulting in a kind of seclusion as a wall to separate us from the presence of Christ.
 - This kind of **spiritual sickness** is not experience by the cold ones but by the ones who are burning for the Lord.
- This peculiarity of introspection becomes one of the “little foxes” that **ruin** the flourishing **resurrection** of Christ in the churches.
 - Our peculiarity **frustrates** our experience of Christ’s resurrection.
 - But every time we are **willing** to have our self with our peculiarity **crucified**, **resurrection** will follow.

By the Cross of Christ

- Christ comes as a gazelle leaping upon the mountains and as a young hart skipping upon the hills, showing forth His **resurrection power over difficulties**, to call her repeatedly to **rise up** from her down situation and **come away to Him** from that situation which separates her from Him.
- It is **difficult** for us to reach the cross (signified by the clefts of the rock and the covert of the precipice) and remain there.
 - To receive the crucifixion of Christ to put us to death is a **rugged** way, not easy to reach.

- This is why we need the power of the resurrection of Christ.
- Our being crucified is not by our natural life or natural strength but by Christ's power of resurrection.
- In order to experience Christ and to gain Christ:
 - We need to know the all-inclusiveness of Christ.
 - We need to know that we have a regenerated human spirit.
 - We need to know that today the Spirit of God has become the consummated life-giving Spirit of Christ as the power of His resurrection.
- Christ wants His seeker to remain in the cross.
 - We may say that some of the things that come to us in our environment to trouble us are Satan's work.
 - But they are also God's assignment.
 - We must learn to turn our mind to our spirit to receive the strengthening of the Spirit as the power of resurrection.
- God's salvation is to transform us, to make us a new man, a part of the new creation.
 - We must be transformed by denying ourselves.
 - To deny the self is to leave the self on the cross so that we can be renewed.
 - It is only by being conformed to the death of Christ by the power of His resurrection that we can be delivered from our self to be transformed.

(Crystallization-Study of Song of Songs – Message 5)