

DAY 16

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 14

*"The most miserable Christians I've seen are those who live with a foot in both worlds."
—Jim Johnston*

"...Turn to me with all your heart, with fasting, weeping, and mourning." Joel 2:12

TODAY'S DEVOTIONAL:

Christian misery could be described as one who has just enough Jesus to spoil their sinning but not enough Jesus to satisfy them. James uses the term "double-minded". The illustrative word in Revelation 3:16 is "lukewarm". Jesus tells of the seed that falls among thorns and is "choked with worries, riches, and pleasures of life, and produces no mature fruit." (Lk. 8:14) In each instance, it is the half-hearted Christian that suffers the loss.

What would keep us from whole hearted devotion to Jesus? Honestly, it's believing that something else out there will satisfy us; a myth that crimps the flow of living waters. Like Joel's audience, God in His fatherly goodness will send locusts and droughts to strip the veneer off our half-heartedness in order to awaken us.

Doctor Jesus prescribes whole-hearted return with a round of fasting, weeping and mourning to cure miserable Christianity. It's time for us to get both eyes on heaven and both feet in God's kingdom. We have only our misery to lose and the satiating joy of heaven to gain!

TODAY'S PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE:

Father, thank you for the difficulties that you send to reveal our half-heartedness. You alone satisfy us. We turn ourselves completely to you. Let us experience the full joy of Jesus and the living waters of the Holy Spirit.

TODAY'S PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE ON YOUR LIST:

Father, pursue [names on your list] with your lovingkindness today. Use every circumstance of their lives to reveal their need for you. Please use me and others to tell them about Jesus. May they turn to you in faith.

RETURN



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