



St. Mary & St. Joseph Coptic Orthodox Church
11308 Yonge St, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1K9

Daily Meditations • June 25, 2020

THE ROCK

THE LORD IS MY ROCK.
- PSALM 18:2



Reflection on (Colossians 3: 1-2)

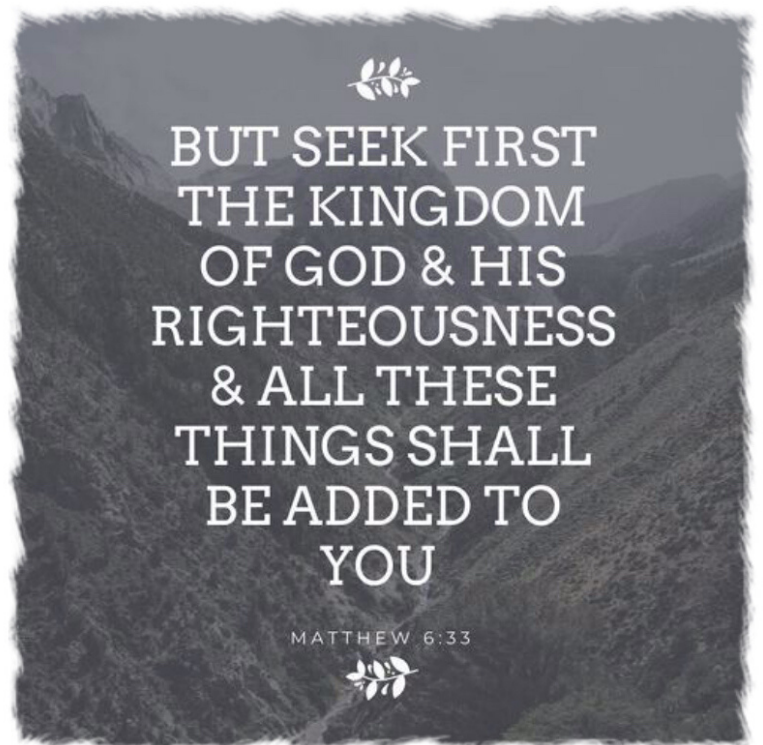
If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.





The LORD created us for one purpose, and for one purpose only: to know Him intimately, and to love Him passionately. The things of the earth are simply means through which we may glorify Him; they are never the goal in and of themselves. Yet, it seems as though often times we have things mixed up: we use God merely as a means to improve our earthly lives. While we should be seeking His face, we often focus instead on His hands, that is, the earthly blessings He provides. As St. Augustine says, **“You, Lord, are occupied by heavenly matters, while I drown in the earthly ones.”**

It is not wrong to have ambitions on the earth, and to ask God to aid us in them, but where is our ultimate focus? Where do we find our greatest joy? Where do we put in most of our energy? The Lord promises that if we





“seek first the Kingdom of God, all things will be added.”

(Matthew 6:33) It's a promise! If we direct all of our energy towards seeking Him, He will take care of the rest. Guaranteed. We all desire to enter into His Kingdom, and we all believe that there is nothing that will be able to compare with living with Him in eternal bliss. Then why not pursue Him wholeheartedly? Heaven is open, right here and now, to those who seek it.

We pray daily, “On earth as it is in Heaven”, and the Church teaches us that Christ has made Heaven and earth into one. Whenever we stand before the holy altar in Church, we are truly standing in Heaven; the Church is the intersection between Heaven and earth! The middle wall of separation between us and God is broken down, and the old enmity is abolished. He is nearer to us than our very breath! That is why St. Isaac exhorts us saying, **“be diligent to enter into the treasury that is within you, and you will see the treasury of Heaven...the ladder of the Kingdom is within you, hidden in your soul.”** St. Macarius further adds that the Lord desires to **“open the locked doors of**





the heart, and to bestow on us the riches of Heaven”, so long as we seek Him to the end.



Therefore, "Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the Lord. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, like the latter and former rain to the earth." (Hosea 6:3) "Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race set before us, looking unto Jesus." (Hebrews 12: 1-2) "Let us come boldly to the throne of grace" (Hebrews 4:16), humbling ourselves under His feet, before His Holy Body and in our rooms, earnestly knocking at the door of His tender mercies,



that He may, by the wings of the Holy Spirit, lift us up on high to His holy mountain, the inner mountain, wherein the True Bridegroom has prepared His heavenly supper for His bride, even us, whom He has espoused unto Himself.



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