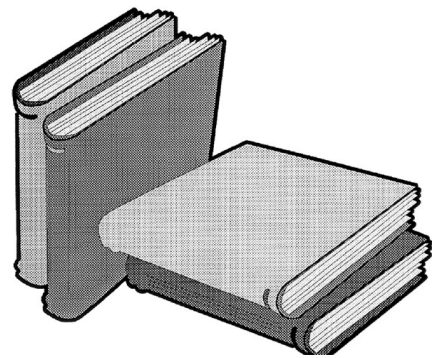


The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*

Isa 51:1

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print,
collected by Dean Brown



Issue 3008

A REMEDY FOR WANDERING THOUGHTS IN THE WORSHIP OF GOD.

... That ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.

—1 Cor. 7:35 KJV

Reasons Why We Ought to Attend on the Lord Without Distraction.

1. **The Greatness of God.** The greater the personage, the greater the reverence and the more solemn your attendance should be. ... It is a bold adventure to speak to him; what is it then to trifle with him? Wilt thou speak to God, nay, pray to God? ... The great Jehovah can speak with thee, and a thousand more, and do all your errands at a time: but, alas! Thou art too poor a worm to entertain the great Jehovah and other matters at once.

Remember, a **great God must be worshipped with profound veneration, and the most serious affections.** A man must worship God, as if he [the man] were in heaven; oh! If thou wert there, among those myriads of saints and angels, **with what care, and humility, and earnestness, wouldst thou pour out thy heart to him, or hear his words to thee.**

2. **The holiness of God** is another reason, which is so sacred that an unholy thought is abomination to him; most especially in his holy service. **Who can by an eye of faith behold the “Lord sitting on a throne high and lifted up, and his train filling the temple, and the seraphims crying one to another, and saying Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts”** Isa. 6:1-2, **[While letting] his heart to be ravished away with transitory toys** in such a sacred presence? Are the seraphims amazed at his holiness, and we untransported? Their thoughts are continually **terminating upon him**, and should ours be always **flinching from him?**

Richard Steele (1629-1692)

A Remedy for Wandering Thoughts in Worship, p. 31-33.

TO BE CONTINUED.