

# Hiding Place

by Charles E. Cowman

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*To acquire spiritual power and deepen our relationship with God, we must learn to hide ourselves in solitude and quietness, just as the saints of old did.*

**Scripture:** 1 Kings 17:3, Psalm 27:5, Psalm 91:1, Matthew 6:6, Mark 1:35, Luke 5:16, Colossians 3:3, Hebrews 11:38, Revelation 1:9

**Topics:** "Solitude And Prayer", "Spiritual Growth"

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## Description

Charles E. Cowman preaches on the importance of the hidden life, emphasizing that God's servants must learn the value of solitude and seeking refuge in God away from the busyness and distractions of the world. He highlights the need for believers to retreat to their own 'Cherith' - a place of seclusion and communion with God, where they can absorb spiritual power and deepen their relationship with Him. Various examples from history, including Bishop Andrews, John Welsh, David Brainerd, and Christmas Evans, demonstrate the significance of finding one's Cherith for spiritual growth and influence. Just as Jesus and other biblical figures found their Cherith in moments of seclusion and prayer, believers today are encouraged to seek their own place of retreat to experience the quietness and power that comes from a hidden life with Christ.

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## Transcript

"Hide thyself by the brook Cherith" (1 Kings 17:3).

God's servants must be taught the value of the hidden life. The man who is to take a high place before his fellows must take a low place before his God. We must not be surprised if sometimes our Father says: "There, child, thou hast had enough of this hurry, and publicity, and excitement; get thee hence, and hide thyself by the brook--hide thyself in the Cherith of the sick chamber, or in the Cherith of bereavement, or in some solitude from which the crowds have ebbed away."

Happy is he who can reply, "This Thy will is also mine; I flee unto Thee to hide me. Hide me in the secret of Thy tabernacle, and beneath the covert of Thy wings!"

Every saintly soul that would wield great power with men must win it in some hidden Cherith. The acquisition of spiritual power is impossible, unless we can hide ourselves from men and from ourselves in some deep gorge where we may absorb the power of the eternal God; as vegetation through long ages absorbed these qualities of sunshine, which it now gives back through burning coal.

Bishop Andrews had his Cherith, in which he spent five hours every day in prayer and devotion. John Welsh had it--who thought the day ill spent which did not witness eight or ten hours of closet communion. David Brainerd had it in the woods of North America. Christmas Evans had it in his long and lonely journeys amid the hills of Wales.

Or, passing back to the blessed age from which we date the centuries: Patmos, the seclusion of the Roman prisons, the Arabian desert, the hills and vales of Palestine, are forever memorable as the Cheriths of those who have made our modern world.

Our Lord found His Cherith at Nazareth, and in the wilderness of Judea; amid the olives of Bethany, and the solitude of Gadara. None of us, therefore, can dispense with some Cherith where the sounds of human voices are exchanged for the waters of quietness which are fed from the throne; and where we may taste the sweets and imbibe the power of a life hidden with Christ.--Elijah, by Meyer.

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