

And They Set the Alter Upon Its Bases.

by F.B. Meyer

Before we can experience success in our spiritual lives, we must first establish a foundation of surrender and consecration through the altar of forgiveness and renewed commitment.

Scripture: Ezra 3:3, Romans 6:6, Galatians 2:20, Colossians 3:1

Topics: "Surrender to God", "Spiritual Renewal"

Description

F.B. Meyer emphasizes the necessity of establishing an altar in our lives as a foundation for spiritual renewal and success in our endeavors. The altar symbolizes forgiveness and a commitment to God, reminding us that we must identify with Christ's death to fully embrace His life. Meyer encourages believers to focus not only on dying to sin but also on living in the fullness of Christ's life, urging sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's guidance. He illustrates this transformation with the metaphor of a tree seeking richer soil, highlighting the importance of spiritual nourishment and growth.

Transcript

And they set the alter upon its bases. Ezra iii. 3.

THIS is the first thing that must be done before our temple's building or other undertakings can be crowned with success. It was well that the returned remnant made this their care; it augured well for their future. The new start that God Himself was giving would have been invalidated without that altar, which meant forgiveness for the past, and renewed consecration for the future.

Where is the altar in your life? Where the burnt sacrifice which betokens entire surrender of consecration? It cannot be too often insisted on, that since Christ died for all, all died in Him. We were not only saved by his death, we were included in it, but we must appropriate and identify ourselves with it. We must look up to God and say, "I desire that this death should be mine, to the world, to sin, to the flesh; make it so by the power of the Holy Ghost, that in Jesus I may be truly dead unto sin, but alive unto Thee."

Perhaps that last clause will help some souls most. Do not perpetually dwell on the dying side, but think much of the living side. Yield yourselves to receive God's life, which is the life of the Son of God in the surrendered nature. Be very sensitive, and "quick of scent," to every movement and prompting of the Holy Spirit. Seek the things which are above, where Christ, your life, is seated. So you will find your energy drained away from self to Christ. Because He lives you will live also. A maple tree planted on a barren soil sent out one of its rootlets to a richer patch not far away, and ultimately all its roothold was there, till finally

it was bodily moved and transferred from its first position to this more salubrious one.

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