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"Inquiring in His Temple"

by

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The fact that multitudes of people all over the world consistently and regularly participate in the Christian worship of God is worthy of close examination. Neither habit nor custom nor a sense of duty will completely explain such a practice. Nor do people attend church services just to hear sermons. The Christian Church has surrendered through the last two millenia despite poor preaching and not because of it. The author of the 27th. Psalm suggests two valid reasons for worship: (a) to meditate on the beauty of God and (b) to inquire about the deeper meaning and purpose of life. Religions worship ministers to the esthetic and to the moral nature of man. We go to a place of worship to escape for the moment from the petty details of life that we may the better understand the great principles of living. Jesus the Christ had much to say about how life ought to be lived. He insisted that God and His kingdom and His righteousness are ultimate and all else secondary. We come in to a place of worship to inquire about our place and function in God's scheme of things and our relationships to His other children. Our ignorance in these matters is vast and poignant. All of us are inclined to think too highly of ourselves. We are increasingly trying to control men and things to satisfy our pride. Our pride is no encouragement. We need rather to understand that we are all creatures. The mood in which we go to inquire of God in His temple must be one of humility and appreciation.