

THE SECRET OF THE LORD

When you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father secretly. Then your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you.

Matthew 6:6

Christ greatly desired that His disciples would know God as their Father and that they would have secret fellowship with Him. In His own life He found it not only indispensable but the highest happiness to meet the Father in secret. We must realize that it is impossible to be a true wholehearted disciple without daily fellowship with our heavenly Father, who waits for us in secret.

God is a God who hides Himself from the world and all that is of the world. God draws us away from the world and from ourselves. He offers us, instead, the pleasure of close, intimate communion with Himself.

Believers in the Old Testament enjoyed this experience. How much more should Christians in the new covenant value this secret fellowship with God. We read: "For you died when Christ died, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3). If we really believe this, we will have joyful assurance that our life is safe and beyond the reach of every enemy.

We should day by day confidently seek the renewal of our spiritual life in prayer to our Father who is in secret. As the roots of a tree are hidden under the earth, so the roots of our daily life are hidden deep in God. Our first thought in prayer should be: I must know that I am alone with God and that God is with me.¹

¹ Andrew Murray, Teach Me To Pray