

## The Two Closets

### ~Other Speakers S-Z: David Smithers:

If we neglect prayer, we neglect Christ. Prayerlessness is a sin against the heart of Jesus, which longs to be intimate with His Bride. (1 Samuel 12:23). Prayerlessness is not only a sin in itself, it is the nursemaid of countless other sins. When we neglect prayer we nurture secret-sin and self-deception. As one abandons the prayer closet he unknowingly constructs another kind of closet. It too is a secret place of solitude, yet it is not reserved for intimate union with Jesus. This closet is a place of darkness and shadows where evil motives, bitterness and uncleanness hide. Many Christians who claim to understand the necessity of a holy life still neglect daily prayer and as a result make provision for the flesh. Not only is the prayerless Christian more vulnerable to sin, he is also less likely to recognize sin in his own life. Remember, to be absent from Christ's shining presence in prayer is to be surrounded by darkness and void of true discernment.

The prayer closet is a spiritual greenhouse where holiness and charity can blossom in the light of Christ. As a Christian truly tarries in prayer every impurity is revealed and exposed. In times of true prayer, one beholds Jesus in all His holiness and love, and therefore truly sees himself. The prophet Isaiah clearly saw himself in the refining presence of Jesus. "In the year that king Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and His train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of His glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts." (Isaiah 6:1-5).

To shun prayer is to embrace spiritual blindness! Is your closet a holy place or is it sin's hiding place? There are two closets; which one are you investing in?