

**Devotional Thoughts :: LET HIM DENY HIMSELF****LET HIM DENY HIMSELF - posted by BruisedReed3 (), on: 2020/1/6 14:22**

6th January

EVENING CONTEMPLATION

TOPIC: LET HIM DENY HIMSELF

TEXT: MATT. 16:24

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

The true church--the church militant, of course--consists of company of men and women, who are self-deniers; individuals who say no to themselves; who have lost sight of their interests; folks, who have come to the end of their carnal pursuits; gracious souls, who love God more than anything here on earth; men who bear joyfully the reproaches from the ungodly for the sake of piety and godliness. The church is not a group of folks who trail God for the purpose of what to eat and drink: whose sole interest is to make carnal gain out of Christ; the men and women who make up this mystic body are dead to the appeal of gains, flesh, praise of mortal men, for them, living means dying! Their affection has been weaned from things terrestrial, but sweetly hijacked by things celestial. They love their enemies, bless them that curse them, do good to them that hate them, and pray for them which despitefully use them, and persecute them: (Matt. 5:44); they cannot but act like God--whose they are and of whom they are born--who makes his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. Self-denying, self-forgetting and self-loathing are they. Are you of this company? is your disposition like theirs? are you still active in your humanity and carnal disposition? Can your 'sun' be allowed to shine on the evil; your rain, refreshing the thirsty and parched unjust? Ours is a call to deny ourselves! To be continued in 7th January's morning contemplation.

Re: LET HIM DENY HIMSELF - posted by davidkeel (), on: 2020/1/6 15:20

Nice words, and I think one of the best things that can happen to us is to have a place of employment where people are against us and treat us with disrespect. We could either think it's an attack from the devil or realize it's a God-given opportunity to deny self and to become conformed into Jesus' image.

Re: LET HIM DENY HIMSELF - posted by broSmoothSto, on: 2020/1/6 15:35

Fine points raised here about our core call to truly yield our all to following Jesus. May this truly be the reality of life for all God's children who are in this mystic body. God bless you!