

Readings from the Word of God

Sunday, 29 December 2024

John 14:1-6

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know.”

Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Matthew 8:19-20

Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, “Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go.”

And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.”

I Kings 8:27-30

But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built! Yet regard the prayer of Your servant and his supplication, O Lord my God, and listen to the cry and the prayer which Your servant is praying before You today: that Your eyes may be open toward this temple night and day, toward the place of which You said, ‘My name shall be there,’ that You may hear the prayer which Your servant makes toward this place. And may You hear the supplication of Your servant and of Your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. Hear in heaven Your dwelling place; and when You hear, forgive.

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The case is the same with love, wisdom, and use: use is the end which love purposes, and accomplishes through the cause; and when use results love and wisdom really exist, and in use they make for themselves a habitation and an abiding-place, where they rest as in their own home. It is the same with man in whom are present the love and wisdom of God while he performs uses; and that he may perform Divine uses he was created an image and likeness, that is, a form of Divine order.

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...everyone comes after death into a society of his own people, who are people who possess a similar love, and he recognizes them as relatives and friends.

Remarkably, moreover, when he meets and sees them, it is as though he had known them from early childhood. It is a spiritual relationship and friendship that occasions this. In fact, what is more, no one in a society can dwell in any other house than his own. Everyone in a society has his own house, which he finds ready for him as soon as he enters the society.

Psalm 27:4

One thing I have desired of the Lord,
That will I seek:
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord
All the days of my life,
To behold the beauty of the Lord,
And to inquire in His temple.