

The Blessed Island of Zion

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion! For He has strengthened the bars of your gates: He has blessed your children within you. He makes peace in your borders. And fills you with the finest wheat. (Psalm 147. 12-14).

The adage, “No man is an island” is true. But spiritual Zion, the city of God, the gathering of God’s elect people is an island indeed. It is a walled city of the most secure order. Its gates, the single access into the city, is designed and formed of impregnable and unbreakable substance from its inception. They have never needed updating in order to withstand the assault of innovative assaults from the outside. These have already been known and anticipated by their omniscient Architect and Engineer. Their refusal to allow entrance to anyone who has not been called, irresistibly drawn by the Spirit of the living God, ensures all its occupants to be in vital union with Christ.

Political entities of this world, villages, cities, states, countries, all depend upon access to trade and commerce with the rest of the world for survival. They have to import what they need for survival, and export their products for income. Not so with Zion. When she was isolated in the wilderness between Egypt and Canaan, God fed her with a temporal manna coming down vertically from heaven. He does no less now for us who have Christ, the true eternal Bread from Heaven. She has within her, the finest of wheat. She feeds on the pure word of God. This is soul nourishing food that comes down vertically from heaven, not horizontally from worldly fields that can only produce the “bread that perishes”.

Nor is there any strife within this island city. They that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its affections and lusts. (Gal. 5:24) Such affections and lusts are the root and seedbed of all sin, disunity, strife, discord, wars and fighting (Jas. 4:1-10). They are the merchandise and motivating principles of the world. But not in this island. Zion’s exclusive occupants are the saints separated,, and abiding together in union with Christ Who is their life.

-C. M.