

## **Annexed to Heaven**

by Hannah Hurnard

*As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. (Proverbs 23:7)*

Surely the “heart” really means the inner immensity of my thought-life, where Will and Choice and Affection exercise their power and determine character. The spirit, or heart of me, is that part which thinks and wills and chooses, and therefore it is my thought-life which controls and influences and rules my whole nature.

It is the habits of my thought-life which must be changed completely, and be brought under the full control of the King of Love, Jesus our Lord, whose Spirit or Life dwells in me. The vast depths of my subconscious mind must be controlled by Him too, the immense region of memory, of accumulated experience and knowledge, and that other vast and most creative of all areas, the imagination.

This new and glorious realization, when at last I experienced it, seemed completely overwhelming. But it was real and true, and it was possible—an invasion of my complete personality and thought-life by the Spirit of Love Himself in all His power. By this invasion of Love I was to be transformed by a renewed mind. This was the glorious salvation He promised me: complete liberty and release from the tyranny of self reigning in my thought-life.

What I began to experience was a new control altogether. It was no longer a question of doctrines and interpretations and Christian duties, nor of agonizing longings to know how to love. No. I found that I had been, as it were, annexed to Heaven. And the King of Love who reigned in Heaven now considered me a part of that realm over which He held sway. It was like being invaded by a radiant, laughing army, *Love’s Army*, who now came in to occupy newly-acquired territory. Yes, this annexed me to Heaven, as though my own little world of personality had been incorporated into the commonwealth of Heaven. And the King of Love seemed to be saying with a glad laugh, “Now you have become part of a new universe altogether, the Universe of Love. And all you have to do now is to begin to explore it, and to revel in it.”

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