Beloved of the Lord:

Let us consider the blessed face of Christ: -

- 1 HIS FACE SHINES WITH THE GLORY OF GOD "God... hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Jesus Christ" 2 Cor. 4:6. Greater than the external miracle when God commanded "Let there be light" (Gen. 1:3, 4) dispelling the world's darkness, is the internal miracle of salvation when God's grace shone into our hearts, revealing the blessed Person of His Son, our Saviour! "The heavens declare the glory of God" wrote David (Psa. 19:1), but the glory of God in salvation, is seen, not in the heavens, but in the face of Jesus Christ!
- 2 HIS FACE IS THE BEAUTY OF HIS FATHER "He that hath seen me, hath seen the Father", said Jesus John 14:9. The divine beauty of His Father shines through the humanity of Jesus. The expanse of the heavens reveals God's handiwork (Psa. 19:1), but "the Only Begotten Son who is in the bosom of the Father, He hath revealed Him" John 1:18. So blessedly does He reveal the Father, he that hath seen the Son, hath seen the Father. In comparison to the beauty of His face, others are not beautiful. Once in our unbelief, neither did we see any beauty in Him, as declared in Isa. 53:2.
- 3 INSULTS TO THE FACE OF JESUS To save our souls, the Saviour experienced unequalled humiliation. (1) The Kiss of the Betrayer Matt. 26:49. (2) Smitten on the cheek Micah 5:2; Luke 22:64. (3) They spit in His face Matt. 26:67; 27:30. His submission was prophesied in Isa. 50:5, 6 "I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hairs; I hid not my face from shame and spitting". All this, and more He suffered to save us! Isa. 52:14.
- 4 THE FRAGRANCE OF HIS FACE TO US "His cheeks are as a bed of spices, as sweet flowers" S. of S. 5:12. To His Church, those cheeks are now a fragrant bed of spices. The smitten cheeks are the "sweetest flowers". They have always been lovely and fragrant; though once we saw no loveliness in them. Now "we love Him, because He first loved us" 1 John 4:19. His cheeks are beautiful, like the loveliest flowers and fragrant like roses, excelling in perfume and color!
- 5 "AND WE SHALL SEE HIS FACE" forever it will be A FACE OF GLORY!
  - a <u>HEAVENLY GLORY</u> is now upon His face! "But <u>we see Jesus...</u> crowned with glory and honor" Heb. 2:9. It is "above the brightness of the sun" Acts 25:13.
  - b <u>KINGDOM GLORY</u> will radiate from His face! Read of His transfiguration Matt. 17:1-8 "His face did shine as the sun" verse 2. The glory of His face in the Millennial Kingdom!
  - c ETERNAL GLORY will be the glory of His face forever in the Universe of the New Creation! That face once so vilely covered by the spittle of man, will forever shine with the Glory of God! We shall see His face FOREVER! Rev. 22:4.

"Face to face I shall behold Him, Far beyond the starry sky; Face to face in all His glory, I shall see Him by and by!"

Faithfully yours in Christ,