

nov 25

our head on His breast

"then, leaning back on Jesus' breast, he said to Him,
"Lord, who is it?" john 13:25

ever wonder why the apostle john was known as the
beloved apostle? could it be that he gave much and
therefore received much?

he prayeth best, who loveth best
all things both great and small;
for the dear God who loveth us,
He made and loveth all."

- samuel taylor coleridge

john the apostle has become known as the apostle of
love, writing more about love than all the other new
testament writers combined. he wasn't always viewed
with such reverence, however. long before he became
"the disciple whom Jesus loved," his consuming temper
earned him the nickname "son of thunder."

many observations may be gleaned from our fascination
with this enigmatic and revered apostle. at the
foundation of john's remarkable transformation lies the
simple truth of the gospel of Jesus, as expressed by
john in his last years of ministry: "my little
children, love one another... if this is done, it is
all-sufficient."

john sought and was rewarded with an intimacy that

crept ever closer to the deity of Christ and the Godhead. "and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." john 1:14

he recorded one of the most beloved books of the bible, as well as his then veiled description of the end days; days now upon us. john had the longest life of all the apostles, which i am not sure if he regarded as reward or drudgery as he longed to be where ever Jesus was; to once again rest his head on that precious breast.

in john we acquire an appreciation for the miracle of love and grace applied to one by walking with Christ. Jesus looks at each of us and sees us as we will become, not merely as we are. john is an encouraging example for us. if we love one another as Christ commanded, it will be sufficient us as well.

i think of mary who hung on the Lord's every word. "but one thing is needed, and mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." luke 10:42 it will not be taken from you either if you cherish it so.

desire that intimacy above all else. rest your head upon His breast. rest it on the Word and fellowship of the Holy Spirit and you too will become sons of light. "the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." john 16:13

that makes me think of the phone commercial that swept america a few years ago. "can you hear me now?" you definitely won't hear if you're not listening. "and behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice." 1 kings 19:11-12 that's where you'll find the Lord.