



# Christian

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Regeneration of the Body by the Resurrection of the Mind

## FAITH

*"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."—HEB. XI:1.*

Faith is the substance of things.  
It is the very essence of being.  
It is spiritual consciousness.  
The word used in the New Testament means consciousness.  
It is the vibration of divinity.  
It is creative energy.  
By it the worlds were framed by the Word of God.  
Things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.  
Subjective substance brings forth objective creation.  
By this substance Enoch was translated.  
It was this vibration in Jesus which caused his transfiguration.  
By it he healed the sick.  
It is that invisible ether which you call Spirit.  
It is also called electricity.  
In it we live and move and have our being.  
It is the same yesterday, to-day and forever.  
It is cosmic consciousness.

## ITEMS AND IDEAS.

\*\*\* Here we are in Houston.

\*\*\* Left New Orleans just after getting out February CHRISTIAN.

\*\*\* Will leave Houston about the time you are reading this number.

\*\*\* When we arrived at the Rice Hotel, in Houston, everything was ready for us.

\*\*\* There was a Remington typewriter in the room, and while the hotel is a little old-fashioned, it is very comfortable.

\*\*\* There are in our room four large windows facing the south, and reaching from the ceiling nearly to the floor. And an open fireplace.

\*\*\* There were two large envelopes filled with your letters ready for us, and so the center of the Circle of Christians had arrived in Houston.

\*\*\* You see the folks at home attend to the mail, in the way of sending books, crediting subscriptions, etc., etc., and then put your letters into a big envelope, and forward them to us.

\*\*\* I like Texas and the Texans. The wide plains give you a sense of freedom. Besides, we are having the time of our lives. It beats the California trip, as we settle down in each place to stay for a month.

\*\*\* I will not tell you where we are going next, for we don't exactly know. There is bondage in dates, and we like to leave ourselves free to change our plans. But we will not get any farther away from home and our mail.

\*\*\* The temptation to go to Cuba was great. And I don't believe much in resisting temptation. But the Madam does, and said business before pleasure. She holds the string to my kite. It was too far from the mail and the people who are looking to us for help.

\*\*\* The phonograph is a great invention. One of baby's favorite songs is: "Ain't it funny, when you ask for money, all you get is sym-pa-thy?" She has a double sense of humor; and will be the Mark Twain of her age. I had much rather that she would have a sense of humor than to lack that faculty, for people who can't laugh are in a bad fix in this old world.

\*\*\* A letter from home says: "Baby is up-stairs singing, 'What's ye gwine to do when the rent comes 'round?'" I knew, when mamma put that phonograph in the house, that the Baby would learn all kinds of coon songs. I wonder if she means anything by that song? Our rent comes around every day on this trip, but so far we have managed to meet it.

\*\*\* There are very many queer signs in this world, and it is amusing to read them from the train. In a town in Texas, there is a sign which reads "Hotel and Feedstable." I have known many hotels that were feed-stables, but this Texan was the first one to acknowledge it on a public sign. I have the knack of getting into the best hotels. You see, I carry my Mascot with me. The but-

termilk in this hotel is almost as good as the candy in New Orleans!

N. B.—I pay regular rates; this is not an ad.

\*\*\* When in Texas I always think of Tom Ochiltree. I believe he was a congressman and a lawyer, but I do not think of him as a politician, but as a humorist. His father was a lawyer, and at 21 he took his son into partnership. The old gentleman had a beautiful sign painted, reading "Ochiltree and Son." The sign swung in the breezes just one day. Tom took it down, marked out the word son, and inserted the word father. So the next morning all the town read, "Ochiltree and Father." I told it to that wife of mine, and she wanted to sign the hotel register, "Blanche Shelton and husband!"

\*\*\* It takes that wife of mine to get onto the good things of life. One day in the St. Charles Hotel, in New Orleans, she said: "Run down-stairs and get me five cents worth of candy." I have been in the habit of paying fifty cents a box, so I looked my astonishment. She explained that it was little round pieces of candy with pecans in it, and was sold for a nickle. I kept on buying it every day while in New Orleans, and found out from the guide-book that it was an invention of some French nobleman in exile over a hundred years ago. It is peculiar to New Orleans, and it is worth a trip there just to get your fill of that candy.

\*\*\* I wish you would write on a separate slip of paper when you want books, subscriptions and anything that can be attended to at home. That will save us the trouble of sending your orders back to Denver, besides, we never expect to attend to that part of the business any more. It is our work to give the treatments, and to speak the Word of Truth for your Health, Happiness and Prosperity. Others can attend to the mailing department. The good results from this trip have confirmed us in our determination to make it permanent. We will never tie ourselves up any more to the routine of business. It is giving you a better vibration and more of our strength and power for us to be free.

\*\*\* "If I sent twelve dollars for admittance to the Circle of Christians, could I be sure you would not forget me?"

I don't know. I don't know what you could be sure of, but I know that I would not forget you. That you could be sure that I would not, is a matter for your consideration. There are many people who pay the twelve dollars in advance and never write more than one or two letters a year. I would rather they wrote every month. And even then I could not be sure that they would be sure. Your name is put down in a book, and the treatments are given daily. When you get into the vibrations of this Center, you know every day when the treatments are being given. It is as sure as telepathy or the transference of thought.

\*\*\* All the help down here is colored. It is said that negroes dislike the expression "colored" as applied to Africans. I don't blame them, for there is no sense in the

word. If you are going to designate the color, why not say black, red, yellow, name the color. An Indian is a colored person. It is like dropping down among a flock of black-birds, being in a Texas hotel. It is strange to one who has been used to white help as we are in Denver. They seem to be good help here, but it takes so many more of them to do the work. It seems to take about half a dozen negroes to do what one white man would do. I think it is because they like to gossip and talk to one another and so take up time. It takes our Jap to move along and do work and keep his mouth shut.

\*\*\* "I have five years of CHRISTIAN bound Roycroftie, in gray, silk-lined limp—and they are exquisite and a mine of wealth."

That is about the highest compliment ever paid to CHRISTIAN. I can't say that I have ever done so much for it myself. Mamma made a file out of pasteboard, and so each year or two we file away in a separate file in the garret. Just the other day my wife said that I ought to rewrite the best things in CHRISTIAN, and make little pamphlets. If she had said I ought to climb to the top of Pike's Peak, it would be easier. I would have taken the cog road. If she had said that I ought to hire some other fellow to rewrite all the good things in CHRISTIAN and pay him by the day, it would have been comparatively easy. But for me to do it! I have in my mind a big book on Christianity. But how to ever get it on paper is another thing. If that Snake did cause the curse of work, he is meaner than the Presbyterians make him out to be! Just think how easy it would be to lie in the shade of the trees of Eden and enjoy life without work! The lady who is taking down this item says that it sounds silly. Work, she says, is essential to our happiness. Is she trying to work me? Well, some day I will take a notion to dictate that big book to her, and then she will have work to do! It will keep her fingers flying for a while.

\*\*\* "If God is perfect wealth and harmony, why do we not reflect his image more completely?"

From the simple reason that God has not yet finished making us. It is said that God made man in his own image and after his own likeness. Then it is said in the next breath that he created them male and female and said "Let them have dominion." He gave them a start and issued orders that they should have dominion over all of their environment. This male and female is yet being made. Some one has said, I think it was Dr. Holland, "Only fools criticise half-finished work." There is no doubt about mortal consciousness being the fool period of our unfoldment. You had as well ask me why if I am a full grown man that my baby does not reflect full growth. She is not done growing. Jesus says to us plainly, and uses a very good illustration, that it is first the blade, then the ear, and then the full corn in the ear. Paul says that it is first the natural body and afterwards the

spiritual. There is an unfoldment. And it is still going on in the whole of humanity. There was a Man, spoken of in Revelation, who was an electric being. He was a full grown man in the image and likeness of God. In the same book you will find the picture of a Woman who was clothed with the sun, the moon beneath her feet, and a crown of twelve stars on her head. It is said that we are to reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. The tiny infant in its mother's arms is a man all the same. The mighty One whose Voice speaks in the Book of Revelation was once an infant nursing at a woman's breast. There is no power in earth or hell that can keep God from finishing his job. He will make man, male and female, in his image and likeness and give them dominion over their environment.

\*\*\* George E. Campsey, special agent of the Carnegie hero fund, reporting Captain Casto and the crew of the Alberta, the members of which rescued the Cherokee passengers and crew from the brigantine shoals, had this to say of one of the heroes:

"It is hard to pick the most heroic man out of the Alberta crew," continued Mr. Campsey. "The man who made the biggest hit with me is the cook. He was under hatches during the fearful trip to the lost steamer, and he would have been the first man to drown if the little schooner had gone down. Yet under all these difficulties and dangers he made coffee and cooked food for the crew. When the passengers were taken off the Cherokee he had hot coffee and food all ready for them. That cook was the real goods."

This shows that every man should abide in the calling where he is fitted to do the best work. In the common brotherhood of man we will learn that each one fits into a certain place. This cook was a real hero. He did what was absolutely essential to the work of rescue. But there are more heroes among women than any other class in the world. This morning, while we were taking a ride on the street cars, a little, thin-faced woman came in with five children. There was a baby in her arms, and another baby carried by a little girl, and two little boys. The little mother was trying to keep her brood in order until they reached the railroad station. The quiet patience and courage of the mothers of men is beyond words of praise. They are the ones who bear the burdens of life. If a man has to do a woman's work for one day, he puffs and sweats and blows like a porpoise. Yet the ordinary woman goes right along day after day with its monotonous drudgery. Then, in speaking of heroes, did you ever notice how many children there are in the world who are patiently bearing burdens beyond their years? Think of the pinched-faced little ones sweating in factories and mills! But this item was only intended to draw attention to the cook, who is one of Carnegie's heroes.

\*\*\* "Shall I draw a tight rein on Mary? It seems nowadays people only think of allowing children to run wild and giving them a good time, while letting them do as they please."

Yes, by all means draw a "tight rein." It is the only way to show true love, for it will

be mixed with wisdom. The fad of bringing up children through love and kindness has gone to the other extreme, and to allow the young, unformed mind to judge for itself and run wild means a lot of bitter knocks in after life before common sense is dominant. Spare the spank, and you will spoil the child, and the spoiled child is on the way to failure as an adult. First of all, control yourself, and never nag. To nag a child is mean. And you don't want to get into the habit. Be loving and kind, gentle and firm, but rule even if you have to use physical force. But any one kind of a punishment will soon lose its effect. Our Baby is punished more through her clothing than any other way. She is determined to wear a certain kind of dress, and then she likes to go to her kindergarten. To refuse her the kindergarten or a favorite gown is a greater punishment than spanking—but she gets all kinds. It is true that we have turned the job over to her grandmother at present. But her mother makes her walk the chalk line when she is at home. You have more respect for your parents if they have made you do the right thing, than you would have had if they had let you run loose. A Christian uses good, common, every-day sense. Cruelty consists in a punishment that is severe. A little scare will do just as well. Above all things, never punish a child when you are angry. Now, when I say angry, I mean anger, and not merely vexation. You ought never to suffer yourself to get angry with a child. You must remember that the young girl looks to her mother in after years, as her savior, or otherwise. The boy looks to his father as a model of manhood. Do the best you can to be free, honest, just and open with yourself and your children.

\*\*\* "Can you not teach me to treat myself successfully? Not because I do not want to pay for it, but because I want to be in touch with the Spirit, and I want to help others. I need to help my husband, and my girls and others. I have tried before on these very things I wrote you about, as well as on my loved ones. I commanded, concentrated, affirmed success, looked on the bright side of everything, but finally turned to you for help."

I don't think anyone can teach you how to treat yourself. It is not something that can be taught. It is a gift of the Spirit. In making up the fullness of Christianity, there are diversities of gifts. To one is given a certain gift, to another something else, and so on to the completion of the whole body. I have the gift of healing, while some other man may have something entirely different. One man can build railroads. Another sells goods. Another is successful in some other line. It is all the same Spirit, but a diversity in the application. A business man comes to me and says "I am full of my own business and haven't time to look after the healing. You give your time and attention to my health, happiness and prosperity while I go ahead with my other affairs." Take the case of the woman who asks these questions. Her commanding, concentrating and affirming rattled her own mind and unsettled her nerves. The vibration of healing does not

command, concentrate or affirm. It is always best to let each man stick to his own job. I bought a safety razor and thought I could shave myself, but gave it up after two or three whacks; besides, it was cheating the barber. Many women try to save by doing the work that they should give to other women. Why should you wash and scrub and iron, when some other woman needs the money that you could well afford to pay for it? The only reason why I do not employ a stenographer is because they can't do the work as well as my wife. In this world we must learn that Spirit divides up the different gifts. One man can teach, while another man can't get an idea through his head. "Let everyone abide in the calling wherein he is called." This means that you are to do the work to which you are the best adapted. As to healing yourself and your household, the only way to do it is to go about your affairs in calmness and serenity and leave results to the Spirit.

\*\*\* "Please tell me in columns of CHRISTIAN what you think of Anna Eva Fay? She is here in Louisville. I live near and so went to see her last Saturday. She told wonderful things."

I never saw Anna Eva Fay, but from what I have read and heard from her she must be a prophetess. Her work in Denver was wonderful. As a psychic she seems to be clean and pure, and doing a good work. She, among many others, is proving the truth of telepathy. I had several wonderful experiences thrown in my way lately. I was in the theatre, where a man and woman were giving an exhibition of telepathy, and it so happened that they handed me the book, and I turned to a page, which was read by telepathy, word for word. At another time I was called on the stage as one of the committee to examine the work of an electric woman. I was the one next to her person, and had my hand on her shoulder. The only thing that broke the force of electricity was Baby Blanche crying out "There's Dad!" There is no doubt in my mind but what we ought to do as wonderful things as the angels did in the New Testament. A man came and rolled away the stone from the mouth of the sepulchre of Jesus. It was a man who opened the gates of the prison and led Peter to liberty. It is electric power. The same kind of power that holds the worlds in their places. I know that I AM in daily communication with other minds all over this earth by telepathy. And yet my work is only in the kindergarten stage. I grow stronger every day and everything becomes more and more naturalized in me. The wonder part of it is leaving and the practical is taking its place. I no longer think it a wonderful thing to remove mountains and cast them into the sea. At times I realize that there isn't anything in the world of matter that can resist the movement of mind. As we come into more and more of this truth there is a lightness and buoyancy of the body. The fairy stories will become real, and what we call facts will be as fiction. Keep yourself free. Give yourself room for mental and physical action. You must remember that we have been living

here in mortality, with millstones about our necks. It is only here lately that we have begun to call our souls our own. The phenomena of Spiritualism, in order to be scientific, must lose its awe, its emotion, not to say its gruesomeness. We must talk with life and not death. There is no more respect due so-called dead people than to the living ones. All these investigations must be made in a scientific spirit.

\*\*\* "I wish I might understand this wonderful electrical force. Is one ever sufficient or complete of themselves, just alone, I mean? Can a burned out dynamo recharge itself? I just wonder if in time they could not. What is a soul mate anyhow? Is it some one that sort of satisfies one? And if everyone is growing separately would it not be possible to have a dozen or so soul mates in eternity? Does it matter whether it is one individual or another? It seems as though people grew away from each other."

You may have many friends and companions and associates, but only one mate. I have said that man is a point of intelligence projected from the sun, and that he is male and female. In order to be mates, they must match. And so each goes his or her own way searching for the light and wandering through all kinds of experiences until they meet on a plane of mental equality. They are drawn to each other by the law of mental attraction. There may be physical attraction, but it is not necessary. Mental attraction is absolutely essential. Afterwards the physical is made perfect through the mental marriage. It is the way of satisfaction. It is perfect and entire, wanting nothing. It is the law of spiritual unfoldment and can not fail. "Love never fails." God makes no kind of failures. The dynamo may burn out and the individual cease to be, so far as objective manifestations are concerned, but he will reappear again in all the fullness of individuality. Soul mates are immortal because they replenish in each other that dynamic element which is essential to everlasting life. It is a mutual exchange. There are no words to express the joy, and so we call it ecstatic bliss. This does not express the meaning, for the word ecstatic carries with it the idea of frenzy. The movements of Spirit are better expressed by the word peace, stillness, silence. It is the expression of the inexpressible. Trying to tell that which can not be told in words. It is God that works in you to will and to do his pleasure. Therefore abide your time and wait for the unfolding spirit. Your own must come to you, for it can't come to anybody else in all the universe. No one could use your own. There is no one in all this universe who can appropriate that which belongs to you. The kingdom of heaven is like unto a woman who had ten pieces of silver. She lost one piece and had a regular housecleaning and called in all of the neighbors and kept up the search until she found it. There was great rejoicing when it was found, but it was her own silver all the same. She simply found her own. It did not belong to anyone else when it was lost. My beloved friend, this whole unfoldment is in the hands of the eternal Spirit, and what is your own will come to you. Death is not an accident. It is part of the unfolding wisdom of the Almighty. Neither life nor death, things present or things to come, can separate you from your own. It is true that I was a little bit

excited when I first heard the news, and started in search of my own. It was the good news that excited me. I had been seeking for satisfaction in the objective world, and when I suddenly found myself in the subjective the visions of the future filled me with joy. I knew I had awakened from the hypnotic sleep of mortality. I started on a dead run for Kingdom Come. There was no need of me being in a hurry. The time was fixed and the dates could not be changed. Everything must unfold in its own order. You can't hurry God, for if you could, the universe would run away with itself.

\*\*\* "That Elopement! The sweetest, dearest thing, and I love it every step of the way, and, like all else you do, is without a precedent. Usually a parent or officer starts after the runaways, but in this case The Whole Big Family are with your every breath. There is no use, you can't get away from us any more than we can get away from you. There isn't any place to get away to. I caught the vibration all right, for I knew you were away a good many days before I heard from you, but I failed in locating you right. I thought you were in the East. Sometimes you speak of you and your wife knowing each other's mind. I am coming right there; it is an every-day occurrence. I have always had a good deal of CHRISTIAN before the paper arrives."

Yes, the Whole Big Family is with us. That is one thing, if not *the* thing, which makes this love story so full of interest. Did you know the expression about the Whole Big Family is scientific and also scriptural? In his letter to the Ephesians Paul says: "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God."

#### THE ACTION OF SPIRIT.

"The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit."—*Jesus*.

The theologians have been chewing over these words for many years. The Greek word translated "wind" is the same that is translated Spirit. All you have to do is to print the word "wind" with a capital W, and you have a literal translation of the Greek word that ends the above quotation. So is every one who is born of the Wind. Why all this fuss over the word? Wind and Spirit are synonymous terms. We live and move and have our being in Spirit, that is, in the Wind. When a child is born without breathing, we say it is "still born" or dead. But as soon as it gets its breath, we say it is alive. The same is true of the Hebrew words in that famous statement in Job: "But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding." It is breath, or wind, all the way through the Book. It is because that wind is so common that we want to change the word and call it by the Latin word

"Spirit." You can say the same thing with light. It is very common and yet God is light. I don't see how that we can live and move and have our being in a substance that is not common, in the sense that it is universal.

Let us get right down to common sense and face facts. Every time we take a breath of air, we are breathing Spirit. It is this universal substance that upholds men and worlds. It is from this universal substance that we are to receive life and wisdom and knowledge. The sooner we quit looking away off for God, the better for us. He is very near to every one of us. He is just as near as the breath that we breathe and the light in which we live. Let me quote two paragraphs from a daily newspaper:

"Dr. Atkins, who is professor of physiology in California Medical College, at San Francisco, has accomplished a wonder work in demonstrating that electricity is the force that operates the muscles and constitutes the activities of the mind. The medical profession has long suffered because of a false cosmic physiology theory. It held that heat was the cause; now it knows that it is electricity, and having found the true physical basis of animal life and mind, surgery and the practice of medicine will make greater progress than ever before.

"Because of that libel on nature, the nebular hypothesis, astronomy and meteorology, a fruitless struggle for progress, but some day a Dr. Atkins will break the chains and demonstrate that electricity, not heat, is the motive force that underlies all activities of the universe, including astronomy, meteorology, chemistry and all the sciences that rest upon a physical, cosmic base."

And what is electricity except the vital principle of the air? Dead air is air void of electricity. An electrified man is a living man. Electricity is the resurrection and the life. But because we have turned all of these truths into religion we fail to see God when he is right before our eyes. Men may be priests of the Spirit, but never of electricity. Just as soon as you translate the terms of the Bible into scientific definitions, superstition gives way to science.

Let us switch off from science to a practical demonstration of the truth in the mind of one of the Christians. I quote from a private letter written in Porto Rico:

"May I add something about 'The wind bloweth where it listeth,' etc. I have the desire to tell you of this incident, particularly since having read your article in January CHRISTIAN, 'The Spirit of Matter,' in one paragraph of which you refer to these words. It is scarcely possible for one to detect the full meaning which I believe Jesus intended to convey by that illustration, unless one has observed just HOW the wind blows in these tropical countries. Comparing this as he did to the manner of our spiritual birth and unfoldment, it is one of the most strikingly apt illustrations he ever made. He asked further: 'Art thou a master IN Israel and knowest not these things?' The wind in 'Israel' (that country) is even as it is here; it is not like it is in America. It is constantly active, coming in freakish, swift, strong erratic gusts, carrying articles first in this direction, then, all suddenly, whisking these in exactly the opposite direction, and so on—all over everywhere. It is impossible to read in peace; one's two hands can not hold a paper or the leaves of a book in position for the fraction of a moment. Even indoors it swirls and eddies in all directions, creating a score of drafts.

"One day I was waiting in a coach by the roadside, in the country, while my husband made inspection of a rural school building. We had taken some luncheon with us, and



this I was attempting to spread out on the seat in readiness for him to join me—but Oh, that freakish wind! The napkins were whirled from my hands, every article would be tipped and blown one way, then flung and whirled another, all in much less time than it takes to tell it. A vessel tossing about on high seas was not to be compared with it—and yet, it is a gentle wind, soft, but so strong and mischievous.

"While I struggled with these luncheon things, the words came forth from my lips—myself not thinking, as words will come sometimes, you know—

"Truly, 'The wind bloweth where it listeth, and you hear the sound thereof, but can not tell from whence it cometh nor whither it goeth,' then, with a flash of such complete understanding, came the final words: 'So is every one who is born of the Spirit.'

"Experience had already taught me how we never can tell what may come next, nor why our unfoldment sometimes appears to be so contradictory—certain portions of it is so impossible to account for, or to understand. We can only depend upon the ACTION of Spirit, a lively action, but we can not tell HOW it will act, nor from whence, nor whither.

"How many of the other comparisons also made by Jesus, have been made so much more clear to me since I have been in this country where the manners and customs are all so similar—many of them, indeed, being identical—to those in the country wherein he lived and taught. I marvel that some of these missionaries here do not get their eyes open to a thing or two which would bring Jesus' work and words into such an every day, human light and change their exalted, unnatural, impossible conception of him as a man, living and teaching in just about such an environment. But as yet they remain deaf and blind—though they are not dumb! They are making Methodists and Presbyterians, etc., etc., out of these people just as fast as they can. I smiled audibly when I read your words in January CHRISTIAN:

"If I went to church now I couldn't keep my face straight.' I am very sure you could not if you were to go to church here. You would appreciate what I saw while visiting up in a little mountain town here. Across from the house I stopped at was the Baptist mission, and that evening the parson in charge of that district had come to town and was to hold a sort of all-embracing service, at which the regular native shepherd of that particular flock meekly took a back seat and looked with reverence upon his superior, who occupied the pulpit. From the balcony across the way we could see all, but could not hear, and the show in pantomime made it all the more interesting—to us. First there was a wedding. The bride sidled in, accompanied by a stout matron robed in cheerful black, who stood by the bride at the altar. We began to think it was going to be a christening or baptism, after all, despite the unmistakable bridal veil, for no groom had appeared. At length, when all the others were in position, a tall, black fellow in a brilliant pink shirt, white trousers and a very wide belt, shambled up the aisle and stood beside the black robed matron. The parson, with some difficulty, got the man fixed in the proper place, and the ceremony proceeded. Then he sank down on the men's side, and the bride, seeing that she might not depend upon her husband's escort, made her way to a seat on the women's side. There they sat throughout an almost endless sermon in atrocious Spanish, and then followed the communion service. After weary waiting the bride and groom at last met again, and finally he did offer her his arm, and they went forth together into the moonlight. Yes, that's right, isn't it? They did, indeed, go forth into the 'moonlight.'

"I positively must not begin another story! But this is my last letter from Porto Rico,

so pardon my loquacity. I shall not have anything to write about from the East."

This blessed woman has caught the practical vibration. She is entirely right. "We can only depend upon the action of Spirit, a lively action, but we can not tell how it will act, nor from whence, nor whither." But we know it will act and that we live and move in that action. How can the universal Spirit act from one point to another? The light shines, and keeps on shining. If there is a point in the shadow, it is in the shadow, not because the light does not shine, but because there is something which casts a shadow. Light does not stop shining on account of the shadow. Spirit moves and keeps on forever moving and we must learn how to move in that movement. The mind of man went out on the broad bosom of the ocean and learned how to sail. He didn't have a compass but he saw the stars. He noticed that a certain star kept its place, and so he sailed by the North star. After a while he made a compass. He has gone forward until he has made that compass almost perfect. He learns to move in the world of Spirit by his experience, by inspiration, by learning the way of Spirit. It is absolutely sure that certain mental movements will cure any kind of a disease. How are we to make these movements? This electricity that we breathe into the nostrils is the breath of life. It is the resurrection. It is regeneration. How are we to make the application? You get out of heart, and cry out into despair, and yet it is only yesterday that we discovered the principle. God had to leave the human mind to work out its own salvation, and yet it is God who worketh in us.

The time limit is one heavy weight that we have been carrying. You must drop it. The consciousness of eternity brings you to a place where you know you will get there in spite of hell and high water. And, my dear girl, that is another way of saying, in spite of wrinkles, gray hair and old age. Spirit has expressed it through Paul in this way: "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord." He is right. It is a scientific statement. There isn't anything above or below, without or within, that can hinder you from unfolding into the fullness of spiritual life. You were started in this unfoldment for a purpose, and the purpose will be accomplished somewhere, somehow, in you. When you eliminate the time limit, you bring everything in the future closer to you. Don't you know, in a certain state of mind, an hour may seem like an eternity. Well, there is a certain condition of mind in which an eternity may seem like an hour. Time flies swiftly to those who are happy. Joy wipes out the almanac, and stops the clock. Hope is an anchor to the soul. It reaches within the veil. To use the illustration of our text, Joy brings a great calm. The wind ceases to blow a hurricane, the storm subsides. The gentle zephyr takes the place of the cyclone. You are in a haven of rest.

The action of Spirit is also the repose of Spirit. Life is activity. But it is also rest. That which is capable of moving is also

able to be still. There is a rest that remains for the people of God. But there is also an activity. The joy of living is in being able to move or to cease from moving. The mind is at peace, and the body is at rest. But the mind is able to awaken to activity and to put in motion the forces that are within and without. The wind blows where it listeth and you see the action, the movement, but you can't tell from whence it comes or whither it goes, because it is an universal element. You can set bounds and locations to ponderable matter, but Spirit is illimitable. You can't tell from whence it comes from the fact that it doesn't come from anywhere. It comes from everywhere.

#### MENTAL MOVEMENTS AND MATERIAL MOUNTAINS.

"If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."—Matt. 17:20.

"And the Lord said, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamore tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you."—Luke 17:6.

The beginning of this sermon is on the first page. It is time for us to get at the meaning of faith.

It is not credulity.

It never was and never could be the belief of testimony.

The Greek word has no such action or meaning in it.

Spirit was talking about Spirit.

By faith worlds were framed. The objective world was brought into manifestation. The objective world is not only created by faith, but is upheld by it. It is that invisible substance which runs through all things.

The best English translation of the word is consciousness. It is a vibration. All movements are vibratory. Faith is a movement. The only substance that can move is alive. Dead things are moved upon. Life moves. Faith, then, is the movement of life. It is the unfoldment of being which we call living. To live is to move, for life is activity.

Faith is consciousness.

There are at least three degrees of consciousness. There is an animal consciousness. That word animal is not a good word. I should say carnal consciousness. But the word carnal has been used in the wrong sense, and means immoral or unclean. Therefore, we use the words mortal consciousness. It is the first consciousness. The child does not know that it is a mind. It only knows that it feels. It is conscious of its mortal body. It suffers pain. It is hungry, thirsty, sleepy, and cross.

Many men never reach anything higher than mortal consciousness. They are carnal beings. They eat when they are hungry. They sleep and exercise the functions of an animal. Their world is the narrow environment which surrounds their mortal existence. They are always children. Such men are driven by masters. They are soldiers and sailors. They are in droves, herds, and often in pens. They have to be told what to do. They must be led by the minds of other men.

A "lady lawyer" sent me a long letter on socialism. She is not a reader of *CHRISTIAN*, but happened to get hold of a copy in which I said something about the competitive system. She sent me one of her pamphlets telling all about socialism. She said I ought to know better. I do. I know that mortal consciousness can not govern itself. The carnal mind is not capable of self-government. It must be under the control of mental consciousness. It is the order of unfoldment. You turn the carnal mind loose, and you will have a French revolution, a Russian mob, a lot of wild men biting each other. They must be kept under the care of mental consciousness. Until men awaken to a higher consciousness there is no use to talk about giving them freedom. Freedom is of the mind. You had as well talk about giving children freedom. Government in the hands of a mob is a razor in the hands of an infant. It will not work. It is said by the Spirit that we are under tutors and governors until the time appointed.

The time fixed for our apprenticeship is long or short, as we unfold. The apprenticeship must last until we are awakened from the slumber of carnality. Thinking is a hard process. It takes time to unfold the mind. You can't gather unripe fruit. You may gather it, but it is useless and foolish. You can't bring unripe men into a higher vibration. Spirit is working out the salvation and redemption of humanity. The world is just now in the dim light of mental consciousness. The majority of men are not even in the dim light. They have no kind of light from the mind. They are hero worshipers and followers of those who command. They will get there; only give them time to think.

Faith may be mortal consciousness.

But that kind of faith only digs. It works in the dirt. It is a hewer of wood. It is a drawer of water. It will dig ditches, provided mind surveys, plans and gives orders. In other words, mortal consciousness is faith in a leader. The engineer and surveyor comes along and marks out the road. Carnal men, under instructors, leaders, commanders, bosses, make the railroad. They couldn't make it without mind going before and preparing the way. They couldn't make anything. Carnal man is hardly capable of coming in when it rains. He did not know how to make a shelter over his head and so crawled into a cave.

Faith is mental consciousness.

This is a much higher kind of faith. It is faith in mind. Not only faith in your own mind, but in the unfolding mind of the ages. Mental consciousness brings you into conjunction with all thought. You not only think your own thoughts, but you have the compendium of all thought. You gather what has gone before and make stepping stones of the past for your own advancement. This is what Jesus meant by talking to mountains. The mind begins to grasp its own power. It comes into a wider horizon. The man knows that he is more than a mere carnal being. He steps out. He is individualized. He is conscious of something inside of his body.

He still hungers and thirsts physically. He is still an animal. He knows that he must eat and drink and sleep. But there is another kind of hunger. He begins to hunger and thirst for knowledge. He looks away back in the records of the past. He reads and examines the world of the present. Then he turns prophet. He begins to talk about what is to be. He makes plans. This is mental consciousness. It is faith in a higher vibration. It is consciousness moving on a higher plane.

Do you think that thinking is easy? Is it an easy matter to exercise faith in mental consciousness? I have to laugh at the little thingumbobs talking about "holding the thought!" They talk about the power of thought as if it were an easy power to handle. All you have to do is to think. Yes, yes, all you have to do is to think. There's the rub! When the Union Pacific train came along, the Indians thought they would stop it. So they went to work and diligently made grass ropes and stretched them across the tracks. The ropes were so large and so strong that the Indians never thought about fastening them to a stake. Stakes were scarce on the open plain. The braves divided themselves into two divisions and held the ends of the ropes. The iron horse came along, and, to the utter surprise of the savages, it didn't stop. Ropes and Indians were tossed aside as a cyclone would toss a feather. Oh, yes, there is power in thought. All you have to do is to think. That is it, my friend, just think. But can you do it?

They will give you words to repeat. All of these New Thinkers have a kind of patent-combination-self-acting formula for everything. They furnish you the words, and all you have to do is to repeat. It is all rubbish. You had just as well get out in a fence corner and say:

"Georgie Porgie, pudding and pie,  
Kissed the girls and made them cry.  
When the girls came out to play,  
Georgie Porgie ran away."

That is a very good formula, for I have heard Baby say it when she could scarcely stand alone. It was not a very high order of mental consciousness, but it was getting there. Step by step we must unfold into true being. There is no trouble about removing mountains. Men are doing these things every day. It was the work of Jesus Christ to start the vibration of mental consciousness. Christianity is a mental movement. Take a glance at the history of humanity and you will see that Christianity started men to thinking. Did you ever hear of the banner of Islam discovering anything? Not a rod of earth. If the world had depended upon Mohammedism for advancement it would now be in a dry rot. The world of Islam is just where Mohammed left it. Did you ever hear of Buddha or any of the religions of the Orient moving men to search out new worlds? Did you ever hear of any of them inventing anything? The Japanese have become imitators, but they have no initiative. Christianity is the banner of discovery. It is the movement of invention. It is the spirit of progress. Of course, the thinking was

crude, but it was thinking. From the time that the disciples of Jesus went into all the world men have been thinking. They carried with them the Spirit of thought. It is still at work, a leaven which is leavening the whole lump.

Christianity is constructive.

There is no sense in casting a mountain into the midst of the sea, just for the sake of making a splash. Christ holds up before us the standard and mark of a higher consciousness. We are left to work it out in our own way. There never was a time of such faith as the present. I talk about real faith, and not credulity. Men have more power to think. They have more freedom in thinking. The mountains are as nothing in the hands of the thinker. Napoleon crossed the Alps, but a civil engineer bored a hole under the Alps, and so made a straight road. Do you know why the French railway systems are the wonders of a wonderful age? The tunnels planned and projected from France to Switzerland and Italy—under the Alps—in an hundred different directions, including the grand tunnel to England under the Channel—a proposition which has almost quasi official endorsement, would be remarkable if stupendous railway and tunnel propositions were not so common nowadays as to become almost commonplace. Removing mountains! Why, bless your soul, let the mountains stay where they are. We need them for scenery. Let the ocean roll on and we will run our railroads under it.

Think of New Orleans just waking up to spend eighteen millions of dollars in sewers. The work has already begun, and will go forward until the city is made perfect. The whole system must be finished by 1908. This will knock yellow fever. Cuba should have been made a state of the Union and then we would have soon wiped out yellow fever in that island.

Talk about your socialism! Los Angeles is to spend seventy million dollars in a system of sewers reaching to the ocean. Seventy millions! Men are learning to think. This world is not half bad in its thought. It is a good place for beginners, who are learning to think. When we quit building battleships and cruisers and turn our attention to peace, we will have money to burn. Just think of a battleship costing five millions of dollars! Then it takes half a million dollars a year to keep it going. Slowly but surely we are quitting war. It is silly. Men are thinking business. Old thoughts hold their places until the new ones push them aside. The Spirit of progress has no place for war. Men may load a gun to shoot a wild animal. But the idea of arming themselves against each other is a relic of barbarism. It is only a question of thinking until we get rid of it. We will put aside the cannon just as we have put aside the war club and scalping knife. Then we will go on building railroads, tunneling mountains and even navigating the air. It is mental consciousness. The newspapers are the leaders. Just the other day a newspaper ordered a man to organize an expedition of air ships and find the North pole. When the management of the news-

paper orders a thing done it means business. The whole world was wondering what had become of Dr. Livingstone. They kept on wondering and surmising. The preachers were praying and the missionaries were weeping. James Gordon Bennett, manager and owner of the New York *Herald*, sent for a reporter. Henry Stanley came to Bennett's rooms in Paris. He was ordered to find Livingstone. He found him. Walter Wellman will find the North pole. Money makes the ship go. Air ships are ready to sail when the money is at hand to pay expenses. The world is thinking along the lines of practical business.

All you have to do is to think.

But can you do it? It is easier said than done. This foolish talk about "holding the thought" must be replaced by something practical. You can no more hold the power of thought than the Indians could hold the lightning express with their grass ropes. You must learn how to let this power hold you, for in it we live, and move, and have our being. You can learn to think. The first time you sit down to take a lesson in thought you will find yourself feeling foolish. All the words that other people have used in thinking will be floating around in your mind. Instead of repeating forms of words, you want to shut out everything of the kind and be still. Echoing the thoughts of other people is not thinking. Thinking is consciousness. It is consciousness that you have a mind of your own. It puts you out by yourself. It can be accomplished by patience and perseverance. But you don't learn to think like you learn to play on the piano. It is not saying over Georgie Porgie. It is an original movement. "Be still and know that I AM God." This brings us to another kind of consciousness.

Faith is cosmic consciousness.

This is still a higher order of faith. The man who believes in his body can accomplish something. The man who is conscious that he is hungry and thirsty and naked can be led to food, drink and clothing. He will follow his leader. The man who is conscious of his own mind, and begins to think, will climb higher and higher in the scale of thought. He will go farther in mental consciousness than he could possibly go in carnal consciousness. Still he is subject to matter. There is a higher unfoldment. It is cosmic consciousness. You become conscious of the whole. In carnal consciousness you know you have a body. In mental consciousness you know you are a mind. In cosmic consciousness you know that you are in a university. Universal vibrations flow to you. You are conscious of the center and the circumference; of the individual and the universal. It is a wide horizon. It is endless time and space. From everlasting to everlasting thou art God. Cosmic consciousness is God consciousness. "Have the faith of God," is an exhortation in the New Testament. It means for us to have the consciousness of God. It was this consciousness that healed the sick. It was this consciousness that walked on the water. It gives one dominion over the earth and the air and the water. It makes you lord of your environment. It gives you a key to

the New Testament. It is what Jesus meant when he said: "All power in heaven and in earth is given unto me." It means an understanding of power, a knowledge of force, an insight into being. In other words, it is inspiration. "There is a Spirit in man, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding." It makes a man's mental consciousness as insignificant as mental consciousness made carnal consciousness. His little thinking is a drop in the great ocean of thought. But, blessed be the name of the Lord, he is conscious that his mind lives and moves in the universal. He is one with the whole. He is identified with everything. That which was and is and is to be concerns this individual. This individualization becomes spiritualization. He begins to look upon both body and mind as servants of the Spirit. He brings both body and mind into subjection to the will of the Spirit. Not as a slave, but as a son and heir. He begins to be Somebody. Heretofore he was under tutors and governors. He was in the shop as an apprentice. He was learning to think. Now the time has come for heirship. He enters into the joy of living.

"Despise not the day of small things."

When you reach cosmic consciousness you begin to see the movement of mind from the beginning. You cease to reform. You are no longer a reformer. You know that you can't put "long pants" on a boy and make a man. The boy may think that he is ready for trousers. But he isn't. The world can not be advanced one step faster than mental unfoldment will permit. You can't reach mental consciousness before you have passed through carnal consciousness. The first step is just as essential as the second or the third. The great mass of humanity is now moving. The printing press has done the work. It is a seething mass of mortal consciousness. It is moving like a drove of cattle and often there is a panic. There is trampling and crowding, but, thank God, *they are moving*. It is the mental yeast at work in the mass. Don't you try to stem the tide. You get in the way of a drove of Texas cattle and you will be trampled to death. The bayonets and bullets are keeping the herd of mankind in a corral. Soon the men who are behind the guns will quit shooting. Then what are you going to do? When the soldier ceases to be a soldier and refuses to obey, what are you going to do? You will have to appeal to reason. You see those thousands of working men sitting on the curbstones reading the newspaper? They are thinking. At least they think they are thinking. When a man begins to think that he can think, he will demand freedom to think. It is the forerunner of a mental consciousness in the masses. Who is doing it?

"When the Spirit of Truth is come."

Ah, there is the promise! "When the Spirit of Truth is come he will guide you into all truth." Well, the Spirit of Truth has been coming for two thousand years. Do you remember the sixth chapter of Revelation? You had better read it. There is a Man on a White Horse. He went forth

conquering and to conquer. He has been riding in front of this procession all of these centuries. He discovered America. He invented the printing press. He has been building railroads. This man on the White Horse is the inspiration of the world. He represents Christianity. But you remember that just after the White Horse came another rider. His horse was red, the blood of war. The man on the red horse has attracted so much attention that we have forgotten the one at the head of the procession. The man on the white horse never stopped riding, but kept right on leading, leading the way. The third rider was on a black horse and had a pair of balances in his hand. Out of war he brought forth justice and righteousness. But there followed him still a fourth rider on a pale horse. And his name was Death, and Hell followed with him.

But remember, the Conqueror kept riding right along. He didn't stop to look back at the other riders. He knew that after war, famine, death and hell would come the resurrection. Let the souls of them that were slain for the Word of God cry out with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? Let the blood flow. The rider on the White Horse looks steadily forward. He never stops for war. There is nothing that can turn him backward in his march. It is the Spirit of Truth. The prophet Jesus said that when this Spirit of Truth came the world would not need any other kind of guide. The procession of the centuries proves the Word to be prophetic. Onward and onward is the march of Christianity. It is not the history of a sect. It is not the record of a religion. It is a movement of the Spirit. It is that faith which rises to cosmic consciousness. All the plans of men may fail, but the movement of the Spirit is sure. Time despoils the governments of men. Kingdoms rise and fall. Empires are built and fall to pieces. This great One on the White Horse is the King of kings, and the Lord of lords. He rules over time and fate. He is the resurrection and the Life. Bless you, my friend, it is his work to unfold and enlighten and redeem humanity.

And what is this faith?

It is the power to heal the sick. To cast out devils. Cleanse lepers. And raise the dead. Death has no more power to withstand the movement of cosmic consciousness than darkness to oppose the advent of light. What is darkness? It is the absence of light. It is a shadow. It has no substance. Light annihilates darkness. What is death? It is a shadow. The substance of things is Spirit. When the substance casts a shadow, we should see it as a shadow. The only way to recognize the shadow of death is to become conscious of the substance which casts that shadow. The last delusion which shall be destroyed is death. Such are the mental mountains that obstruct the vision. They are plucked up and cast into the sea by the higher vibration.

"O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy Name."

CHRISTIAN

# INFORMATION

I give mental treatments.  
These treatments are given daily.  
I have no particular hour.  
The Word is spoken by telepathy.  
Vibrations are going to you at all hours, day and night.  
You do not hold any "thoughts" or repeat words.  
Go on about your affairs and leave results to the Spirit.  
I make no promises.  
Treatments in the Circle of Christians are by the year.  
You pay twelve dollars a year at your own convenience.  
That is, by the month, the quarter, or the year in advance.  
Transient treatments are from one to ten dollars per month.  
I give treatments for health, happiness and prosperity.  
For your body, mind and business.  
One yearly subscription for each dollar.  
Or, if you prefer it, two copies of my book for each dollar.  
This means two copies of the same book, as I only have one book.  
The book retails at fifty cents.  
Enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope.  
Give your full address in every letter.  
In making changes give both addresses.  
Send currency in a registered letter.  
Money orders are safe in the common mail.  
Members of the Circle are enrolled in a Little Book.  
Transients begin with the date of my first letter.  
I write you but one letter each month.

## T. J. SHELTON

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