

Wof



# Christian

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Regeneration of the Body by the Resurrection of the Mind

## “FOOLISHNESS”

*For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.—1 Cor. 1:21.*

What is preaching?  
 It is not teaching or theorizing.  
 It is making a proclamation.  
 Whose proclamation?  
 That is the only question.  
 The foolishness of preaching  
 Changed the mental map of the world.  
 It was the proclamation of God.  
 Why not the foolishness of printing?  
 I AM preaching in print.  
 I proclaim the truth of Christianity.  
 It is the same principle.  
 I heal the sick by printing the Word.  
 The scepter of Moses was a crooked stick.  
 God was behind the stick.  
 This periodical is my shepherd's crook.  
 God is in CHRISTIAN.  
 I give this number special treatments.  
 Let us begin the year in a blaze of glory.  
 I AM the Resurrection and the Life.

## ITEMS AND IDEAS.

\*\*\* Life!

\*\*\* To live.

\*\*\* To breathe.

\*\*\* To see and hear.

\*\*\* To know and be known.

\*\*\* To live, and love and be loved.

\*\*\* To think, to meditate, to contemplate being.

\*\*\* This is enough of joy for a day and for an eternity.

\*\*\* And to know there are other days and hours and eons of life.

\*\*\* In the annual festival of Christmas we greet life anew with joy in the household.

\*\*\* What was all this stir and song in the heavens for, on that night on the hills of Bethlehem?

\*\*\* What was it that called the angelic choir together for that song of peace on Earth and good will to men?

\*\*\* Why a baby, of course, just a plump pink baby on its mother's breast, a cooing cupid nestling in maternal arms.

\*\*\* Did you ever! A whole company of the heavenly host making music and floating over a hamlet where a young mother was nursing a new born son of man!

\*\*\* Ah, but he was the Son of Man written with capitals for he was to show men the glory of being, the majesty of life. This was the beginning of the end of Death. This little cupid was the prophet of Life.

\*\*\* Life, the matchless name of Being! There is to be only life forever more. The only temple of God is a living, pulsating body. In it the High Priest of Life holds converse with the Almighty. The atonement is made and peace is declared between the soul and its environment.

\*\*\* Is there anything in the heavens or on earth more beautiful than a perfect human body animated with life? God never made anything more beautiful than the body of a regal woman. A body illuminated by a mind spiritualized and made holy with a natural holiness. Then place a baby like this Bethlehem babe in her lap and the picture is sublime in its beauty.

\*\*\* The historic Madonna and Child has softened, glorified, and made human the art of the world. O, Man of Nazareth! No matter how you were begotten, your birth has sanctified Motherhood. Why dispute about the conception when the Cupid of Bethlehem has become the God of all pure and holy love. In the light of truth all motherhood is holy. How could it be otherwise except in the eyes of blind bigotry! Can nature become unholy in her actions?

\*\*\* I was idealizing the Woman in Mary, the Mother of God, but the ideal is useless, unless it is made practical. As a mere mental idol in the brain the ideal is a day dream. How about your own Madonna? Is she the mother of God? She certainly is if she is the mother of Love and Life, for God is Love and Life. How barren is religion! It sets

up the ideal as an idol and makes idolatry the heritage of faith. God does not so deal with humanity for, after the birth of Jesus, the Madonna gave birth to other sons. Why? Because God was glorifying Motherhood. It was the exaltation of Women, not a woman. God is elevating the Principle, not the foolish adoration of the person.

\*\*\* Therefore, my brothers, let me repeat my question: How about your own Madonna? Is she to be put beneath the feet of any other woman in the universe? Look up Man and spell your name with a capital! The cupid nestling in the arms of Mary has exalted your wife and sanctified your children. No matter how lowly she may be, or where she gives birth to your child, she is the Mother of God. That mighty Brother of your child was born in a stable and cradled in a manger. Did your wife bring forth your son in a hut and wrap him in cheap rags? No matter! She is the Mother of God, and you should kiss her lips and glorify God in her body. Get down on your knees before this awful mystery in your wife's arms and let love vibrate in your being!

\*\*\* Spirit of Life! How religion has burned and blistered, scorched and seared, dried up and utterly killed all the natural inspiration in humanity! Giving out the idea that there was only one Christ Child, and but one Mother of God! Such an interpretation of the Bible turns the science of being into a religion, and the planet into a penitentiary. Even the immediate followers of Jesus tried to keep back the people who were bringing little children for a blessing, but he rebuked the men who thought God did not want to be bothered with children, and said; "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." All children! Make it personal, for it means you, madam, and you, sir. Get this truth down into your own individual life and you will live, otherwise it is a dead letter.

\*\*\* It is about time for me to introduce my own Madonna and Child, "For unto us a Child is born, and unto us a Son is given." All good gifts are from the unseen, and come to us out of the Great Mystery called Life. This unseen is also called the Father of Lights and illuminates the universe. The day before Thanksgiving, at 10 a. m., Wednesday, November 28, 1906, there was born to my wife a baby boy. He is to be known on earth as Beverly Shelton. We do not know from whence he comes or where he is going. He may have traveled from afar, and there may be a long journey before him, but if there was ever a pilgrim spirit who received a warm welcome on earth, he is one. He came into our hearts like a bright star. Lady Blanche asks your blessings on her only son.

\*\*\* The sex of our son was known to me many months ago, and his mother gave him the name of Beverly. So to us, in our private communings, he has had a place and a name all the summer and autumn. It came very natural for us to speak of Beverly and wonder and plan for his welfare. It was to us like a poem, a song of life. The

mother only missed reading the mail one day, the day of his birth. The next day was Thanksgiving, and she begged for your letters. I took them to her without opening a single letter, and every day afterward I carried the mail unopened to her bed. Her little comments written at the top of letters kept me in touch with her mind. That name was not given from a novel, but came in a novel way. Lady Blanche at the age of eight named one of her dolls Beverly.

\*\*\* Let me explain to new readers that Lady Blanche is my wife and it is not a title, but was given her by the Christians when our first born was called Baby Blanche. It was like all names that fit, for it became fixed in the mind as Lady Blanche and Baby Blanche. Baby Blanche is not a bit jealous of her big brother; but, like all little women, she has taken charge, and declares she will "raise" the boy. He is indeed her big brother for he weighed more at birth than she weighed when a month old. He weighed just two pounds more than twice as much as she weighed at birth. Speaking of names, let me advise you to give only one, and do not burden your offspring with the names of persons of note. How the children of America have lost their own identity in Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Andrew Jackson, etc.! No wonder we have so few really great men. England and Edward! Ireland and Patrick! Quit it!

\*\*\* That December proposition to dump everything on me was an inspiration and like all inspirations, it worked like truth always works. Of course it was a personal and practical application of the principle. There was a great and mighty response from burden bearers. Several very wonderful cases of unloading just in time, and many letters full of joy. I did think of quoting from the letters, but they came so thick and fast that I had to give up the idea for want of space. Keep it up! When you unload on me go on about your affairs and forget your cares. One refined soul carrying a mountain, said it looked cruel to give me her awful load, but she took me at my word, and felt better for it. It is all right! I dump the whole thing in the bottomless pit, and as there is no bottom, there is no place for your diseases and burdens and sorrows to land. Let 'em go!

\*\*\* After all, life can only be lived. That is all you can do with it. On the inside of it all is Life Everlasting. You can only grasp it as you live it from day to day. If you begin to live to-morrow you will be living too fast unless it is in anticipation of good. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." It will not do to borrow any evil from the future. You can anticipate joy and draw on the future for good. That kind of borrowing is all right, the more of it the better. But all you can do with life is to live it in as natural a way as possible. There is no use to suffer and sorrow over the mystery of death. It is no greater than the mystery of birth. Live life and make it as ample and generous and glorious as possible. Keep living it. Many men are dead at forty and linger on as dried up fossils. Just keep on

living every day. I am younger than I was at forty and all because my mind lives to-day and will live to-morrow. Yesterday is forgotten.

\*\*\* I gave December CHRISTIAN more treatments than any preceding number and the result has been a greater blessing. This January number has had more treatments than December, and will bring a more abundant harvest. Henceforth each issue of CHRISTIAN will have all the treatment that can be given before going to press. I will prepare the copy ahead and keep it in my desk for daily treatments. Remember that the paper is always mailed on the 26th of the month preceding the date. This number is mailed the day after Christmas. You should get your paper in America by the first and in Europe by the seventh. I will try to keep back numbers, but when called for at ten cents per copy or one dollar a dozen, they will be sent out. So don't wait too long if you miss your paper. I deal this year with the Spirit of Healing in Print, and CHRISTIAN is more than paper with words printed on it. It is filled full of health, happiness and prosperity.

\*\*\* I see you all had a very clear conception of "The Immortal Individual" in last CHRISTIAN. It was very clear in my own mind. I find that when there is no confusion in the mind of the writer there will be no confusion in the minds of his readers. Christ is come in the flesh and John tells us in one of his short letters that to deny this fact is Anti-Christ. Christ is come in the flesh, not going to come. It is not of the past or the future, but of the present. It has been a present fact since the ascension of Jesus that Christ is come in the flesh. The thought that denies this is Anti-Christ. The institution says he will come or did come. The Spirit of Truth bears witness that the Christ is come in the flesh and is ready to enter into the flesh of the individual. He can not immortalize the institution for that would destroy the individual. But the Christ is come in the flesh and when He is accepted by the individual the institution—Babylon—will fall.

\*\*\* The institutions of religion are all Anti-Christ, and we and our children are being taught to deny that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. The Spirit of Truth and the Christ are one and the same. The institution has been looking for Jesus, but Jesus said that it was expedient for him to go away else the Christ could not come; but that if he (Jesus) went away the Christ would come "not many days hence." That is what John is talking about, namely, people who deny that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh since the Spirit descended on the day of Pentecost. That Spirit is the Christ. Paul found out that this Spirit called himself Jesus of Nazareth. "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest." Get this into your mind and you will throw this paper down and shout glory. Christ is not here in some man, but as the Spirit of Truth, ready to enter into your flesh, for "he hath power over all flesh."

\*\*\* Don't you see that Jesus Christ went away as a man and immediately returned, "not many days hence," as the Spirit of Truth. Now this Spirit of Truth must stand by the sayings of Jesus for He calls himself and is Jesus. Jesus glorified as the Christ. The sayings of Jesus are the sayings of the Spirit. How can the Spirit enter into the institution and immortalize the flesh of men and women who are Anti-Christ? From the pope of Rome down to your village preacher they are all Anti-Christ. They deny that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. Turn and read what John is saying in the fourth chapter of his first epistle. I say what he is saying, for you should always read inspired writings in the present tense. What is written by the Spirit is forever written. All the religions of the world are flat contradictions of the Sermon on the Mount, in other words, flat denials of Christianity. I need not specify, for the whole thing is Anti-Christ. Roosevelt's message is a sample of Anti-Christ literature.

\*\*\* The Christ is God, and Jesus was a prophet. The Spirit calls himself Jesus because He has put on record in the sayings of Jesus all the words that are needed for the illumination of the individual, and He will never illuminate the institution. Do you get this lesson? Jesus the man went away and the omnipresent Spirit took his place and has been here ever since. Jesus knocked to pieces the Jewish religion and told the woman of Samaria that she didn't need any religion. Jesus Christ the Spirit endorses the words of Jesus the prophet. Jesus said for us not to resist evil, make vows, take oaths, give or receive titles, assume personal authority, pray in public, etc., etc. The institutions of religion are made up of vows, oaths, titles, public worship, and the assumption of authority. Jesus the Spirit must not deny Jesus the prophet. Therefore religion is Anti-Christ in organization and in every vestige of its practice.

\*\*\* I am not arguing against religion. There is no use in arguing with a religionist. You had as well pitch straws against a Kansas cyclone as to argue with the latest phase of religion known as Christian Science. Religion is the wickedest thing in the world because it is Anti-Christ. It hypnotizes the mind and unfits you for the reception of Christianity. Mind you, my friend, Christianity is not a religion, never was a religion, and never can be a religion. Religion hypnotizes every faculty of the mind. Why? Because religion is founded on Authority. Christianity illuminates the intellect. How? Because Christ is the Spirit of Truth in the individual. He assumes no authority and will not exercise authority over the individual! He will gently lead you into the truth of your own being. You want some one in uniform to exercise authority over you? Well, the Christ will never do it. A Christian governs himself.

\*\*\* Christianity is a Spirit. Religion is an institution. Spirit is life, and therefore growth and movement. It is utterly impossible for an institution to grow after its founder is dead. For instance, in Novem-

ber the religion of Christian Science published an amendment to their 35th by-law, which reads: "No lectures shall be given by a Reader during his term of readership. The duties alone of a Reader are ample." That is authority gone to seed. But on the death of Mrs. Eddy they can neither make new by-laws nor repeal old ones. Don't you know that the Living God does not govern men in that way? Spirit grows and so lops off superfluous things like your finger nails and your hair. Infant baptism never had any authority or recognition from the Spirit, and the baptism of adults was only a fashion set by John the Baptist. The Lord's Supper was a social supper. Religion has made these things perpetual institutions. Spirit lops off outgrown symbols.

\*\*\* Religionists can never do the things Christ tells us to do while they keep on doing the things he commands us not to do. A reverend doctor of divinity exercising authority over the souls of men can never heal the sick and cast out devils. The devils laugh at these pillars of the institution. "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?" See Acts 19:15. There is nothing more alive in the way of reading matter than the New Testament. But you must not take even that on authority. Take nothing as truth but the Spirit of Truth, and the Spirit is the interpreter of all writings present and past. What kind of government is this? If everybody thinks as he pleases what will become of religion and morals? So reason religionists. Well, you have played the devil by your methods. Suppose for a change you let Spirit take care of the individuals. I hear the Voice of God saying, "I AM, T. J. Shelton," and I want you to hear him speaking in your own name. You can trust your own divinity.

\*\*\* During this year I shall, from time to time, restate the entire New Testament, putting the principles in new words, and making everything personal. The keynote for each month will be found on the first page. Preserve your copies of CHRISTIAN, as you would sacred writings, for they will be sacred in the sense that Christianity is sacred. Christianity is not sacred as a relic of the dead past, but as a spiritual movement of the living present. You see the keynote this month is the same old note that revolutionized the world. I make it new and vital because I AM in the same Spirit. There is nothing wrong with Christianity. The religions of the world have rejected it, and set up a dummy for their own aggrandizement. That's all. It is only one of the phases of carnal mind that it likes to parade in a uniform and exercise authority. The little tin horns keep on blowing after humanity has ceased to listen.

\*\*\* This keynote on first page will be laughed at by the "great ones" who think God is a complicated proposition. But don't let that bother you, for the signs will follow, and the good work will go right on as it ever does under the Spirit of Truth. The

coming of the Christ is as simple as the flash of lightning from the east unto the west. God has a habit of using simple things. He reveals great truths to babes and sucklings and withholds wisdom from the wise and prudent. Don't miss the Kingdom of God while trying to solve some great metaphysical problem. A little childlike mind may run away with the prize while you are adjusting your spectacles. Truth is never complicated and hard to understand. Its very simplicity is an element in its sublimity. God is too good to leave your poor mind in the dark. The way is narrow, but very straight.

\*\*\* Say, you little weary woman washing dishes, and you at the sewing machine, and you in the school house, and you playing on the typewriter, and you man bending over a desk, and you behind the counter, and you driving a team, and you carrying a hod, all of you, did you think God would not heal your sickness and cure your poverty unless you studied metaphysics? Did you think you had to solve the problems before you could come into the truth? Then you have another think coming, for that kind of a God would not be good. "Except you become as little children, you can not enter into the Kingdom of God." Say that over slowly, and see if it does not knock a hole in your metaphysics. Get down off your high hobby horse and learn genuine wisdom. Foolishness! That is what you want to practice. Insane asylums are full of metaphysicians and others are on the way.

\*\*\* What is the lesson in this number of CHRISTIAN? Begin at the first page and read to the bottom of the last page. Do this three or four times, then sit in a quiet place with the paper in your hands, and you will get more than I can put in type. The New Testament is as new and fresh and full of healing as it was the day its fragments were written. I AM putting its Spirit into CHRISTIAN. The very preaching of Christianity will heal the sick. That was and is the reason for the preaching. I modernize the principle, and declare unto you that the printing of Christianity is modern preaching, and will heal your sickness and cure your poverty if you will accept it. You are not all called to preach, but you can accept. I AM doing the printing on the same principle that the apostles did the preaching, the same signs will follow my printing that followed their preaching, and I will reach more people.

\*\*\* Why didn't the Early Christians come into the resurrection, and why did the apostles suffer death? Humanity was not ready. The seed had to be sown. Spirit led the apostles, as He is leading us, by slow unfoldment. Not one of them was infallible. Infallibility is an invention of the institution. Those early pupils of the Spirit had to be led in the way of truth as little children are taught language. Spirit does not coerce the mind. If God ruled by arbitrary authority over the individual mind, the universe would be one vast machine. It is the glory of Mind that it leaves the individual free to unfold and expand in its

own domain. Don't look upon the ancients as greater than moderns. Life is about the same in all the unfolding ages. There is no such thing as infallibility in the individual. God is no respecter of persons.

\*\*\* The other day my mailing clerk, who, by the way, is an estimable young lady and a good Methodist, was given two letters, one from a man and the other from a woman. Both were Christians who have been with me from the beginning of my present work. I asked the young lady to guess their ages from their handwriting and vibrations. The handwriting of each was clear and strong. The man is an artist and lives in Canada. The woman works for the government in Philadelphia. After a careful examination she gave the man's age at 40 and the lady at not over 30. The man is 77 and the woman 75. They are both so young in their vibrations that age does not count. It proves beyond question that age is a delusion of mortal mind. It is the hypnotic influence of time. It is about time for that angel to declare that time shall be no more.

\*\*\* That shouting Methodist of mine down in North Carolina, who is also the wife of my professional baseball player, is a kind of barometer for me. You know, as I tell you elsewhere, I have been experimenting with CHRISTIAN the past year. Some issues have gone out without any treatments while others have been given treatments. I wanted to see how much power was in the treatments. Well, several numbers fell as flat as flapjacks. Not a word came from North Carolina. But when December CHRISTIAN went out with all the power I could put into it there came a quick delivery letter in her familiar hand. As soon as the boy was gone I tore open the envelope to be greeted by these words: "CHRISTIAN for December is the grandest issue I ever read. Its tone is so clear, so convincing, its thoughts are so magnificently expressed, it is sublime! Oh how my soul rejoiced as I read. Then my husband read it over to me again from cover to cover." And more in the same tone with a snappy, strong letter from the ball player. The wife said for me to use slang if I wanted to, and the ball player advised me not to use it! I'm liable to take the wife's advice and do as I please though the husband has pointed the better way. Slang is so young and full of vigor while language is sometimes old and decrepit with crutches.

\*\*\* I AM striking the keynote and getting the vibration of the New Testament. There is a vibration in every living thing in the universe and everything in the universe is alive. There is no "dead matter" for All is Mind. Now the New Testament is alive and the Christians, all of us in the church and out of it, are going to get into its vibrations. Many of us are already in tune and ready to sing the song of regeneration. The New Testament is the newest book on earth to-day. It was issued yesterday, it will be published tomorrow. There is no copyright on it and no trust or

monopoly back of it. In reading it remember that Jesus is the only one in it who is lifted by the Spirit above the institution. All the disciples are more or less Jews. Paul was a pharisee and never did get over it until after Nero cut off his head. Jesus stands above all personal prejudices and race religions. He is the only Man in the bunch. Pay no attention to the forms of religion or even the form of words in the New Testament. Get at the science, the Spirit of it. Get into its vibrations. I said when I left the public: "If that New Testament can't get up on its legs and walk I will throw it into the wastebasket." It has walked all over me and sat down on me many times since that day. It is alive!

\*\*\* You can't expect the New Testament to respond to the keynote of religion. Certainly not. Religion is mortal mind in motion, and mortal mind is enmity against God. How can the mind of the flesh heal the flesh? It is impossible. It was religion that crucified our prophet. "And which of the prophets have not your fathers slain?" The vibration of religion never changes. It is the same in all ages and among all races. Its keynote is authority over the individual. The keynote of Christianity is the absolute freedom of the individual. The institution cares for the institution and is ready to die for "the cause," but will strangle any individual who attempts to think and act of his own free will. Christianity is for the individual and defies the institution. The keynote of the New Testament is for you, you, you the individual. The resurrection of your mind, the healing of your sickness, the curing of your poverty. There is no "cause" to uphold. There are individuals to uphold. Open your eyes, unstop your ears, throw away your crutches for your own glory and not to bolster up an institution. What song are you singing? The institution does not strike the keynote of Christ. In the hands of the religionist all the prophets and evangelists are dead.

\*\*\* J. Stitt Wilson writes in Ariel a severe criticism of the Lord's Prayer. He says we have such concepts as child, worshipper, subject, servant, beggar, sinner, pilgrim, captive in this classic and that it is an outrage on the soul. Many other hard things he says about this wonderfully sublime utterance of the only Man among us. It shows that Wilson is a socialist first, last, and all the time. He does not get into the spirit of the sublime statements of Jesus. Why, man, God made the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer just like he made the sun and the stars. When anything comes from the Spirit it can never be improved upon by man. You can no more change the Ten Commandments as a statement of negative morality than you can change the Lord's Prayer as a statement of being. God is Spirit and to be the child, servant, subject, captive and worshipper of Spirit is to be in the vibrations of the Free Spirit. There is not an atom of servility in it. The one who can really pray the Lord's Prayer is free from the

Ten Commandments, but until he can pray it the law of negation holds him in bondage. My God, man, the principle, the Spirit of the Lord's Prayer is the glory and majesty of the individual. That prayer will stand just as it is until it is fulfilled. Jesus Christ is that prayer and what He is we will be. New thoughters have tried to pray this prayer in the present tense, that indeed is folly. Speak it as it is until it is fulfilled if it takes a million years. The sayings of Jesus will stand as a Rock of Ages when the mumblings and frothings of modern new thought are forgotten. Get into the Spirit of these sublime sayings.

\*\*\* How can Jesus leave this planet as a man and return "not many days hence" as the Spirit of Truth? I don't know that words can be put in type to tell you how he did it, but I know he is here. I know it by daily communion with the Spirit. It is not an emotional, religious kind of communion, for I have no religion. It is a scientific, telepathic communion of mind with mind. I do not worship Jesus Christ as an individual, for it is unscientific for one individual to worship another individual. I Am God and there is none beside Me, not even Jesus. I worship Spirit and Spirit is not an individual but is All in All. I Am the brother of Jesus Christ. Do you hear me? I Am (the real me) the brother of Jesus Christ. That is honor enough for me. I have known men in history and in person. I have met a few of us. I never felt especially honored by such kinship. I'm ashamed of us. For littleness, vileness, nastiness, look at us. Blush, brothers, blush with shame at the best of us when we strip in the light of truth. Can we afford to let the little ones see us as we are? I think not. But look at the Man whom the best men on earth worship as God, and the matchless women of our race adore as their Savior! I do not worship Him, for He and I are One. I would despise myself if I had not seen in my own soul an image of Jesus Christ. One flash of light and I live in self-respect, because I Am what I Am in spite of mortality and the weakness of the flesh. This adorable One is kept before us by the Spirit of Truth. I learn from Spirit that His place is in the sun and that He rules the Kingdom by telepathy, the transference of thought. The sun being the largest star in our solar system, is inhabited by the highest spirits in the system; the mightiest souls, the loftiest minds are in the sun. There is no fire in the sun. The fire is in the photosphere of the sun. In other words, it is surrounded by fire. This photosphere of fire, created by its surplus electricity, is the light of other planets. It is the jasper walls of the City of God, the Home of the soul. It would be a pretty universe if our little speck of earth held minds while the great star called the sun was a barren waste. The medium of our higher thought is sunlight. The home of illuminated ones is in the sun. The special messenger to this planet is Jesus Christ. He may be Adam. He is called the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End of our unfoldment.

## PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY.

I have been reading after Charles Fillmore for fifteen years. He is the first man to whom I went for help. I was with him and his wife daily for the first three months after leaving the pulpit.

He was just awakening, and I only dreaming. In spite of slight differences on minor matters we have kept side by side in our unfoldment.

This is what he has to say in regard to the latest new thought convention:

"I asked several people to give me a definition of New Thought, and they differed greatly in their concepts. It dawned upon me that the name 'New Thought' had been appropriated by so many cults that had new theories to promulgate, that it had ceased to express what I conceived to be the Absolute Truth.

The New Thought Federation is attempting to carry this load of thought diversity, and I can see no success in it. There are too many lines of thought to harmonize. When I hear what, to me, is rank error set forth by New Thought speakers, I protest, and say, 'If this is New Thought, I must find a new name for my philosophy.' In the face of these facts, I have decided that I am no longer a New Thoughter. I have a standard of faith, which is true and logical, and I must conform to it in my teaching without compromise. We call it Practical Christianity, and under this name we shall henceforth do our work."

Amen! I have never attended any of the many efforts to organize this mental movement. I know that all efforts will fail, for it is the unfolding Spirit. Only mortal mind can organize, set up an arbitrary standard, and so mechanicalize the movement. Spirit is already organized in a natural and eternal movement. A mental movement must be by the Free Spirit, and there is no freedom in external organization, except for local work. Even in local work the less organization you have the better.

Christianity is not a religion. All this talk about the Christian Religion as one among many religions is far from the truth. Jesus Christ was crucified by religion, and religion has been active or passive as Anti-Christ from that day until this hour. Christianity is a movement of the Spirit in the individual and that movement ceases the moment you institutionalize the individual. You can't even formulate the faith of a Christian.

"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 everyone that is born of the Spirit."

So is everyone that is born of the Spirit! Can you organize the wind? Spirit is the Breath of the Almighty.

I want to introduce you to Charles Fillmore and the *Unity* people. They are in the Circle of Christians. It will enlarge our fellowship without the sacrifice of principle or individual independence. Address for sample copy, and enclose ten cents, 914 Tracy avenue, Kansas City, Mo.

I do not endorse their ideas on diet, but that is none of my business. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." The Spirit of the Lord is with the *Unity* people, and we must all be free to form our own opinions in regard to personal matters.

Practical Christianity is the application of the Science of Spirit to the physical, mental, and spiritual regeneration of the individual. Get the Spirit into the mind and let it work its own will in the individual. There need not be any trouble about names. Call it Christianity and the people who accept it Christians.

To show you how practical this free Spirit is I will give you one instance. A question is asked in regard to the spirituality of a woman who asked for a new sapphire ring and got it. Charles Fillmore made the following scientific reply:

"Answer: We presume many of our readers rather shrank from the, apparently, superficial application of the Law as set forth in this case. It so seemed to us, at the first reading. Then came the promise, 'Ask whatsoever ye will and it shall be done unto you.' 'Do all things as unto the Lord.' In other words, we are to subject every thought and every act to the Law of the Spirit, recognizing God as all and in all. If our use of the Law is erroneous, the right way will eventually be shown us, and our desires will be of higher order. If, on the other hand, we make a separation between religious things and material things, and count it an unholy application of the Law to use it in satisfying our carnal desires, we gradually build up two states of mind, in one of which God is manifest, and in the other He is not.

Orthodox church people consider it sacrilegious to ask God to heal the body. We have been told that it is childish to expect God to supply our material needs; that God is not concerned about such small affairs—the saving of our souls being the paramount consideration. We hold that if 'God is in you all and through you all and above you all,' His spirit must take part in every thought and act of our lives. If this be true, and we know it is, we should submit everything to His guidance, and seek in all ways to prove that He is an all-providing Father."

Only a Christian could write such an answer, a religionist would have set up a howl. There is a deep spiritual significance in the sapphire ring. The second foundation of the City of God is sapphire. God gives us many toys to lead us upward to higher spheres. I now laugh at the many foolish things I used to seek—but they served a purpose.

Christians are now seeking for the full and complete resurrection of the mind. The mind has been sleeping. Jesus Christ spoke the word for an awakening. The good Seed of the Kingdom is now being quickened in the minds of all who are seeking the Spirit of Truth. I quote once more from Charles Fillmore in November *Unity*:

"A number of people within the writer's knowledge have advanced in this process of making the new body after the Jesus Christ type, to a point where they are confidently asserting immortality in the flesh. When they have renewed every organ and part, both within and without, and put away all evidences of old age, then the world at large will begin to accept their claims as true. This will be demonstrated inside of ten years, and the veritable existence of the New Race be an accepted fact before the century is out."

Such a hope is an anchor to the soul. How much more refreshing and invigorating is this definite statement than the mental mutterings of new thought! Inside of ten years! Aye, it is now Here inside of this year 1907. The resurrection is at hand and even New York reporters are looking for it.



## THE PHILISTINES ARE CHRISTIANS.

In another place in this issue of CHRISTIAN we give the hand of fellowship to the Unity Christians, and you will be surprised to know that the same glad hand welcomes the Philistines. Why not? The modern Philistine is a Christian. The man who accepts Christianity is a Christian. There is no religion in it. Christianity is the illumination of the individual. It is not the worship of Jesus as God, but the practical acceptance of Jesus as a Man. I accept of you as a man, not as a member of my church, a follower of my leadership. Fiddlesticks! Let us be done with nonsense and be men, free men, in loving fellowship.

East Aurora, New York.,  
Dec. 1,—Year Eleven.

From founding of The Roycroft Shop.  
Dear Brother Shelton:

If you please, kind sir, we have about 400 people at work here and it is a darn lot of bother to look after them. We want to cast our cares on you, also our poverty—our sorrow we can care for ourselves as we get a lot of joy out of it. Name terms!

Yours, etc.,

ELBERT HUBBARD,  
ALICE HUBBARD."

I will do it! The whole 400 shall be numbered with the elect and given treatments for health, happiness and prosperity. I take your cares and your poverty and give vibrations of peace and plenty. I will let you enjoy your sorrows, for in this you are truly scientific.

I believe in reaching out for a larger fellowship, where it does not hamper individuality, and where the fellowship is real. I have been a reader of the *Philistine* and *Little Journeys* for many years. Elbert Hubbard once roasted me to a turn in his *Philistine*. I did not shrink, but printed the whole roast in CHRISTIAN. He called me Joss Shelton, Jupiter Shelton, and affixed all the known names of Deity to my name. I didn't kick. They were all my names.

I like Elbert Hubbard because he is Elbert Hubbard. That is the only reason why I like him.

Hubbard has teased and tormented the goody-good into a semblance of genuine good. He is a preacher of practical Christianity and the searchlight of honest investigation. A champion of the school-teachers and a friend of children. In the great controversy between capital and labor he is on the side of honest labor and honest money. His "Message to Garcia" has done more to put backbone into employes than all the religious tracts in Christendom could have done. As the enemy of hypocrisy, cant, and cunning Elbert Hubbard is a success. He sometimes makes me angry and then I get over it and go on reading after him as if nothing had happened. Send a dime and sample the *Philistine*.

## FINANCIAL FELLOWSHIP VS. FREE HEALING.

"I have been lying in wait for you for a good many years, but must confess that I have never caught you tripping. Now, however, I think I have you. How about your 'special' treatments?"

"You have repeatedly stated that each patient receives exactly the same treatment, the payment of one dollar or ten dollars making no difference in the quality or quantity of service; have declared that, at all times you are giving all the patient is able to receive. In the November issue of CHRISTIAN you say: 'If you gave me a million dollars a month I could not increase your receptivity.' \* \* \* The money part is only incidental."

"If the foregoing statements are true; if each patient receives the same treatments, whether paying one dollar or ten; if the amount of benefit received from the treatments, after all, depends upon the mental or spiritual attitude of the patient himself, what is the object of, or necessity for 'Special Treatments,' at the fixed charge of five dollars a month? What additional benefits are to be derived from the payment of five dollars other than could be reasonably expected from the outlay of one dollar?"

"Thomas Jefferson, do you honestly believe that the mind is more receptive under stress such as 'acute sickness,' 'alarming ailments,' 'urgent business,' than it would be under normal conditions; that, at such times, you could deliver five times the amount of health, happiness and prosperity, than the quantity which enters into the usual contract?"

"It looks alarmingly like taking advantage of misfortune, or perhaps the birth of a tendency, which frequently affects people who have reached the crest of prosperity, to reach out and grasp yet more largely of the material manifestations of such prosperity."

"Helen Wilmans reached this point when she syndicated her business and proceeded to work the 'dear people' for all they would stand. You know the result. Have you now reached the summit, and are you also in danger of toppling over? I hope not."

"Understand me, I do not find fault with the amount of payment; wish most sincerely that I myself had progressed to the place where I could afford to hand over ten dollars a month. What I cannot understand is that you yourself should differentiate your treatments, dividing your service into 'special' and 'ordinary' class—class A, class B, et cetera. It sounds exactly like a literary bureau."

"Well, success to you, anyway."

The writer of this letter is a Christian and has paid her regular dollar a month into the Circle of Christians for many years. She has now paid in advance and would not think of giving it up. I see the points in her letter and have answered them in December CHRISTIAN.

I have not syndicated my work and am trying more and more to individualize it. I even prospected for gold with the desire to make my healing a freewill offering to all. I am not sure that such a method would not kill the whole thing. There is a financial fellowship and I enter into it with all of you. I come into conjunction with your desires and help you to realize financial freedom. Your little contribution to my work is but a drop in the bucket compared to what you are in the habit of giving to medical doctors and for drugs.

I engage in this work for my own soul and body and the compensation is incidental.

Henceforth I shall give more and more attention to healing of sickness and the cure of poverty. The last page of CHRISTIAN will give you a synopsis of my work.

I shall give more careful attention to the treating of CHRISTIAN, so that where it goes, even in a stray copy, it will carry healing vibrations. For many years I have been receiving reports from people who were healed by a local application of the paper to parts affected. You know how I have tried to laugh them out of it. I thought it was superstition. But the reports kept coming, and so I experimented with it. I sent out CHRISTIAN without treatments, and there was a dead calm. I then hastened to give treatments to the next number and the response came with a glow of life. There are no back numbers of the ones treated, except December. I threw into the waste basket bundles of the others! It was a costly experiment, but convincing. I was a fool, and fools will not learn except in the school of experience.

There was a mightier response from December CHRISTIAN than from any number ever sent out, because it received greater treatments.

Several months ago *Unity* began treating a red leaf and enclosing it in the magazine. I didn't laugh, for my other laugh had caused me too much trouble. I waited and watched and became convinced that Spirit was blessing the red leaf.

Why not? Jesus Christ used dust and saliva, and ordered the blind man to go and wash his eyes in the pool of Siloam. Paul let the people use handkerchiefs and napkins. James told them to use oil. Why shouldn't Spirit use paper? There is a lot of rot about the higher thought that needs to be swept out of our minds. The old soldier who got up from a bed of excruciating pain and bound a copy of CHRISTIAN to the small of his back was expressing faith in God. The pain left and he had refreshing sleep. Results are what we are after. God had spoken in CHRISTIAN and truth once spoken speaks forever.

Listen to this from November *Unity*:

"Last night, in our Monday evening healing meeting, a man testified that he had a running sore on his face for two years, which was healed by applying the Red Leaf from *Unity*, and holding the thought printed on it. Yet this magazine costs but \$1.00 per year, and the one that healed this man did not cost him anything—it was a sample copy. He said he had tried many methods of healing, without avail, and he could hardly believe that he had been cured in such a simple and easy way. His is but one of hundreds, and the power is growing stronger every day."

Do you suppose this man got up in that meeting and told a lie? Do you think *Unity* is printing such things as a mere patent medicine advertisement? Verily, verily, I say unto you, No! I know those people.

I tell you now, and you may make a note of it, the time is coming when the Word of Healing will be spoken for you in CHRISTIAN. I AM going to put into the paper much more than mere words in type. The world is being deluged with printed matter. It is time some of it had God in it.

Another thing, my beloved Christians, the Kingdom of God cometh not with observation. It slips up on you like a thief in the night. Simplicity is one of the elements in sublimity. Christianity is sublime. There are many who will sneer at the idea of sending healing vibrations by treating the thought given in print, but never mind so you get results. Let us call up Central and see what Spirit has to say about it:

"But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to naught things that are: that no flesh should glory in his presence."

God is a Confounder!

I need not say much about the second division of this work as outlined on the last page. It is for the Circle of Christians. Let us glory in this financial fellowship until our numbers are so great that all can come into this healing without money and without price. You are now sending out thousands of free copies of CHRISTIAN every month. Keep it up!

The third division calls forth the criticism in the above letter. I have changed "special" to "extra," for the treatments are not special but extra. The treatments are the same in kind but given oftener, sometimes every hour. Treatments in the Circle of Christians are given regularly every morning, but at no other time. Extra treatments are given at any and all hours, day and night. Do you want me to get up out of my bed in answer to a telegram and give treatments to you or your child? Certainly, and I do it.

Here is a case in point. The whole family are ready to leave the East for California. I have been treating for years and at last the place is sold and the household goods and live stock are shipped. A drawing room is chartered and everything ready. The aged mother is an invalid. She grows worse and the doctor says she must be left behind. God bless her, she is the main one! A telegram of eighty words comes to me explaining and asking, What shall we do?

I can't afford to get anxious. Anxiety on the part of the mental doctor is fatal. I went into the healing room and left the messenger boy in the reception room. In a few minutes I handed the boy a telegram which said, "Let her go with you. I will see her through." That was one M. D. against another M. D. The mental doctor versus the medical doctor. From Chicago came another telegram saying that the mother was worse. I had to say, go ahead. She went through all right. I knew if they left her behind she would die. Now do you understand what I mean by extra treatments? Did I earn the five dollars? Do you think I could have turned that case over to a syndicate of stenographers?

Extra treatments are called for by telegraph and cablegrams from all parts of the world and they demand my personal attention, day or night. Spirit will not send me

more work than I can do personally, and I do not try to do any other kind.

Let me give you fair warning. You must get into the mental vibrations of Christianity before you can be healed or regenerated. Jesus Christ walked among all kinds of sick and distressed people who were not healed. Men, women and children were dying around him every day and only three were raised from the dead. You may read CHRISTIAN and Unity, apply the Red Leaf, put CHRISTIAN on your person, take all the treatments, and still remain in bondage. It is a mental resurrection and minds are hard to handle.

"Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left."

It is a time of mental sifting. Your heart will ache when the loved ones in your own household are left and you are taken. This is the reason why Jesus Christ warned you against even the family institution. You are to sell all for the Pearl of Great Price. You are to have no relations of any kind, not even to your own life. There is nothing that you can hold, so you had as well drop it all. The eternal paradox comes before the mental vision at this point. When you have let go of everything in the universe then everything in the universe takes hold of you. All the wives, all the husbands, all the children, all the houses and lands, all life is yours.

Be not deceived. Self-deception is the worst kind of deception. You will find the Christ in yourself. Not by any great intellectual effort. Not by hard thinking. "In such an hour as you think not the Son of Man cometh." That Son of Man is your own Spirit, for you are the offspring, the Son of Man. There was never such mental confusion in the world as you find right now, and the yeast will continue to work. There is a mental intoxication in the air. Be sober. Be still, and know.

In all this isolation and individualization remember that it is a mental process. There is no physical running away from family, friends or environment. You go right along with the ordinary duties of life and render every obligation with even more enthusiasm than ever. All this time you are slowly rising above the local and temporal life.

And, say, see here; don't look upon me as a "professional healer," the head of a syndicate, the leader of a sect, or anything of the kind. Don't call me "doctor" or give me any kind of title. I AM a preacher of Christianity, and you can't preach Christianity without healing the sick. Do you hear me? I AM a preacher of the Word and my preaching heals the sick, casts out devils and raises the dead. Don't go to talking trading stamps and bargain counters to me. I AM the speaker of the Word, and my Spoken Word heals the sick and cures poverty. All the millions of money on earth could not buy one vibration of truth.

I AM the Free Spirit!

\*\*\* "Would like to ask You a question. In the store here with me there is working a young man which is a consumptive. Do you think there is any danger of taking disease from him? I often have to be close to him. I don't think he is very bad, but still coughs quite deep at times. I also think it would be better if I had a little more time so that I could be quiet for a few moments during the day, as I am more receptive to receive the vibrations in this way. What do you think about this?"

No, no, no, get this idea out of your head. What kind of a Christian are you? You are a regular fraidcat. Treat the young gentleman with the kindness and manliness due him, and ignore his disease. You have no business recognizing disease in yourself or in others. There is not a bit of danger of your "catching" anything unless you are looking for it. Heal your friend by affirming the truth of health and ignoring the appearance of disease. As to being in the quiet, that is a mental process. This going into the silence to work up fear and dissect yourself is all bosh. It is about the worst thing you could do. Live the mental silence, the mental stillness, by walking in the truth, and it doesn't matter where you are so far as environment is concerned. This mental silence will steal over you anywhere and at all times as a surprise from the Spirit. The Spirit is like a watched pot. You know the old saying, "a watched pot never boils." Well, that is the way of the Spirit. You never know just when a blessing is coming, and if you keep watching for it you will never get it. Spirit is always surprising us with sudden flashes of light, sending blessings in unexpected moments, and in unknown ways. God delights in secret unfoldings and constant surprises. Don't keep forever on the lookout.

\*\*\* "Some time last year I sent you a dollar for treatment and sent you the address of a friend for the paper, but I learned upon inquiry that she never got the paper. It is evident that Spirit doesn't yet protect you from the loss of money, isn't it? And through no fault of yours, either. The money is gone from me anyway, so you and my friend are the losers."

I have given your friend credit for a year on CHRISTIAN, although your dollar did not reach me. If you had sent a card to your friend, saying that you were paying for CHRISTIAN for her, she would have been looking for the paper, and so you would not have waited a whole year. I make good the loss as soon as I hear of it. Spirit does not keep us in swaddling clothes. If he protected us from every little hurt, we would never advance a single step. He puts us here to learn by our losses, by our pains, by our sufferings, by our joys, by our success, by all of these things. My mail has been coming for so many years, that it is marked by thieves. And so you must register your letters, if you send currency, or spend a few cents for a money order. So far I have borne the loss as soon as I was informed of it. But you must be more careful in the future. There is a law of protection in the Spirit, but you will not find God pulling weeds out of your corn crop or hoeing in your garden.

# HEALING VIBRATIONS

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Modern methods must be used in mental healing, but the principle is as old as mind. I give treatments for all kinds of sickness and troubles, including poverty. Poverty is a disease. It can be cured by mental treatments. I divide my work into three divisions, but all leading to the same purpose, namely, your Health, Happiness and Prosperity.

I. Treatments are given to CHRISTIAN. For many years persons have testified to splendid results from the paper itself. They use it as a medium for the Healing Word. I treat the paper while preparing copy and reading proof, and send it out charged with Healing Thought. You may apply the paper to the body or the parts affected, or you may hold a copy in your hand while receiving the Healing Vibrations. Jesus Christ used mud. Paul used handkerchiefs and napkins. James used oil. Shelton uses paper.

II. Treatments are given to persons who are enrolled in the Circle of Christians. These treatments are given every morning, but at no other time in the day. Persons enrolled in the Circle of Christians are expected to remain in the fellowship right along year after year. The treatments are given for business success, love and marriage, health and happiness. The terms are One Dollar per month, or Twelve Dollars a year.

III. Extra treatments are given for urgent business, distressing sickness or any other exceptional conditions. These treatments are given at all hours of the day or night. They are not different from the regular treatments given in the morning, but are given oftener, sometimes every hour. The terms are Five Dollars per month.

All treatments are given for a full and complete regeneration of the body by a resurrection of the mind.

Two copies of my book or one subscription to CHRISTIAN given for every dollar sent for treatments.

Remit by Money Order or currency in a Registered Letter. Enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

I make no promises.

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## T. J. SHELTON

1657 CLARKSON STREET - - - - - DENVER, COLORADO