HOPE

HEALTH OPULENCE PEACE ENLIGHTENMENT

A Bi-monthly Magazine Devoted to the Explanation of the Laws Governing Health, Opulence, Peace and Enlightenment

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SYNCHRONIZED DAILY DECREES

"Thou shalt decree a thing and it shall be established unto you" (Job 22:28)
"The prayer of faith shall save the sick" (Jas 5:15)
"Pray without ceasing" (I Thes 5:17)

FOR DECEMBER 1959

9 a.m. **Enlightenment:** I AM the resurrection and the life of my spiritual perception, right now and forever.

Noon Peace: I AM the resurrection and the life of that peace in me which passes all understanding, right now and forever.

3 p.m. **Opulence** I AM the resurrection and the life of the omnipresent supply and opulence manifesting through me, right now and forever.

9 p.m. **Health:** I AM the resurrection and the life of my mind and feeling, and of every cell and organ of my body, right now and forever.

For Mankind

May Enlightenment, Peace, Opulence and Health be enjoyed by all mankind, right now and forever.

FOR JANUARY 1960

9 a.m. **Enlightenment:** God in me illumines my understanding and enables me to see myself as His image and likeness, right now and forever.

Noon Peace: God in me enables me to acquaint myself with Him, and I AM at peace, right now and forever.

3 p.m. **Opulence** God in me opens all channels of supply and opulence to me, right now and forever.

9 p.m. **Health:** God in me is my life establishing health and youthfulness in me, right now and forever.

For Mankind

May Enlightenment, Peace, Opulence and Health be enjoyed by all mankind, right now and forever.

FRANCHISE NOTICE

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The Purpose of "Hope" Magazine

THE purpose of "Hope" Magazine is to serve as a bridge between the exoteric and esoteric teachings, therefore—as the letters of its name point out—it is devoted to the explanation of the Laws that govern Health, Opulence, Peace and Enlightenment. This purpose is carried out by the publication in its pages of short articles on the following and allied subjects.

Health: The mental causes of disease and how to remove them. Factors that produce health and youthfulness, such as gratitude, joy, faith, forgiveness and other virtues.

Opulence: Eradication of the mental causes of lack. Opulence through Service, Capacity, Alertness, Outlining, Visualizing. Expectancy, Joy and Gratitude.

Peace: Elimination of the causes of discord, such as fear, worry and distrust. The attitude that promotes peace in your mind, home and affairs.

Enlightenment: How to develop spiritual perception. Studies on the Bible and other Scriptures. Instruction from the Ascended Masters of Love and Wisdom, Laws of Cause and Effect and Re-birth, Immortality and other Spiritual Laws.

Daily Synchronized Decrees or Prayers: "Hope" Magazine has a special section of daily decrees or prayers for **Enlightenment** (at 9 a.m.), **Peace** (at Noon), **Opulence** (at 3 p.m.), and **Healing** (at 9 p.m.). These directed decrees or prayers have behind them not only their initial power but also the cumulative power or momentum of the thousands of "Hope" readers making the same decrees or prayers daily at the same time for the same purposes, thus helping one and all to solve their problems, as the testimonies of the efficacy of these decrees prove.

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Ask for the List of other Publications.

ON CHRISTMAS

IN entering the Holy Christ-Mass Season, the human consciousness of every aspirant to the Light may become a **Grail** into which the Divine Consciousness, which Jesus lived and expressed, may enter. To cultivate, to think and meditate upon the Consciousness, the Feeling and the Radiation of the Master is to become like Him in Nature, and to become like Him is to gain your own Freedom and to give Him another instrument or vehicle through which He may pour His radiation in order to fulfill His Work as Representative of the Cosmic Christ. There could be no more beautiful Gift to Life than to dedicate one's daily activities, one's whole nature, and one's being to the Presence of All Life and to the expansion of the Christ Spirit, for in losing one's lower self, he finds the Greater Glory of the Higher Life.

As the Presence of the Master is only able to reach the consciousness of the individual through the medium of **silent prompting** within the feeling nature, or through brilliant flashes of illumination through the medium of the Holy Christ Self, we must all learn to cultivate, particularly through this Holy Season, enough **SILENCE** in our outer nature to allow the vibrations of the God Presence to record with sufficient quality of intensity, the inspiration which becomes the Guiding Activity of our daily lives.

The CHRISTMAS SPIRIT begins to flow around the first of December and carries through for seven weeks thereafter. The Christ Spirit is an outpouring of Love and all the Perfect Qualities from the Angels, Ascended Masters and other Divine Beings, and it pours over the Earth like a golden rain of beautiful particles of Light. Each particle is like a nine-pointed star, and the entire lower atmosphere of Earth and all the bodies of the people are enveloped in it.

May the Joy and Accomplishment of the Beloved Jesus' Cosmic Christ Consciousness be yours now and forever.

HEALTH—or How to keep youthful

By Margaret Marsh

THERE is not one cell in your physical body which you had one year ago! Therefore, when you affirm "I AM YOUNG NOW" it is an absolute Truth! The body of the eighty year old person is in reality no older than that of a child, for nature renews every cell within a period of one year. Every individual gets three new pairs of lungs each year; a new stomach every three to four months. The eyes are completely renewed every six to eight months, the bones within a twelve month period, and the skin is renewed about every ten days! You are thus a "new being" every year! Then **what** makes people have the appearance of age?

Just as health is the natural and normal state of being for man and disease abnormal, so is **youth** the normal state of being and old age abnormal. Man is not just his physical body—it is the instrument through which his Spirit functions through his thoughts and feelings, they (his thoughts and feelings) being the causes which act and manifest through the physical body. It is useless to try and treat the effects that manifest as old age and body distress without first changing the causes in the thoughts and feelings which produced it.

Continuous advancement is the purpose of life but unless you stay young you cannot advance for disintegration starts when the age-producing process begins. While there is an increase of life the body looks and stays young—but when man ceases to grow, he begins to grow old! The reason so many begin to look old after what is called "middle age" is ossification and old age conditions and these are caused by unnatural and abnormal activities of the mind.

The SERIOUS attitude will sour the chemical elements in the body and produce dissolution and decay in the cells. The body becomes clogged with this waste matter and ossifies.

To remove this cause, the mind should be trained to feel that HAPPINESS is part of God's Great Law and the man who is filled with joy and happiness is the greatest power for good in the world at all times. He should learn to smile—from within!

The SUPERFICIAL mind does not allow the individual to touch or feel the depths of his being and he cannot draw from

the great reservoir of life for greater strength and energy and will feel weak and exhausted when the superficial supply is gone This decreasing of life in the cells causes them to wither, harden and grow old. To change this, learn to live within the heart! Get still and listen for the "still small voice"!

The EXCITED mental attitude causes confusion, discord and misdirected actions and wastes the life energy. To change this, the mind should learn to live in POISE—to never rush or hurry —but have conscious control of their thoughts and feelings and not allow them to rush forth.

Anger destroys many cells which it is impossible to rebuild instantly and again the system is clogged with waste matter and produces old age. These individuals need to learn to feel kindly and stop having a chip on their shoulders, and look for something good—the God part—in all they contact and thus dissolve the antagonistic feeling. Fear causes all the constructive forces in the body to reverse their actions and instead of growing and building new cells, will tear them down, again causing age-producing conditions. The same is true of grief and melancholy. Selfishness causes the cells to contract, wither and dry up. The selfish person is abnormally self-centered and makes for smallness of every kind, and the domineering mind produces more of the hardening effect upon the cells—but the greatest enemy to youth is WORRY! To perpetuate youth, all these destructive, wasteful activities of the mind must be eliminated completely from the system, and the youth-producing activities replace them so that you can look what you truly are—YOUNG NOW—in every cell of your body.

Worry produces calcareous deposits in the body just as anger produces poisons and is the cause of all the nervous tensions, stiff necks, dried up tissues and wrinkled faces and affects the chemical life itself. This produces false chemicals in the cells which harden the same as though they were actual calcareous deposits. The cure for this is to train the mind to have a LIVING FAITH in God and His Goodness.

* * *

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

An Original Schematic Presentation
To Facilitate its Understanding and Application
By Fred H. Milton

I. THE BEATITUDES (Matthew 5:1-16) Deity: Righteousness

(a) **Conditions**	**Rewards**	**Matthew**
1 Poor in Spirit	1 Kingdom of Heaven	5:3
2 Mourning	2 Comforted	5:4
3 Meek	3 Inherit the earth	5:5
4 Hunger after righteousness	4 Filled with righteousness	5-6
5 Merciful	5 Obtain mercy	5:7
6 Pure	6 Shall see God	5:8
7 Peacemakers	7 Children and heirs of God	5:9

(b) **Test:**		
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2 Power of Light	2 Illumination	5:14-16

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2 Love your brother	5:21-26
3 Mental adultery	5:27-32

4 Sanctity of Speech 5:33-37

5 Resist not evil 5:38-42

6 Love your enemies 5:43-47

7 Be Perfect as your Father 5:48

III. TRUE PRAYER (Matthew 6:1-18) Atonement: Fruitage

(a) **Preparation**

1 Give no alms before men 6:1, 2

2 Give your alms in secret 6:3, 4

3 Don't pray in public 6:5

4 Enter into a closet 6:6

5 Pray to the Father in secret 6:6

6 Use no vain repetitions 6:7

7 The Father knows your needs 6:8

(b) **The Lord's Prayer**

1 Our Father which art in Heaven
Hallowed be Thy name 6:9

2 Thy Kingdom come 6:10

3 Thy Will be done in earth, as it is in heaven 6:10

4 Give us this day our daily bread 6:11

5 And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors 6:12

6 And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil 6:13

7 For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power
and the Glory for ever 6:13

(c) **Test:**

1 Forgiveness 6:14-15

2 True fasting 6:16-18

IV. TRUE TREASURES (Matthew 6:19-34) Substance: Provision

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2 Heavenly treasures 6:20
3 Power of treasures over life 6:21
4 Clear vision of treasures 6:22-23
5 God or Mammon 6:24
6 Take no thought 6:25-32
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(v) Consider the lilies 6:28-31
(vi) Look at the Gentiles 6:32
(vii) God knows your needs 6:32
7 Seek ye first the Kingdom 6:33-34

V. THE GOLDEN RULE (Matthew 7:1-14) Life: Health

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2 The Moat and the Beam 7:3-5
3 Pearls before swine 7:6
4 Ask, Seek, Knock 7:7-11
5 Summary of the Golden Rule 7:12
6 Wide gate and broad way 7:13
7 Strait gate and narrow way leading to LIFE 7:14

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1 False prophets 7:15
2 Know them by their fruits 7:16
3 A good tree brings forth good fruit 7:17
4 A corrupt tree brings forth evil fruit 7:17

5 A good tree CANNOT bring forth evil fruit 7:18

6 A corrupt tree CANNOT bring forth good fruit 7:18

7 Trees not bringing good fruit are hewn down 7:19-20

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1 The WILL of the Father 7:21

2 Prophesy in Lord's Name 7:22

3 Casting out devils 7:22

4 Depart from me 7:23

5 Wise man's house 7:24-25

6 Foolish man's house 7-26-27

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2nd Day: Firmament . . .	Understanding: Purification . . .	2 The Laws of the Kingdom
3rd Day: Earth and Plants	Atonement: Fruitage	3 True Prayer
4th Day: Sun, Moon, Stars	Substance: Provision	4 True Treasures
5th Day: Fishes and Fowls	Life: Health	5 The Golden Rule
6th Day: Man	Truth, Dominion	6 Manifestation
7th Day: Rest	Love: Heaven . .	7 Perfection

OPULENCE—Its Science and Application

By Ralph Yancy

GOD'S Law is Love, Peace, Beauty and Opulence (which means abundant supply) for each and everyone of His Children. Therefore, when there is a lack of Love, Peace, Beauty and Supply, it is clearly evident that God's Law must have been violated in some way and it is necessary to find the cause of the distress and the remedy.

The Life that flows into each one's world unceasingly, contains within Itself everything that each one will ever require, and the fullness of every God Virtue, and only some kind of a "block" can prevent the receiving of that which God intends for each one.

With the gift of free will, each individual is free to choose what qualities he wishes to place on that pure Life through his thoughts and feelings, and when those thoughts and feelings do not comply with God's Law of Love, Peace, Beauty and Opulence—the imperfect energy does stand as a "block" until it is removed.

If after an honest inventory of yourself you find hate in any degree (which means mild dislike), discord, ugliness and lack—then earnestly call to the God within your own heart to help you remove them and ask forgiveness for allowing such qualities to remain in your world. After doing this, pour your love and adoration to God and feel with conviction that every constructive thing you can desire, it is your birthright to have.

Then decide what constructive thing you desire to have manifest in your world, something that will harm no part of life but rather enhance the beauty and perfection not only for yourself but all you contact—see a clear picture of this in your mind, filling in the details as clearly as possible. When you have done this, FEEL as though you already had this thing you desire and pour your love to it to draw it to you more quickly.

HOPE

A bi-monthly journal devoted to the explanation of the Laws that govern Health, Opulence, Peace and Enlightenment

Vol. V **December-January 1959-60** **No. 5**

THE NEW YEAR

By the Ascended Master Maha Chohan

THE beginning of a New Year sets into motion a new cosmic cycle for the individual, the country, and the planet itself. Each year is divided into a seven-week minor cycle, and the entire year represents the Seven times Seven, with a slight overlap of three weeks which is due to the faulty calendar which was not the error of the early Greeks, the Egyptians and the Atlanteans, but of the later intellectual man.

The New Year, therefore, represents another opportunity for each soul and spirit to ride upon the Cosmic Tide higher into the Heart of Heaven, placing the years that have gone before into the cosmic incinerator of forgiveness and forgetfulness.

The birth of the New Year depicted as an infant is really significant of a new beginning—the individual rising up to begin that year as if he had just stepped forth from the womb of time without even record or memory of imperfections of the past. Man would do well to carry with him in the days ahead the feeling of hope—of new and better opportunity that he experienced as the New Day dawned. The man who does this can progress much more rapidly than he who insists upon carrying with him the memories of that entire Earth embodiment with its vicissitudes, seeming injustices and failures.

The great Cosmic Law, in Its kindness, has divided man's Earthly experience through a great number of lives. At the close of each span, the individual is taken to an abode of Love where he is imbued with courage, strength and the power to enable him to continue his Earthly pilgrimage in greater freedom.

The Cosmic Law is constantly alert to securing and presenting advantages whereby the aspiring soul of man can progress, un-

fold and unite with Its Source in the most perfect and easy manner possible.

Within one life span, the Law has again provided a surcease from the pressure of experiences by separating the life span into yearly cycles. At the close of each year, the Cosmic Law Itself, in Mercy, expiates a large percentage of the sins, mistakes, false appearances and other manifestations of all people and they are allowed to enter the New Year with much greater freedom from the fetters of their own creation. However, if they insist upon holding on to the grudges, unpleasant experiences, so-called injustices and limitations of the past, they will **re-create them** upon the clean pages of their Book of Life in the New Year.

You will note that it is the custom with men to make "New Year Resolutions" with a clear distinguishing goal which is the **bettering of their nature.** The weight and momentum of their human nature, however, usually makes these resolutions short lived.

If, **this year,** you could **seize** upon the purification that has affected your inner nature and try to live in the New Year as if there had never been an old, the limitations and evils would drop away because they are not eternal, and **only the good from the past year** would endure and become a mantle of fragrance around you. Be master of your energy, and do not allow your thought and feeling centers to reproduce in your world the manifestations that brought unhappiness to you in the past. Use that energy to paint constructive pictures."

May this be a God-Victorious New Year for you each one.

VALUE OF TIME

The supply of time is truly a daily miracle, an affair genuinely astonishing when it is examined. You wake up in the morning and lo! your purse is magically filled with twenty-four hours of the unmanufactured tissue of the universe of your life. It is yours. It is the most precious of possessions. No one can take it from you. It is unstealable, and no one receives either more or less than you receive. Talk about ideal democracy. In the realm of time there is no aristocracy of wealth and no aristocracy of intellect. Genius is not rewarded by even an extra hour a day.

ON CHARACTER BUILDING

By James Bridgland

WHAT is character? What are the principles and virtues which must be co-ordinated in order to form character? First of all, we must have a **motive,** because motive is the **thought of a desirable accomplishment.** This, of course, becomes the underlying principle behind our actions as we mix socially with other people or seek the meditative confines of our own closet. Its force can produce in us either a dominating personality or one of a shy or retiring nature. By it, we either conform to convention or we stand apart in our idiosyncrasies; we express our desire for the good things of life and extreme distaste for things that are bad.

Therefore, the **habits** that result from the following of these motives are beyond the range of custom and produce a way of life by willing deliberate choice. We quote the words of William James: "Could the young but realize how soon they will become mere walking bundles of habits, they would give more heed to their conduct while in the plastic state. We are spinning our own fates, good or evil, and never to be undone."

One of the most profound needs of the personality is that of **Harmony.** In realizing himself as a harmonious whole, a man may balance his qualities and abilities so as to constitute "an all-round man". Harmony is an attribute of **maturity** and is a source of great energy in the world of reality. A mature person is able to observe self-restraint when it is necessary. When he sees through the nonsense in the various channels of expression and feels impressed to resist it, he is immediately able to find new outlets for his energies when they are blockd in any one direction. "I must have this or nothing!" is a slogan of the neurotic.

Traits of character are not necessarily inherited but are built within our environment. The pessimistic and fatalistic point of view questions the ability of a person to change his character as

a result of conscious effort. For persons who do not desire change, it is convenient to blame heredity. They take such pride in their faults that they resent the idea of making repairs. Intelligent people do not fancy themselves to be perfect, and the fact that they are not does not unduly trouble them.

Another of the ingredients of an admirable character is **selflessness.** In other words, thoughtfulness of other people. This is to see in others, not only their shortcomings, but also their achievements, and to always be respectful of each individualized expression of God through man. Such a person is **broad-minded** and **tolerant,** and through these is reflected the sensitive spirit that is death to the immaturity of prejudice.

In a person of excellent character, **gentleness,** combined with strength and authority, is an indication of the great-minded man. He is never high and mighty toward people subordinate to him for this is one of the tests by which a **gentleman** is known and recognized. This gentleness, of course, is a code of conduct quite outside legal commandments and regulations, and is well known to a person of good character, but virtually unexplored by others.

Trustworthiness is a vital factor in character. **Honesty** becomes a habit and not a question of "to be or not to be". Promises are not given lightly, but those that are given are always honored. **Modesty** and **humility** are also an indication of a man of character, but not to the point where talents are either buried or wasted.

In order to build character, we must not dwell upon the glories of the past nor continually rest in the yearning for things as we wish them to be. One may accept things as they are, but the man of bold character is already marching into the dawn of a new day with his ideas of influencing conditions toward a better world. To build character requires **courage** and **endurance.** Those who reach the top of the mountain do not complain about the scrapes and cuts they suffered during the ascent.

One of the most common causes of a person's failure to attain a life of character and accomplishment is that he is content to

remain a Don Quixote in imagination—seeing visions and great causes—but remains a Hamlet by debating and postponing. Achievement of any kind is beyond the reach of indolence. "That sense of reality which guides audacity", as General De Gaulle has said, is the consciousness of power which develops out of effort and the encountering of difficulty. Timidity is not enough. Milton, in his immortal **Aeropagitica,** said: "I cannot praise a fugitive and cloistered virtue, unexercised and unbreathed, that never sallies out and sees her adversary." And day after day, Columbus wrote in his diary as he crossed the uncharted Atlantic: "This day we sailed on."

Character is not built by storing up abilities and virtues. Persistence in reaching outward and trying is more likely to win than a lethargic outlook. Men like Byron, who learned to dance despite his club-foot; Demosthenes who overcame stuttering to become a perfect orator; and Beethoven, who produced his most incomparable music after becoming completely deaf, exemplify those who approach new phases of life eagerly—tempting it to give them as much as they can bear.

Character deals with substance and is the outward expression of an **inner reality.** A person of feeble character takes credit to himself for his successes, but places the blame elsewhere for his failures. He has fanatical admiration for the truly great men and generally feels that he, too, could fill their shoes if only people would recognize his merits. By contrast, the sturdy character has a good sense of proportion. He is the one who will do all in his power to change a confronting situation to his own liking before supporting its tenets. Here moral strength and backbone must be brought up to the level of our increasing intellectual enlightenment in the advancement of science and technology. It has been said that knowledge is power, but it is very much more correct in this day and age to say that **character** is **power,** because mind without heart; intelligence without conduct; and cleverness without goodness all have dangerous flaws.

There is no need to peruse the pages of history for examples of that which we seek. We may find it at our very elbows as we live from day to day. Among our teachers and students, among

foremen and workmen, among neighbors, friends and families, we find an impression of completeness, poise, and sincerity. They are the **motive power** of society—a true aristocracy — not of blood, fashion or talent, but of **character.**

What, then, is the man of superior character? It is quite correct to say that he is the one who pursues the true, the beautiful, and the good. What else is there really worth while in education, in vocation, in family life, and in society? H. G. Wells once said: "The best measure of our success in life is the ratio of our accomplishments to our capabilities." But Abraham Lincoln put it this way: "I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to what light I have."

* * * * *

CORRESPONDENCES

Please note in the schematic presentation of **The Sermon on the Mount,** appearing on pages 7 through 10 of this issue, that its Seven Sections correspond to the Seven Days of Creation; and that each section has seven sub-sections. We have here the 49 steps of the Ladder of Attainment, according to some seekers of Truth.

FEATURES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

H EALTH through gratitude

O PULENCE through visualization

P EACE through love

E NLIGHTENMENT through meditation

And a Condensed Index of the first five volumes of "Hope" magazine

OUR NEW ADDRESS

The Bridge to Freedom, Inc.
R.F.D. 1, Box 321, Charlottesville, Va.

PREDESTINATION AND THE BIBLE

Part V of a series of articles on the "Holy Bible—Its Teachings and Symbols" by Mr. Chas. S. Smith, F.R.C., in which the author gives the results of his deep studies and wide researches, as well as his opinions, about this important field of thought.

IN the Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians, we find the following: "Blessed be the **God** and **Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who** hath blessed **us** with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

"According as **he** hath **chosen us in him before the foundation of the world,** that **we** should be **holy** and **without blame** before **him in love:**

"Having **predestinated us** unto the **adoption** of **children by Jesus Christ to himself,** according to the **good pleasure of his will."** (Eph. 1:3-5)

"Having made known unto **us** the **mystery** of **his will,** according to **his** good pleasure which **he** hath purposed **in himself:**

"That in the **dispensation** of the **fulness of times he** might gather together **in one all things** in Christ, **both** which are **in** heaven, **and which are on earth;** even in **him:**

"In whom also **we** have **obtained an inheritance,** being **predestinated** according to the **purpose of him who** worketh all things after the **counsel of his own will:**

"That **we** should be the praise of **his** glory, who **first** trusted in Christ." (Eph. 1:9-12)

Predestination defined

And in Paul's letter to the Romans we read these words:

"We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to **them who are called according to his purpose.**

"For **whom he** did **foreknow, he** also did **predestinate** to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the **firstborn** among **many brethren.**

"Moreover whom **he did predestinate, them he** also **called;**

and whom he called, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also glorified." (Rom. 8:28-30)

Webster defines the word 'predestinate' as meaning 'to appoint or ordain beforehand by divine decree'.

There can be no question as to whether the doctrine of predestination is taught in the Bible or not. The Scriptures quoted above are only a part of those which refer to this subject. This particular doctrine has been studied by various religious groups for many years, but due to the fact that most students did not have a clear picture of the overall plan of salvation, their conclusions are not now acceptable in the light of advancing civilization, and these old beliefs and teachings have seldom been mentioned since the beginning of this century.

If we keep in mind the Law of Reincarnation and the fact that the general salvation of the masses is a thing of the future, it is not too difficult to find the meaning of the verses that have been quoted.

Jesus selected His disciples

The following are the words of Jesus to his disciples: **"Ye have not chosen** me but **I have chosen you,** and **ordained you,** that ye should go and bring forth fruit." (John 15:16) Here we can but emphasize the implication of these words. In the days when Jesus walked the earth, the only people who became his disciples were those that he personally picked out from the multitude. These he taught when they were away from the crowds, but when the masses were present he spoke in parables due to the fact that he did not want them to understand the meaning of his words lest they be converted, for this he did not want. Here we repeat a Scripture that has been quoted before:

"Without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples." (Mark 4:34)

"And he said unto them, unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables:

"That seeing they may see and **not** perceive; and hearing they may hear and **not** understand: **lest** at any time **they should be converted."** (Mark 4:11-12)

The doctrine of predestination? The Bible abounds in it.

In the writings of Paul we find the following:

"But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren, beloved of the Lord because **God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation** through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the Truth." (IIThes. 2:13)

How did these brethren get salvation? Because God had, from the beginning, chosen them for that purpose. In another Scripture, already quoted, we learned that this beginning was "before the foundation of the world."

In the Acts of the Apostles we find these words: "The **Lord added** to the church daily **such as should be saved."** (Acts 2:47) Who were saved? Those whom the Lord chose and no one else. Again, in the words of Jesus, we read: "Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Matt. 7:14) "So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many are called, but **few** chosen." (Matt. 20:16) How did the **few** find the path? They were **chosen** to do so.

You are saved by grace through faith

Referring again to the letters of Paul we read: "By **grace** are ye **saved** through faith; and **that not of yourselves:** it is the **gift of God: not of works,** lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before **ordained** that we should walk in them." (Eph. 2:8-10) How then are we going to be saved? By **grace.** Do we have that grace. No, we do not. We will get it from God if He thinks that we are worthy. Good works will not necessarily qualify us for this grace.

There are two kinds of good works mentioned in this quotation. One is positive and good; the other is negative and bad. Here we have two types of religion. One is a "do" type and the other is a "do not". The "do" or positive type is what Jesus referred to when he said: "Do unto others, etc." That is the purpose for which we were created, and the works resulting therefrom come from the Christ within and are always constructive. The others are negative and come from the outer consciousness and are composed of "do nots". It is this type that makes people very righteous (in their own estimation) and very proud

of the things that they do not do. Since there is no place for this type on any plane of advanced development, when the "predestined" are finally assembled, it will be noted that there will be a very marked absence of "good" people in the group. There will be no boasters.

Peter had something to say on this subject too: **"Elect** according to the **foreknowledge** of **God** the **Father."** (IPet. 1:2) "But ye are a **chosen** generation, a **royal priesthood,** an **holy nation,** a **peculiar people;** that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath **called you out of darkness** into **his** marvelous **light."** (I Pet. 2:9)

Where to find the predestinated

In the book of Matthew this same group is also called the Elect.

"And except those days be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but **for the elect's sake** those days shall be shortened." (Matt. 24:22)

"For there shall arise **false Christs** and **false prophets,** and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, **if it were possible,** they shall deceive the **very elect."** (Matt. 24:24)

But it is not possible to deceive the elect because they have been hand-picked by God and have been educated in Cosmic Law and thoroughly tested in many incarnations.

The following is an interesting statement found in the Book of Revelations.

"And they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were **not written in the book of life** from the **foundation of the world."** (Rev. 17:18)

We see from this quotation that there were some, at least, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world and they are the ones that wonder about the things that are happening and are also the ones who will be deceived by the false teachers. We have already quoted Scriptures that show that the **elect** or **predestinated** had their names written in that book **before the foundation of the world,** and that they would understand the meaning of the time of trouble and would not be deceived. It is in the distinction of these two groups that we will find the secret of predestination.

ENLIGHTENMENT—The Three Paths

By Mabel Hopkins

MANKIND through the ages has acquired many ideas concerning Life and everything there is on the planet, many of which are not founded on Truth, and which when followed lead to disease, distress, discord and imperfections of every kind. When the path becomes so difficult and seems to lead to a blind end, the soul then in desperation calls for help and assistance and asks how to get out of the misery and unhappiness it is experiencing and to be shown the "true way" that will lead into the beauty, perfection and happiness that every heart craves. It is at such a time that **enlightenment** brings the glimmer of LIGHT to bear upon the shadows, by which the individual can retrace his steps and place his feet upon the True Path that leads to Perfection.

The circuitous route previously followed either through ignorance or wilfulness, must be completely traversed BACK to where he started on the wrong path, and even though it is necessary to seemingly start all over on the long journey, yet with the Light of Truth ever going before him, enfolding and guiding him, he is able to travel more quickly and is assured of gaining the goal—the Mount of Attainment!

The individual must become "as a little child"—willing to set aside all previous ideas and concepts which caused him to stumble—and to **listen** with the inner ear and ever endeavor to apply and make practical the Truth presented to him, watching closely for the unseen debris (in his thoughts and feelings) which might cause him to stumble.

Enlightenment brings LIGHT into the mind and helps to dissolve old and set ideas. Through **enlightenment** he learns that God truly is Love, and that His Will is perfection for everyone of His Children, and that the distresses experienced have NOT been sent by God but are the result of his own free will.

Enlightenment brings greater understanding and Truth about

Creation and God's Messengers, and the necessity to be tolerant, and kindly to all life since life moves in a circle and what he wishes for any other part of life, will first express in his own world. Enlightenment explains that beauty is part of God expressing through all avenues, music and art being two of them, and that God also expresses in the scientific world as Truth in proving the exactness of the law.

As the desire expands, to bring the Light and Truth which he is learning to others of mankind man is willing to assist each part of life that crosses his path, trying to make it more comfortable and happy.

And as he continues he finds to his great joy that many of the mistakes of the past can be completely wiped out by invoking the Sacred Fire, and he is thus able to better LIVE that which he believes, for a living example is worth a million words of preaching or teaching!

In the search for enlightenment there are three definite Paths, Action, Love and Wisdom, which constitute the threefold manifestation of Divinity; and yet the three mingle in one, as you should not act unless you do it in love and wisely; you should not love unless you express it in action and in a wise manner, and you should not seek understanding or wisdom unless you put some action in your quest and express some love.

Therefore, seek more LIGHT, even more physical light, and continue to "seek and ye shall find" THAT TRUTH which has been guarded for centuries of time but which now is given freely for the "asking".

May all the Powers of Light and Illumination assist you to gain more light in your body, your home, your business and all your endeavors and help our dear Earth to quickly become a shining orb of Light—Freedom's Holy Star made manifest!

* * *

PEACE—Its Principle and Practice

By Fred Bruce

PEACE is not something that you acquire from outside; Peace is WITHIN! Of all the God Qualities, however, It seems to be buried so deeply within the average individual that they are unaware of Its Presence. It is necessary to still the outer long enough each day to feel the "fringes" of this Peace, for It like Love, is the basis of all perfection which you desire to achieve.

Peace is the quality so needed in the world today but It can never manifest permanently until each one takes himself in hand and begins to discipline the mind, body and feelings and hold them in leash against the rip-tides of energy of every kind that would prevent that Peace taking root and growing in each ones world. The more you can do to bring this Peace to suffering mankind, the more of It will you have in your own world, which will act not only as a mighty protection in time of need, but make you a magnet for all the forces of Good to flow into your world.

Peace, as with Love, can do all things, and is a pre-requisite to perfect health, supply, beauty and happiness. In Peace you can hear the "still small voice" that will lead you right.

If you would know and experience first hand what true Peace is, then sit in the most comfortable chair you can find, listen for a few moments to the most beautiful soft music, then turn your attention to the GOD WITHIN YOUR HEART and think of PEACE! Silently call to the Angels of Peace to attend you and bathe deep and long in the Realm of Peace. Each day endeavor to stay in that Realm of Peace a little longer so that without effort Peace radiates from you. Learn to pour Peace on the discord and inharmonies which you contact and let it flow forth from your thoughts, from your feelings, and speak so as not to shatter It.

THE BRIDGE TO FREEDOM, INC.
R.F.D. #I, Box 321

Charlottesville, Va.

October 25, 1959.

Beloved Friends of Light:

At the direction of our Beloved Maha Chohan, and the Ascended Master Saint Germain and our Beloved El Morya, the headqaarters of THE BRIDGE TO FREEDOM, INC. are now located in the State of Virginia.

All correspondence pertaining to

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should now be addressed to the specific Department R.F.D. #1, Box #321, Charlottesville, Va.

It will be our pleasure to handle your orders and requests from this Holy Focus established in love by the Ascended Host of Light.

In the service of the Ascended Masters

"I AM"

Geraldine Innocente
President

THE BRIDGE TO FREEDOM, INC.
R.F.D. #1 - Box 321
Charlottesville, Virginia.

November 27, 1959.

CHRISTMAS CLASS ANNOUNCEMENT.

Beloved Friends of Light:

We decree that the full gathered Cosmic Momentum of the Holy Season bless you and all life everywhere.

Following your usual pattern for the Quarterly Class Activities and drawing the specific Radiation of the Ascended Beings Who will intensify Their particular Blessings on the dates given below, you, like the children of Shamballa, will bless your entire locality as well as the evolutions of this Sweet Earth.

* *

December 24th. 1959	Beloved Ascended Master Mother Mary
December 25th. 1959	Beloved Ascended Master Jesus
December 26th. 1959	Beloved Archangel Gabriel
December 27th.1959	Beloved Ascended Master El Morya

Your selection, songs, readings and decrees will, of course, be determind by the momentum of your precious lifestreams.

As you well know, the activities of the Rocky Mountain Retreat, December 15th. through January 14th. are continuous throughout the twenty-four hour period so you will be filling the Mighty Cosmic Cup of Blessing to all life by holding the Classes at your usual hour.

The Benediction of the Holy Family and the Angelic Host particularly flow into your worlds with all the God Gifts which are Theirs, to enrich your beings and worlds.

Lovingly, "I AM"

In the Service of the Ascended Host of Light

Geraldine Innocente.