

THE MYSTIC MESSENGER



...

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MESSAGES OF THE WHITE BROTHERS

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THE MYSTIC MESSENGER IS AN AUTHORIZED CHANNEL FOR THE MESSAGES OF THE WHITE BROTHERS OF THE LODGE INVISIBLE AND CONTAINS CHATS BY THE BRETHREN AND THE NEWS OF THE BROTHERHOOD AS ITS PENDANT IN THE WESTERN WORLD

THE MESSAGE

"WHATEVER IS, - IS GOOD."

We have heard that statement many times, but I wonder if many of us do not question its truthfulness. It is hard to see Good in Evil, yet as we take the matter into meditation we begin to see the Truth in this statement of the Old Initiates.

The Message for this month is "Whatever is, - is Good." And our task is to set about proving to ourselves that the circumstance of condition and environment in which we find ourselves is Good. This does not mean that if suffering from the limitations of ill health and sickness or suffering from the restraint and restriction of poverty, or uncongenial work or surroundings, we should accept it, making no effort to change it - that is entirely an erroneous viewpoint. We can firmly agree that it is good, this affliction, whatever it may be, we can see it spurs us on to find the causes within ourselves, and set about removing them. We recognize that the condition is to teach us a lesson, and that when we have learned that lesson and recognized the error or weakness which this thing is designated to teach us, and when we have changed the cause, then the thing itself will no longer have reason for existence, and it will automatically disappear, while a new strength of character will have been built, replacing an old weakness.

So if we are suffering from sickness or ill health it is but the result of our neglect, our Sins of Omission or perhaps our Sins of Commission. If the condition is now chronic

and seems impossible to overcome, remember we have had many opportunities in the past to correct the thoughts of causation. We must have ignored these warnings, or the condition would not now be forcing our serious attention. Always the conditions are cumulative, they keep piling up and piling up until we are forced even against our own inertia to turn in an opposite direction, and commence to retrace our steps.

If we are now suffering the limitations of any lack in finance, or if we are burdened with debts and obligations, then let us not attempt to soothe our conscience by saying "it is the depression," but rather let us recognize that it is only in our own lack of preparation our own lack of foresight and understanding, for depressions always come and go. Everything is always becoming something else. In days of prosperity conditions of panic and lack are being created, in days of deepest adversity the seeds by which the recovery is brought about are being sown. Ours the blame if we fail to look ahead and correctly interpret what is coming. Remember, today and tomorrow we are laying the foundation of 1935 and 1936 -- what preparation are we making? Are we drifting along, railing at Fate, or are we busy building? By building we mean removing first the piled up debris of careless habits, of debts, or of ill health -- we at least can busy ourselves house cleaning and we must, for it is the first step.

So let us recognize our individual responsibilities today, and let us turn to ourselves and look within,

Let us learn the lesson which this combination of circumstances, set in motion by our efforts, has brought to us, for it is only in this way that we can make sure that it will not be necessary for us to go thru the lesson again. Not one of us desire, I am sure, to repeat these experiences; let us then make sure, by studying and analyzing the causes, the reasons why. Let us admit to ourselves freely and frankly the traits and characteristics which brought us into alignment with these currents, and let us recognize quite as frankly that it would have been equally possible to have aligned ourselves with other currents which would have carried us through these days with more of peace and contentment. If only we would place the blame upon ourselves, instead of attributing everything that happens to outside forces, to other people, to circumstances beyond our control, how much quicker we would set about the task of correcting our building, and how much sooner we would be above these conditions, which affect all save only those, who have learned to think, and who having thought, to do something about it.

The Masters ask of you but one thing, to commence with the condition as it is. To commence. To do something, then to do something, else, and to keep on doing something. Then their inspiration will flow to you, ideas will flash across your consciousness, your prayers will be answered because "ye ask aright."

A TEACHER SPEAKS

You see, in the quiet of my study here communing with souls thru an aura of universal love, there are no appearances or personal traits to blur my spiritual vision, so the living photograph of those I work with is vivid in my mind, alive with interest and beauty.

If I look out of my window or go

for a little walk, the scenery is lived by the mocking birds, adorned with flowers and splended by sunshine. Yet this only enhances my inner world and the charm of the friends there with me, the living pictures in my mind. One may constantly dwell in two worlds and the inner universal life throws a glory over everything terrestrial glamoring everything with beauty. So in my letters I do try to express my appreciation of the Divinity I see in each of you. Silently I rest a moment, Reverent, Blessing and Blest Praying.

May all your life be one constant Prayer, the prayer of Joy and Power the prayer of souls who face life daringly, not the mere twittering about some selfish wish, but exulting in an aspiration that wings a soul soaring high over abysmal wastes, heavenward on wide spread pinions of faith and hope, poising free in buoyant air and palpitating sunshine to peal a joy song of ecstasy of all divine goodness and all eternal providence.

This is the prayer gushing forth from the soul of us of the Brotherhood to each and every one of you -- that we give ourselves, all, every whit to the service of bringing God's riches to you. The teachings of his elect of all ages, passed on to you.

THE MORNING DEDICATION

The day is thine, dear Lord, and I
am thine.
Oh, may no unkind thoughts or words
of mine
Disturb the harmony of this thy day,
But love, and joy in service, have
full sway.
And what I ask for self I ask for all,
And in the name of Him who bade us
call
Upon thee, and with childlike faith
to say
Our Father.

"THE ESSENES"

We commonly speak of Jesus as "The Western Master," or again as the Master of the Western Traditions. Much of the recorded History in the Bible concerning His Life and His Teachings is not clear until one considers Him as "a Master of the Essenes." Very little is publically known of this Sect, or its ramifications today, yet the Brotherhood University constitutes an Outer Court for this Venerable Order and its Masters; its Teachings are the same as those which the Master studied in those far off days, first in Palestine, at the Headquarters at Engaddi near the Dead Sea, and later at the other larger Center in Egypt, on the Banks of Lake Maoris.

In the Book of Josephus we find reference after reference to this Ancient Brotherhood. In his "Wars of the Jews," he describes something of this Organization -- "They had no one certain City, but many of them dwelt in every City, and if any of their Sect came from other places what they have lies open for them, just as if it were their own, and they go into such as they never knew before, as if they had been ever so long acquainted with them. Accordingly, there is, in every city where they live, one appointed particularly to take care of strangers, and to provide garments and other necessities for them.

Schure, in "The Last Great Initiate," says, "If such was the public and purely moral Teaching of Jesus (referring to His Exoteric Teachings) it is evident that in addition He gave private instruction to His Disciples, parallel with and explanatory of the former, showing its Inner Meaning, and penetrating to the very depths of the Spiritual Truth He derived from the Esoteric Traditions of the Essenes."

"Among the Essenes, the Brothers, properly so called, lived under a community of Property, cultivating the ground and at times educating the children of strangers. Silent, gentle and grave, they were to be met with here and there, cultivating the Arts of Peace. Carpenters, Weavers, Vine Planters, or Gardeners, never Gunsmiths or Merchants -- scattered in small groups about the whole of Palestine and thruout Egypt, even so far as Mount Hored, they offered one another the most complete hospitality. Thus we see Jesus and His disciples journeying from town to town, and from province to province, and always certain of finding shelter and lodging. "The Essenes," said Josephus, were of exemplary Morality; they forced themselves to suppress passion and anger, always benevolent, peaceable and trustworthy. Their word was more powerful than an oath, which, in ordinary life, they looked upon as superfluous. They endured the most cruel of tortures with admirable steadfastness of Soul and smiling confidence, rather than violate the slightest Religious Precept.

"Indifferent to the outward pomp of Worship at Jerusalem, repelled by the harshness of the Sadducees and the Prayers of the Pharisees, as well as the pedantry of the Synagogue, Jesus was attracted toward the Essenes by natural affinity. From the Essenes He received what they alone could give Him, the Esoteric Tradition of the Prophets, and by, it seems, His own Historical and Religious tendency or trend, He came to understand how wide a gap separated the Official Jewish Doctrines from the Ancient Wisdom of the Initiates, the veritable Mother of Religion.

Josephus describes the Essenes again, "And as for their piety towards God, it is very extraordinary; for, before sunrising, they speak not a word about profane matters, but put up certain prayers, which they have received

From their forefathers, as if they made a supplication for its rising. After this, every one of them is sent away by their curators to exercise some of those arts wherein they are skilled, in which they labour with great diligence till the fifth hour. After which they assemble themselves together again into one place, bathe their bodies in cold water, they then clothe themselves in white veils. And after this purification is over, they every one meet together in an apartment of their own, into which it is not permitted to any of another sect to enter; while they go, after a pure manner, into the dining-room, as into a Holy Temple, and quietly set themselves down; upon which the baker lays them loaves in order; the cook also brings a single plate of one sort of food, and sets it before every one of them; but a priest says grace before meat, and it is unlawful for any one to taste of the food before grace be said. The same priest also, when he hath dined, says grace again after meat, and when they begin, and when they end, they praise God as he that bestows their food upon them; after which they lay aside their white garments, and betake themselves to their labours again till the evening; then they return home to supper, after the same manner."-----

"But now, if any one hath a mind to come over to their sect, he is not immediately admitted but he is prescribed the same method of living which they use, for a year, while he continues excluded, and they give him also a small hatchet, and the girdle and the white garment. And when he hath given evidence, during that time, that he can observe their continence, he approaches nearer to their way of living, and is made a partaker of the waters of purification; yet is he not even now admitted to live with them; for after his demonstration of his fortitude, his temper is tried two more years, and if he appears to be

worthy, they then admit him into their society. And before he is allowed to touch their common food, he is obliged to take tremendous oaths, that in the first place he will exercise piety towards God, and then that he will observe justice towards men, and that he will do no harm to any one, either of his own accord, or by the command of others; that he will always hate the wickedness and be assistant to the righteous, that he will ever show fidelity to all men, and especially to those in authority; because no one obtains the government without God's assistance; and that if he be in authority, he will at no time whatever abuse his authority, nor endeavour to outshine his subjects, either in his garments or any other finery; that he will be perpetually a lover of truth, and propose to himself to reprove those that tell lies that he will keep his hands clear from theft, and his soul from unlawful gains; and that he will neither conceal anything from those of his own sect, nor discover any of their doctrines to others; no not though any one should compel him to do so at the hazard of his life.

"Moreover, he swears to communicate their doctrines to no one any otherwise than as he received them himself; that he will abstain from robbery, and will equally preserve the books belonging to their sect, and the names of the Angels (or messengers.) These are the oaths by which they secure their proselytes to themselves.

"There are also those among them who undertake to foretell things to come, by reading the Holy Book, and using several sorts of purifications, and being perpetually conversant in the discourses of the prophets; and it is but seldom that they miss in their predictions.

So the Essenes in the days of Jesus constituted the remnants of the earlier Brotherhood of the Prophets

as organized by Samuel which in turn carried forward in their day the living Truth brought from the Motherland in the West. Today we find the ancient Brotherhoods existing as custodians of the age old Truths quietly waiting the days when they shall come forth and speak with authority for they must be called not alone of God but by men.

DAILY THANKSGIVING

Dr. Alan Emley, Ph. D.

Thank God

that you have something to do this day - something that must be done whether or not you want to do it - something that will force you to do your best for you will learn many things, and great will be your reward in the development of confidence, self-control and strength of will.

Thank God

that you have been sick, for thus do you learn the simple rules of health that will keep you strong and well.

Thank God

that you have suffered from hunger, for by so suffering you may learn the blessing and value of simple, wholesome food.

Thank God

that you have been in want, for thus can you master the law of service to others that will bring abundance to you.

Thank God

that you have suffered from pain, for it is through knowing pain that the human soul gains courage, poise and the realization that pain is not an evil.

Thank God

that you have known failure, for only he who can rise above failure is worthy of success.

Thank God

that you have known disappointment, for only thus can one learn the relative unimportance of fleeting desire.

Thank God

that you have been ignorant, for it is through the realization of ignorance that one may gain knowledge.

Thank God

that you have been foolish, for it is by suffering the consequence of folly that one is able to become wise.

Thank God

that you have lost in many contests, for only the one who can lose gracefully is worthy of becoming a winner.

Thank God

that you have paid the penalty of acting from emotion, for the realization of such mistakes enables one to gain serenity.

Thank God

that you have known trouble and worryment, for by suffering thus, one may develop the courage to face the future without fear, and have faith and knowledge that all is well.

BOTH SIDES OF LIFE.

We are told that Thoughts are Things, we are told that "As a Man thinketh in his heart, so is he." There is a little story that illustrates these Truths, in a way that perhaps makes a deeper impress upon the mind. The Thought was this: -- "Nature has a never failing compass,

By means of which the woodsman can tell the direction. One side of every rock, every hill, every tree, is a more or less barren side, on that side there is more Shadow than Sunshine, there is more moss there than flowers; that is the North Side. On another side of the same object there are birds or butterflies, or flowers, or vegetation, depending upon the geographical location and the Seasons -- this is the South Side, the live side, the lovely side."

We Human Beings have North and South ideas, North and South Dispositions, North and South Attitudes towards everything and everybody. When we suffer barren hearts, we are cold and unrelenting, with "Unwelcome" written in the expression of our faces. We are selfish, critical, and faithless, we believe in difficulty and have it; we believe in lack and attract it. We expect sickness, we worry ourselves into the midst of sick thoughts. There is little happiness on the North Side of Life there is little of smiles and laughter, and much of gloom.

The healthy minded child and the healthy minded adult are on the South side of Life. They live in the Sunshine of things, they love and are loved, because only the good is real to them; they need no dark corners in which to hide, they laugh and sing in the great freedom of God's World.

When we find ourselves on the North Side of Life it is time to face about, to banish all the gloomy thoughts that take us away from the Sunshine, and go straight to the opposite side. Depressed individuals are on the North Side of things only because they do not go over to the South Side. No conditions can help them, no person can console them, no material possessions can lift them, but the South Side is waiting for them, and like the Prodigal, they will realize this some day; they will come to themselves, and go over to the other side, the happy South Side.

The other day I received a letter from a student of M. B. U. in which was enclosed some verses. This student like many others, including myself, has speculated about re-incarnation.

As is always the case, when we spend enough time in serious meditation the reward is forth coming. I am going to quote here her verse which was published in the Fort Smith, Arkansas, Times Record.

DO SOULS SPEAK?

Do souls speak? I often ponder
As I search for thoughts unknown;
Does my soul speak with your soul,
Or does it wander on, alone?

Who knows the countless ages
Since time has ruled our fate;
Through Cosmic space we've traveled,
Or have paused by a garden gate?

Does your soul greet my soul
In unnumbered countless ways;
Have our souls been calling
Through life's uncharted waves?

Let me breathe to you a secret,
Happened some thousand years ago;
We are foolish human beings,
But our souls, I think they know.

Through the breathless hush they
whisper
As they wander on, in time;
Will they travel on together,
These souls, yours and mine?

Maxine O'Connor.

Meditation has brought this student the reward which she alone can appreciate. Such experiences are received with Thanksgiving by those on the PATH who have earnestly and faithfully sought the truth.

"Be not weary in well doing, for in due time ye shall reap, if ye

"faint not." Wisdom is not delivered to the intelligensia, for they are self sufficient unto themselves, but to those who earnestly and humbly seek truth, to them it shall be delivered when they have proven themselves worthy to receive it. "Worthy are they who hunger and thirst for right; they shall be satisfied." "Worthy are they who gain the mastery of self; they have the key of power."

Reincarnation is a puzzle to many students, some have received it with much skepticism, others have proven it to their own satisfaction, so in my next months contribution I shall give you an experience of mine that I feel certain will be of unusual interest to you.

Old Joe.

DIVINE FORGETFULNESS

The various ills of Humanity, called by many different names, at different periods, and which are in reality the same old ills, have for the Occult Student a very real interest, for back of the phenomena of each and every disease, one can perceive the distorted mental state, which inevitably brought it forth, the negative thinking, that is, which, having been used positively, and in accordance with the Great Laws of the Universe, would have produced the corresponding opposite of health manifestation.

Perhaps some of you have heard Dr. Arlington some years ago, who was formerly Health Commissioner of New York. He gave a splendid message. Cautioning against worry, he stated that with every panic in Wall Street the number of cases of kidney disease increased strikingly in the City of New York. This is a statement which is significant to every student of Occultism. Truly the wrath of Man all unconsciously praises God.

Amnesia, the total loss of Memory, is another form of disease concerning which one reads many pa-

thetic and thought provoking accounts. What difficulties of adjustment, environment, either apparent or obscure brought about the mental conditions that express themselves in this manner -- terrible indeed must have been the particular world of the individual, weak indeed must have been his hold on Actualities, that total forgetfulness of his human individuality was the only way of escape that seemed possible.

Yet at times I suppose that to the unenlightened Thinker this total oblivion of Individuality, of all the ills and problems of the John Smiths or the Mary Jones' and their relatives and friends included, holds a certain fascination. We all get frightfully tired sometimes of ourselves and of the world that we have built around us. We would like to escape from it all and start over again; our affairs drive us mad, even our friends bore us to desperation. It is a very human condition, understandable from the standpoint of human reasoning, and shared in by almost all of us in moments when we are off guard, but how appalling the result when it so poisons the Secret Springs of Consciousness as to produce the condition known as Amnesia.

But, as with all products of discordant and inharmonious thinking, there is the other extreme, and the pole opposite to error, the corresponding manifestation of Law. The Science of Occultism shows the way to complete freedom from the bonds and the shackles the Human Mind has for itself. There is a Divine Amnesia, of which the physical disease by that name is but a ghastly counterfeit.

Perhaps we hadn't thought of it that way before, perhaps we had never realized that our desire to put off the old and put on the new without using a positive and legitimate way is the same Desire to escape from our Human Prison House.

But that is what it is. Few people begin the study of Occultism

until they feel themselves dissatisfied with conditions as they find them manifested in their own lives. Unaware, perhaps, of the power of thought, they have all unconsciously built up around them a world that appears to them one day, quite suddenly perhaps, as monstrous. Their one desire is to get away from this awful product of their own human building. How fortunate it is that this inharmonious world of theirs has no power or actuality save in their own minds, that once the Light of their Innermost Being is allowed to flood the dark corners of their mental prison, these negative shadows of error disappear into their native nothingness.

It is right here that Occultism offers a Divine Amnesia; the Apostle sensed this fact when he wrote, "Forgetting the things which are behind, I press on." The old life of Saul of Tarsus had been a very narrow one, hemmed in by blind adherence to Tradition and Dogma, embittered by hatred. But with the realization which came to him in that Blinding Light he put away all that from him; he did not spend the rest of his life regretting the mistakes of the past; he forgot them. Remember the word "Forget" means really to "get in place of something else." To forget then, is not to leave the mind a blank, but to supply a new thought in place of the old one.

The new man, Paul, did just that. The mistakes of his past life were blotted from his memory, as he grew and developed in the Christ Consciousness.

In this Divine Forgetfulness, it is only the untrue, the erroneous concepts of human mind that are obliterated, no glimmering of the Truth of Life, however feeble, that brightened even one's most material thinking, is destroyed. In the new Consciousness all the true work of the past is brought along. But there is a word of warning to be uttered. This forgetfulness of the past, with its limitations, must not take the form of a

passive acceptance of unpleasant conditions. One of the pitfalls awaiting the careless Occult Student is that of becoming so enamored of the Intellectual appreciation of the Truths that are being taught him that he delays the manifestation. He tends to become quite lost in the clouds, so satisfying does he find the new Doctrine. In his contemplation of the formulae of the Occult he forgets their only real value to him lies in their availability to correct discordant conditions, and in their practical application in the amelioration of these same conditions. He may sit in the Silence and come out with strained tense features, and impaired health, he may read books on the Laws which govern Finance and all the phases of Human Activity, and still find himself without funds to pay his house rent. His forgetfulness of the necessary problems of his daily life, while enjoying what amounts to a Spiritual Spree, is indeed costly.

The Laws must be demonstrated; activity is a Divine Attribute; Occultism furnishes all the needed tools but the individual must do the work, and until he brings into manifestation the fruits of his new and higher viewpoint, the world may well look on, and believe that so far as he is concerned, Occultism is simply another Illusionary Philosophy, another escape from Actuality, another opiate for the weak.

When we realize these points, when we remember that our Forgetfulness of the things that are behind depends on what we actually do, not merely dream, toward pressing forward, then indeed do we experience the Blessings of the Divine Amnesia. The disease Amnesia produces a forgetfulness that avoids the solution of depressing problems. In the Amnesia of Occultism there is a forgetfulness springing from the Consciousness that an inharmonious condition has been met and conquered, so that the place thereof knows it no more. What a world of difference between the two; the difference that always lies between True Thinking and its false counterfeit.

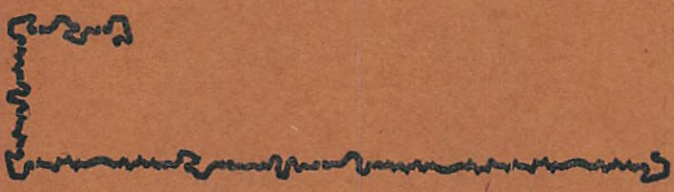


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