

The True Light

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THE LAW OF GOD

THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME.

II.

THOU SHALT NOT MAKE UNTO THEE ANY GRAVEN IMAGE, OR ANY LIKENESS OF ANY-THING THAT IS IN HEAVEN ABOVE, OR THAT IS IN THE EARTH BENEATH, OR THAT IS IN THE WATER UNDER THE EARTH. THOU SHALT NOT BOW DOWN THYSELF TO THEM NOR SERVE THEM: FOR I THE LORD THY GOD AM A JEALOUS GOD VISITING THE INIQUITY OF THE FATHERS UPON THE CHILDREN UNTO THE THIRD AND FOURTH GENERATION OF THEM THAT HATE ME AND SHOWING MERCY UNTO THOUSANDS OF THEM THAT LOVE ME AND KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS.

III.

THOU SHALT NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD THY GOD IN VAIN FOR THE LORD WILL NOT HOLD HIM GUILTY THAT TAKETH HIS NAME IN VAIN.

IV.

REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY TO KEEP IT HOLY. SIX DAYS SHALT THOU LABOR AND DO ALL THY WORK: BUT THE SEVENTH DAY IS THE SABBATH OF THE LORD THY GOD: IN IT THOU SHALT NOT DO ANY WORK, THOU, NOR THY SON, NOR THY DAUGHTER, THY MAN-SERVANT, NOR THY MAID-SERVANT, NOR THY CATTLE, NOR THY STRANGER THAT IS WITHIN THY GATES: FOR IN SIX DAYS THE LORD MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH, THE SEA AND ALL THAT IN THEM IS, AND RESTED THE SEVENTH DAY: WHEREFORE THE LORD BLESSED THE SABBATH DAY AND HALLOWED IT.

V.

HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER, THAT THY DAYS MAY BE LONG UPON THE LAND WHICH THE LORD THY GOD GIVETH THEE.

VI.

THOU SHALT NOT KILL.

VII.

THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.

VIII.

THOU SHALT NOT STEAL.

IX.

THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST THY NEIGHBOR.

X.

THOU SHALT NOT COVET THY NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE, THOU SHALT NOT COVET THY NEIGHBOR'S WIFE, NOR HIS MAN-SERVANT, NOR HIS MAID-SERVANT, NOR HIS OX, NOR HIS ASS, NOR ANYTHING THAT IS THY NEIGHBOR'S.

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The True Light

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

SOWING AND REAPING

Brought Forth by Rev. M. E. Claas

(An Abstract)



FOR A CLOSER walk with God. That is what I would call to all. Many will wonder why we should come closer to that Supreme Being. You see not as we see, into that far distance where all must stand. Well for those who are reaching out to and getting in closer touch with that God. Many will say, "I do the best I can. I reach in my own way, trying to do my best."

Are you coming closer and closer to that Being? Are you ready to stand and face that God whom you must confront? Have you ever thought of it? Those of old oftentimes looked toward the Far East from whence the Sun comes forth in the early hours to give their thanks to the Creator. Are you doing that today? Have you been thankful for past days that have been showered with blessings for you? Have you ever thought you could not have existed had it not been that God gave you strength to overcome obstacles? Most of humanity will say it is natural, it is self.

If power had not been sent forth and that strength had not been given, you could not have accomplished anything. You all look forward to great things, but we should build not only the material part but do that which will help build up the spiritual part. Well it is when we build in the right direction, but many, many only look to that which is for the material. We only want what is here and we know not nor care we what comes after. Most will say, "No one has yet returned, not one of the dead has come and told us what transpires."

Still, you will have to acknowledge that when one of your loved ones had gone over the border and their lifeless body was before you, it made a sort of impression upon you that you did not stand before anything material any more. It seemed there was something that we had sort of reverence for. We cared not to make much noise, we cared not for much gossip. We only thought of going about quietly where that loved form lay, still it was harmless. It could do nothing. The life that had been in it had gone on its way. It was only the earthly form now, yet you will say, "There was something that made me feel I was not standing in the presence of earthly things." Why is it? The dead body could do you no harm, it could not stand up and come toward you. It was only a material form, it had been made in the material plane and again had to be left there. The life had escaped. "Where has it gone?" many will ask.

It has been brought to many that "your loved one has ascended into the heavens. The spirit is there and will await you there." Have you ever thought or has it never been told you that in the heavens there must come that which is pure, that which is good, that which has purged itself of the conditions of the material plane?

It is not the heavens they have reached to. O, no. It is those planes (heavens you might call them) with heavy burdens clasped to, and why? As you have sown so shall you reap. You must again make right, for the spirit self, your own very self, has borne witness of what you have done while traveling in your material cloak. It is not that a judge will judge you then. O, no. It is your own self, your own better self. It will show you then what you have done and what you have

left undone and that which you did not heed. You had sown seeds which gathered and bore fruit one hundred fold, yes, one thousand fold, and how to undo it, that is the very obstacle, and it takes many, many years to undo those unrighteous doings. Therefore I call to each one to sow that which is good, that which is noble, that which is pure, and you will find it will reap one hundred fold and one thousand fold. Yes, in beauty, in love, and you will find that you will reach to those heavens you had so long dreamed of.

After so-called death thousands return and are happy and contented to go on their way and will advise you and tell you, "Follow on the right pathway and reach out farther than we, for we had been led astray, had been drawn down, we did not understand and did not want to understand." Those are the conditions. When the Elder Brother was here among men He often became sad over the way humanity reached only to that which would satisfy the flesh and cared little or nothing to do that which would satisfy the spirit. Destruction followed destruction, and one war came after another, and even now you know not at what moment you may be called to again shoulder a gun. Still, you say, why does God send these wars. It is not God, but humanity, because they are not in brotherhood with one another. They show not that divine love. You seek and you sow and you reap it upon yourselves.

A rich young man came to the Elder Brother and said, "Master, how can I inherit the Kingdom of God?" Jesus looked at him and saw he was a man of wealth, and told him to follow the Law of God, and the young man replied that he had followed the Law from his youth. The Elder Brother knew within the heart of that young man there clung that desire for riches, wealth, honor, and He said, "Give all that thou possessest to the poor, those that have nothing and take up the cross and follow me." The young man became sad, he liked his wealth and thought the Elder Brother wanted him to part with everything, which was not rightly understood. Jesus did not mean he should be in poverty and want. He wanted to see how deeply the goodness lay with that young man, but it was only for the material, nothing more, yet he wanted to inherit the Kingdom of God.

So it is with most young men and women, unsatisfied, looking for something they know not what. They see not how God has blessed them, how the Father had been kind in sending them health and strength to go on their way. And they find fault with their journeying here. Is it right? O no. Reach to that which is right while you travel here and you will find the blessings will be with you. Seek God's Kingdom first and all material will be added to you for ye that follow on the right pathway and seeketh to that Higher Force, that God, that Jehovah, will indeed be blessed here and hereafter. Listen to the inner voice that prompts you, cleanse out your conditions, follow the Law of God and your days will be long here and your reaping will be for that heavenly kingdom. AMEN.

APPOLIOS OF TREON.

Many of our readers are acquainted with the spiritual messages that our brother in spirit has given and which have appeared before the one above. The fact that there is an Instrument or Mediumship through which his thoughts can be related is one of the Wonders of God that we can be thankful for.

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

THE ELDER BROTHER'S PRAYER



THE ELDER BROTHER'S prayer, or commonly called the Lord's prayer in many worshipping places, is found in more than one portion of the scriptures. If you will read the version in Matthew you will have the complete prayer. His disciples wanted to know how to pray, and asked to be taught as John also taught his disciples. And he said unto them, "When ye pray, say, 'Our Father.'" What simple words the Elder Brother taught us to use when we talk to the Supreme Force, God. These words are comforting ones, full of expectation for every spirit in flesh. The Nazarene did not teach men to pray to his Father, but to "Our Father," meaning the entire race. Every son of Adam is included. Not one need be without hope, for when these words pour forth from the depth of our spirits, we declare our relationship with God. No religious body can claim these words exclusively their own. They belong to all races, creeds and climes. There is no special dispensation for one and denied to another. We are all equal God-part traveling this earthly school of experience. Let humanity realize this fact, for the will of the Supreme Force has decreed it. One Father and one family.

Who art in Heaven. Brother John, in Revelation, describes Heaven under physic influence as a city with golden streets like transparent glass. A city without need of the light of the sun, neither of the moon to shine therein, for the glory of God doth lighten it. A place without night or darkness, and where nothing can enter that defileth. Brother, this is all we need to know of Heaven at our present point of development.

"Nothing can enter that defileth. Be sure you know what you are talking about when you call to the Supreme Force. Understand this beautiful prayer if you use it. Say what you mean and mean what you say. Don't say one thing and have a secret desire for something else. Don't be in a hurry to finish the prayer. Some folks gallop through the words and are glad when the job is finished. Be honest, above all, for if your words defile, they will not enter that city of light. We should bear in mind when using this prayer that the Father is in "Kingdom Come," and we are on his footstool. Let us limit the number of our words in prayer, for the Supreme Force knows our thoughts before we express them. One kind deed will excel many words. Who art in Heaven.

Hallowed be thy name. The word hallowed means holy, consecrated. Recall that the Elder Brother said, "There is none good but one, that is God." Keep holy the holy name of the Father. Some of us in times gone by have belittled that holy name, and for this we hang our heads in shame. In our walks through life we find our brother-man holding God's name in vain. We often let the opportunity slip by to correct him. We should be strong enough to warn him. Now think of churches which call to the name of the Father for aid in the bloody business of war. Think of the pillars of churches who advocate capital punishment and then pray for God's will to be done on the earth plane. See the letter "G" in the east, a beautiful symbol of the all-seeing eye, only to find it a sham beyond the walls of the lodge room. We find regular churchgoers using the profane term of "My God" over the most ridiculous things of life. What blasphemy. We are talking to the One God, the ever living God of all whom Jesus of Nazareth worshipped in all the beauty of holiness. Man, your days are extinct and the grave is ready for you. What will your

answer be when you stand disrobed of flesh? Who then will you call to?

Thy Kingdom Come. The high spirit forces of light and understanding tell us that Kingdom Come opens every two thousand years. At that time all those spirits that have mastered every obstacle and are in oneness with God and perfect enter that city of light and combine with the Father. Why repeat thy kingdom come and then reach to the debasing things in the depths? I do not claim that we can produce Heaven among men. I do hold that we can establish by the will of the Father some method that will produce a united family of true brotherhood which would be of a heavenly nature. When old wrongs from earth shall perish and there are no more wars; when crowns and rulers begin to crumble and man needs no preaching, we will be in brotherhood. Crowns are crumbling and only a few remain. Men are tired of denominational preaching, as witness empty pews. Wars, however, are still the evil pastime of undeveloped men. Individually, how can we function in brotherhood? The answer is the same love story the Nazarene taught, to love thy God and thy neighbor, for on these commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. There is only one will throughout the universe. The will of God. This same will is the Law of God. All the brilliancy of men flee as a shadow before it. We further add for the benefit of all creeds, that there is one Father, one family and one will. We say that in each human being there is divinity, God-part, which must conform to this will. It must develop in brotherhood. As the God-part masters the earthly, humanity would not judge one another as it has in the past and judged God. When we start to understand the will of the Father, we will start to consider each other's viewpoints and not before. There is not to be found any plan of salvation other than the will of God. The man of sorrows is a saviour to all who follow his teachings. His life conformed to the will of God. He taught you to pray, "Thy will be done." His dying words expressed this thought. Brother, follow the path our Elder Brother trod. All the rest is superfluous.

Give us this day our daily bread. Do we mean it? Do we pray for enough for the day and the night, or have we a secret desire for a whole lot more? Someone has said we should take these words literally. I mean, we should not sit idly, waiting for our food to come in on a silver tray. The man who claims the world owes him a living finds himself disappointed. God provides the food for man as for the sparrow. In health and strength we reach for our needs. If health and strength are lacking, a way will be provided, if we are righteous. The question is, do we say something to the Supreme Force that we do not mean when we call for our daily bread? Do we repeat these words, knowing not what we say and glad when the prayer is finished? Some of us have been doing mighty fine things with our little incomes. However, we are asked to aid the cause of truth. As the bankroll dwindles, we fear. There are two things which keep humanity chained in darkness; the fear of losing money or valuables and the fear of losing the physical body. In the light of truth some of us are controlling fear. Others find it difficult to free themselves and remain bound. How often the spirit loved ones have returned through the clay to advise us not to fear old age. Why paint a gloomy picture of an old man, or an old woman, tottering over the hills to the poorhouse. Many of us will not be here at the three score and ten mark. You know the average mortality

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age for life is under forty years. When you say daily bread, mean daily bread and nothing more. Otherwise you are a full-fledged hypocrite of the popular order of hypocrites.

Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. The Elder Brother did not say whether social, moral or political debts are included. Use your own judgment based on the will of the Father. Do we ask for forgiveness and deny it to our brother? When our best effort is frowned upon and it seems we are misunderstood by all but the Father, just forgive. As we receive the most unkind cut and we feel in a good fighting mood as anger rises, forgive. We pray all over the place and at the slightest upset by our brother, we glare and fly at him from the depth of treachery. Did Jesus teach us these things? You know that he said the peacemakers are blessed and will be called the children of God. Let us be peacemakers, a happy household and in our lives as well as on our banners humanity will read, "We Forgive."

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Here are some more words misunderstood by the high-brow clergy. A few years ago the clergy in England became fussy over these words. They said the Father is not evil and would not lead us into temptation, which is absolutely correct. These men, like their forbears, had parroted the words hundreds of times. Finally light shone in the dark corners and these doctors of divinity became confused like certain insects when disturbed by the sunlight. They could not truly call the prayer, look up in the light and remain firm. They wanted to chop up our Elder Brother's prayer. They did not succeed. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil is the real cry of any person reaching out for spiritual things. If temptation crosses our pathway of life, we want strength to overpower it. We are not going out of our way to look for temptation. Too often has it drawn us down to evil. We know it and sincerely express our regrets for the shortcomings of the past. We have a perfect right to express these thoughts to the Supreme Force and ask for inspiration, protection and guidance. The prayer speaks for itself and need not be debated at this late date. If we do not know what we are praying about, we certainly are in spiritual darkness.

For thine is the Kingdom. The Kingdom is spiritual, and flesh and blood cannot enter. Petty jealousies, distinctions of creed and financial standings are barred. The high spirit forces tell us that Kingdom Come opens every two thousand years. All spirits then in oneness with God, having perfected themselves by making right every wrong, enter the Kingdom and combine with the Father. The will of God abides, for the earthly has been purged in the fires of love and humility. There is a way to reach higher to the Kingdom, and every mortal will travel the same road. If you want to know the road, you will find it marked, "The Law of God." If you feel skeptical that this is the right path to follow, read the life and teachings of the Elder Brother. If you still hold doubts, due to the confusion of man's creeds, talk to the Supreme Force, ask for spiritual light, and the High Spirit Forces you call angels will bring you understanding.

And the power. All power is from the Supreme Force. The high spirit forces acknowledge this and are wise. Man, you had better acknowledge it also. You are flying in the air and traveling through the seas. Your inventions and perfections are surprising you. These things you call wonderful are only material and will pass away as your breath leaves your earthly clay. Furthermore, you have not accomplished anything new. Why don't you reach spiritually? Your very thoughts could remove the mountains. You are part-God, a child in flesh of the Supreme Force. How foolish to gloat over

the material successes? If you would reach to the higher values, the everlasting conditions of truth and righteousness, we would have a wonderful world today. There is no necessity for being puffed up, mortal man, called flesh. Where were you when the foundations of the earth were laid? Who separated light from darkness? If you know the source of light, you will worship the Supreme Force as the high spirits do. If you do not know, you perhaps will worship the one who strikes your fancy, or perhaps will adore lifeless sticks and stones, or bric-a-brac. As God-part you have been endowed by the Father with all the power you can intelligently use. It is a sad condition when a child does not know enough to love and respect its parent. What a weakling to cry that you are not divine. Please, God, give me light.

And the Glory. The more wisdom a righteous child acquires, the more he glorifies the Father. The Nazarene was the great example in this respect. You do not find the Elder Brother glorifying himself. His miracles, which put to shame the spiritual shepherds of his time and ours, were an expression of the power of the Supreme Force. The miracles being performed today in righteous places also confound the denominational orators. We give thanks to God for this power which man cannot deny, although it conflicts with his man-made institutions. You do not hear the sectarian believer join in the chorus the angels sing, of Blessing and Power and Kingdom and Glory and Light and Love and Perfection and Harmony and Thanksgiving forever.

I heard one of the most prominent Baptist ministers preach to about ten thousand spirits in flesh. He was eloquent and held his audience, and they gave him a fat salary for his preaching. As I look back I see that he was only an orator, a word painter, and needed light. To bring out the most important point, I will try and quote his words from memory. He said, "I stood in the great mosque at Constantinople, where millions of believers sing their praise to Allah. I looked up into that wonderful dome, that massive sounding box on high, and I shouted, 'Christ is over all, the king of kings and lord of lords.'" During the same service this clergyman quoted the Elder Brother's prayer. He did not know what he was talking about. He simply used words without serious thought, and since his hearers did no serious thinking, he was able to lead them in darkness. Will he return like many others have and confess he did not know better, but only brought what had been brought to him? Oh you word-painter, lover of tradition and blind leader of the blind, come with me to the great mosque. Let me speak up into the wonderful sounding box in the spirit realms and hear the cry from the depths of my spirit. Supreme Force, God, there is none good but thee, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Father, I feel that the spirit of the Elder Brother will reach from those distant shores and call with me, Amen.

T. R. W.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

I STAND aghast
Over your beautiliness;
Rich is the past
In that your lovingness
Only will last.

Judge how a man
Under your influence
Looms up and can,
In Heaven's affluence,
Arise the man!

By GENE HOMER.

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

SUMMERLAND

A Page of Instruction for the Young Truthseekers. It is suggested that instructors extend every point made and to regularly review and emphasize them. Supplemental points should follow in due time. The Lectures shown in the beginning of each issue are the guides.



LESSON LXII—FOR THE GRACE OF GOD THAT BRINGETH SALVATION HATH APPEARED TO ALL MEN. Titus 2:11. It is not "the only begotten son" that brings salvation, nor an image nor any creed. It is TRUTH and OBE- DIENCE to the Law of God, and it was ever thus and ever shall it be, and it applies here and hereafter. It is of God, who is Love, Spirit, Supreme, and that God-part within prompts us so we know right from wrong. So we would not be misled or misguided, all should listen to the inner voice. God's Will be done and not ours, and He hath given us only that which is for our spiritual upliftment and material welfare. Salvation does not come in any mysterious form, nor is it difficult to understand if we are willing to look into the ways of God.

The Father has given those spiritual gifts as wisdom, power of healing, performing miracles, interpreting the signs, prophecy, discerning of spirits and understanding how to work out our salvation and the better to prepare our way back to Him who first sent us forth. God forgives no one, we each must make right our own shortcomings. This we do not in fear, not in sleep, not in the rudiments of the world, not in darkness, through strife or vainglory, not in evil, not grudgingly, not through the outward man that perishes, not through others to give account for us, but by being led by the Spirit of God. (See previous lessons on all these points.) It is only from God we have the fullest protection and salvation, and so we look to Him direct and not through anything or anyone.

LESSON LXIII—GOD, WHO AT SUNDRY TIMES AND IN DIVERS MANNERS SPAKE IN TIMES PAST UNTO THE FATHERS BY THE PROPHETS, HATH IN THESE LAST DAYS SPOKEN UNTO US BY HIS SON. Hebrew 1:12. God has spoken the message of love and of truth and of salvation through His children in every generation. Those called and chosen because of their willingness and worthiness to serve God have become known as seers, prophets, psychics, mediums or instrumentalities through which have been revealed unto us all those truths which are of God and not of man. God speaks not in any "supernatural" manner and is not dependent upon faith, form or dogma for conviction. Revelation is not a subject for revision after revision, debates and arguments, but is to awaken us as children of men that communion with the God is spiritual and is for us to glory in.

One may be inspired or impressed what to say, another might have dreams or see visions, symbols and writings, still others may hear the spirit voice either directly or through an instrumentality, and in these divers manners is mankind guided as to what is best for the spirit and of the spiritual journey. Still greater works can be done if one will hold firm and true for righteousness sake. Man calls to God, and the right manner is to call spirit to spirit without use of great or vain words, but in a simple, childlike manner. It is not commanded that we must commune with the Father in certain manners, and it has pleased the Father as to how He shall commune with His children who may be traveling in body. Such as will relate the messages of truth to brother and sister everywhere regardless of race, sex, color or creed, find themselves pleasing in the sight of God. Not that the mediumship is to govern the importance of the message as it should be the message itself.

LESSON LXIV—WHEREAS YE KNOW NOT WHAT SHALL BE ON THE MORROW. FOR WHAT IS LIFE? IT IS EVEN A VAPOR, THAT APPEARETH FOR A LITTLE TIME, AND THEN VANISHETH AWAY. James 4:14. We may be called out of body in the twinkling of an eye, and when that call comes, no power on earth can hold the life to its former prison house of clay. Then all of earthly accumulation must remain behind, for we cannot take it over into the spirit realms. All that goes with that life or spirit is the conscience which stands as witness of the good deeds and misdeeds while in body.

The lifeless body remains, but the spirit goes its way, either lamenting and in the dark, or, peaceful and harmonious and in light. It sees what is behind, makes its way to those left behind, tries to make itself seen, heard, felt, but all too frequently is not understood. It comes as a vapor, a cloud, and vanisheth as quickly as it manifests its presence. As it is enabled to continue its upward journey, it comes back with more power or radiance and is better able to give greater understanding and reveal more wisdom, which is of God and His Kingdom, and not from any earthly schooling or doctrine. Spirit can penetrate the material, can manifest itself in all hours of our day or night, through such mediumship as is available. If conditions are right each mortal can see, hear or feel the presence of a spirit loved one. One should welcome their presence for such acknowledgement that they live on and can make themselves known is helpful to their spiritual progress and uplift. They return to give us the benefit of their surroundings, new in the sense that they now have a better and more true understanding, so far as they may have reached in the Father's House. The higher they make their way, the less frequent is their return, for then they make their way from earthly conditions and are more contented with the higher and brighter and purer conditions.

LESSON LXV—NEVERTHELESS WE, ACCORDING TO HIS PROMISE, LOOK FOR NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH, WHEREIN DWELLETH RIGHTEOUSNESS. II Peter 3:13. God's promise and not man's is what we must abide by. Keeping His Will brings us that protection, guidance, freedom from bondage, Light and all that a dutiful child is deserving of. After all earthly conditions have been purged from our surroundings, when that time comes at the so-called opening into the Zion, there we again combine with the Father and see Him and find ourselves again in Oneness with Him.

As we make our return journey to the Father we earn more light and understanding. Willingly, and in the measure in which it is accepted by our brothers and sisters of the earth plane, we send forth those inspiring and uplifting influences which make for righteousness. God gives all His children the power and the privilege to commune one with another. No matter in which sphere we have our spiritual abode, there comes forth that which is for all good. When the children of the earth plane accept that which comes for their spiritual welfare, then will come that condition, Peace on Earth. Then it will be here as it is in Heaven. That is when evil no longer rules. Each must help to overcome that evil and misunderstanding with good.

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

IS SOLOMON WRONG?

By Ruth Alice

SOLOMON said, "There is nothing new under the sun," and to those who cavil and rant that Spiritualism is a new religion, we call the above to their notice as well as what the Master said, "Do not for a moment suppose that I have come to annul the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to annul them but to give them their completion (Matt. 5:17, Weymouth).

Again "there is nothing new," for if you search the philosophies of old you will find that immortality and pre-existence of the soul is the esoteric teachings of almost every one of them. The Egyptians long before the time of Joseph of the Pentateuch believed not only in the resurrection of the soul of man, but of venerated animals as well, they were not held "sacred" to the extent that present day critics hold, but were regarded as links with some of the lesser divinities. Ancient Egyptian theories that the earth was a place where we are in a probationary existence and where we may expiate our sins, are surely worthy of consideration today. They taught the initiated that the soul passed through several other zones, all of which were processes of purification; Hermes taught that the earth was surrounded by circles of ether, and within them lived the souls of the departed who guarded mortals.

So today we are taught by The Teachers from the "White Sphere" that "those who have loved us and gone on for a while" are but graduated to a higher grade and are allowed to guard, guide and help those whom they have left in the class below. So declare the Brahmins and also the Buddhists that man and animals occupy countless worlds. It is only the ignorant followers of these faiths, according to H. P. Blavatsky, who believe in the transmigration of souls. J. F. Clarke (Ten Great Religions) suggests that the right interpretation of transmigration is evolution. Do we not again find a parallel to our present day teachings? Buddha, like the Christ, cleansed the religion of his day (500 to 600 B. C.) not against the Vedas, but against false practices. So in all teachings, after a time God's word must be stripped of its accretions that man in his egotism has overwritten. Jewish seers protested against necromancy, which should not for a moment be confounded with prophecy, for then as today were those who perverted Truth. Their belief that "only the body perishes" is proven both by their prayers for the departed and The Union Prayer book. Samuel's rebuke to Saul for disturbing him through the Witch of Endor was because of the uselessness of it at that late hour when Saul had not heeded until now it was too late; had it been because of the need or use of prophesy would he not have rebuked him at the time he consulted Samuel to find the lost asses? (I Sam. 9:10, 19.)

Again "nothing new," the philosophers of old, Homer (850 B. C.), Thales (600 B. C.), Socrates (469 B. C.), Plato (427 B. C.), Cicero (106 B. C.) and many more all knew of and communed with their guardians or daimon (spirits), which is another proof that through all the ages the gift of seership was not lost to mankind, though, like the present day, much decried by those who would or could not believe.

Paul, an excellent psychic, both saw, heard and advocated the use of psychic gifts (1 Cor. 14). The twelve disciples were chosen from among the lowly for their psychic gifts by the Master Psychic of all time. Origen (200 A. D.), a bishop of the early Christian Church, also knew and practiced psychic

gifts, his defense of same is well exemplified in his answer to the atheist Celsus, "Celsus has compared the miracles (spiritual manifestations) of Jesus to the tricks of jugglers and the magic of the Egyptians. There would indeed be a resemblance between them if Jesus, like the practitioners of magic arts, had performed His works *only for show or worldly gain*." It must not be forgotten by those who today decry the use of these gifts that they were always practiced in the church that was founded on the Master's teachings, but the malpractice of that gift became prevalent and so forbidden by *man*, not God. It is sometimes misused today, but misuse of any gift or power is not sufficient reason for denying its existence or correct use.

Nearly all the religious movements originated from spirit manifestation. Even John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, in his book, "The Invisible World," decried the fact that tales of apparitions were classed as "old wives' fables." He protested the giving up of faith "in witchcraft (the control of undeveloped spirits) is in effect giving up the Bible."

It is no proof of non-existence in a different realm because one has not seen or remembered it; all have not seen Africa, yet we believe others who have; why should we not be as credulous about a future existence as of a matter of geography?

Spiritualism is not a new religion but *in its best aspect* the cleansing of the old ones, and though it too has much in its ranks that are not all we desire, we know that too shall be cleansed. "The glory of true Spiritualism is that it breaks down barriers and unifies humanity wherever its ennobling teachings are accepted and made the guide of life. We cannot, and we do not, profess to believe that spiritual communion is or ever has been, the exclusive property of any church or sect; it is the common heritage of the entire human race."

Now, as of old, heed not man-made mandates, but seek the kernel of Truth in all things. This way leads to peace everlasting.

LIFE'S LOGIC

UNEQUAL meed, the fate of creatures on life's way—

A Church-mouse may be starving where men feast and pray.
We live on dead men's hopes that rise up from the grave
Of yesterdays, God's rugged shores of Time to lave.
We seek the goal afar—'tis but an elder brother;
The present is the goal, tomorrow is another.
Each day we live what other days inspire,
New figures on the chessboard, life, a step up higher.

If wish could fashion soul, each soul would be a saint.
Alas, the gray of death the color that we paint.
No man can mould the brute while looking through brute eyes;
The dove must grow her wings and 'bove the brute arise.
The stillness is the way, the hope of greater things,
And by Hope's imagery the dove doth find her wings.
Not brazen sound—the potent thing. No sting in buzz of bee.
Cannon's roar was never known to kill an enemy.

Deep rivers make less fuss than doth the shallow brook;
Wise angler makes no noise when he doth cast his hook.
The silent things are deepest things, and this is true:
Stop talking, live in silence, and God will live in you.
All man-made Gods are creed-bound, narrow sense and crude;
Stop talking, live in silence, and life will be renewed.
Lay down thy life to truth, and sense the moment's goal,
Close up the blind, brute eyes, and ope the eyes of soul.

By WALTER SCOTT HASKELL.

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

THE TRUE LIGHT

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God in Man

BY SOPHIA BRAUN

SPIRIT is the immortal part of man, a spark of the Divine. It outlives the change we call death. It is this part that prompts in every mortal being the desire to be good more times than not, although he may not be sensitive to this truth to follow out these urgings of the spirit-part or better self. Nevertheless, one is never out, though he be down.

It is up to the individual to get acquainted with this better self, and through it, by thought and deed, exercise Real Brotherhood. "Love thy neighbor as thyself." This is not so difficult to do if we will consider all Equal Spirits, in flesh or disrobed, as originating from the One Father, the Supreme Force, God.

Few religious denominations offer the penitent one consolation without him going through divers of rituals or forms which only tend to lower his spiritual estimation of himself. No spirit should be thus humiliated, for the God-part is glorious.

It requires upliftment out of its old errors, not debasement. Help the weak to overcome the flesh by thoughts of kindness and words of gentleness, not of harshness or unpleasantness which wound.

This should be the high ideal of every true Spiritual Worker in this vast garden of plenteous harvest waiting to be gathered in.

Universality

ANYTHING which is not universal is therefore not true. Anything that requires changes, alterations, adjustments or revisions, is neither universal nor dependable. Anything that is limited, that is for a chosen few, that is applied materially but not spiritually, that is founded or invented, all of these and more, is not universal. The modernist and the fundamentalist of religion, the theorist and the scientist all have proven this conclusively.

In our humble way we want to say that which is Universal is Truth, and stands through all the ages from time to eternity. Neither man nor time nor element alters it. Disprove it if you can, but remember to do so you deal with God. God is Spirit and Spirit is life. It is life that is Universal. It first was sent forth from God and to God it again must return. That is Truth.

Prove it to yourself, and your conscience is your guide. Not that it is a lone part for you to take, but that it will reveal communion Spirit to Spirit in its fullest majesty and glory.

Spiritualism

IN THIS issue we conclude a contribution by Rev. Richard Ward that first appeared with the September issue, and depicted certain practices by so-called Spiritualist Mediums. It is unfortunate that such conditions do exist, but they are not considered worthy who will bring untruths merely for a price. They bring harm to themselves as well as to the cause of spirit communication.

Millions have and still attend Spiritualistic seances and are willing to attest to its uplifting influence. Visitors from every denomination admit its power for good, and to proclaim its revelations, mediums are found from the ranks of every race, creed and color, and in ages from early childhood to the oldest, of all generations.

There are so many religions, sects and cults that it is difficult to understand the reason, still, each of them depend upon Spirit, call their worship spiritual and base their beliefs upon strictly Spirit communication of past ages. True Spiritualism is helping to reveal the Love of God for all mankind. It has reiterated how to commune with that God of Love, Life and Light. It better understands the great teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, and like Him, David, Jacob and countless others, KNOWS what lies beyond the grave.

False teachers and imposters must be discouraged. They may seem to have

convincing powers, but it has ever been thus. Even Moses, who himself violated its true tenets, warned against abuses. The fact that other religions, several of the largest in the entire world, have forbidden their blind followers to attend Spiritualist services, is evidence of its TRUE LIGHT.

"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free," is as sound today as it was when first uttered nearly two thousand years ago. Seek, and with what you find, go and do what is for the welfare of the spirit while in body and also know absolutely what the spiritual journey is to be after it leaves that body in a grave.

A RIDDLE

NO silver have I and no gold,
Yet clothes like these I wear,
And eyelets, too, are strange to me,
Altho I use a pair.

The silver, odd to say, is not
The color of my hair;
Nor is the gold, for hair, forsooth,
Is something I forswear.

And, as for eyelets in my shoes,
Why shoes are just as rare;
The eyelets are a part of me
I carry everywhere.

My home is full of caves and rocks,
But neither fox nor bear
Is ever known to prowl about;
The cat is my big scare.

Now, while you try to find me out,
And rack your brain with care,
I'll take a sail o'er my fair land,
As birds do in the air.

THE ANSWER

If you haven't guessed this riddle,
Match the eyelets of your shoes
With the eyes of any goldfish
And you'll have answer, too.

By UNCLE AMOS.

THE OPENING GATES

WHEN death has come
And the spirit is free,
Go back to the Father
For all eternity.

Some go in happiness,
Some go in tears,
Others go in darkness,
To wander many years.

But soon the day comes
When they see the right,
And thru a helping soul
They receive the Light.

When the time has come,
And those golden gates swing wide,
I hope, dear Mother,
We may enter side by side.

CHRISTIAN B. KALBFLEISCH, JR.

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

Men Seven

ONE might ask such a question as, what are seven men in comparison with hundreds of millions? Nothing, we say, if it were unknown what the purpose of seven men of today really is. Such a question might have been asked about twelve men nearly two thousand years ago. The answer both times is offered in the following poem signed "The Silent Observer, and titled by the writer of these words, A POEM FOR THE SEVEN BROTHERS. Before continuing with the poem that gives explanation, we want to repeat the words that accompanied the submission, and which are, "It is not in the words as in the thought behind these words—," etc.

Seven brothers are you,
In spirit, in body, in thought;
Strange how this symbol of heaven
Can be seen by human eye.

To lead humanity onward,
Out of darkness into Light,
Is the mission you have begun;
Now tell the truth and you will win.

You are chosen to free the world,—
Before you is a task yet untold,—
But you have promised and said A,
Continue, for you must say Z.

Go forth and do as promised,
The blessings of God are at hand;
Bring Light where now the darkness,
Seven of you are as a beacon.

Darkness will vanish when Light shines forth,
You've done well since the time you started;
Cast aside all evil and temptations
While on the way toward the golden shore.

Where teachers of creeds leave off, begin
With that wisdom God gave within;
Then the promised land will not be far,
When your journey is done on this plane.

Within the Circle of Seven,
Keep peace and brotherly love;
That is the way to heaven,
And the will of the Father above.

Remember the sunflower while on your way,
For it always looks east, rain or shine;
Let it be known unto you all,
The sunflower means obedience to God.

This publication is fully aware of the mission that is upon the seven men and upon each man individually. It has been as a forerunner of the messages of Love and of Truth these men will try to reveal, in service to God the Father. We bid you well on your journey and may peace go with you alway. May there be multitudes who willingly shall receive you and those words that cometh from beyond. You must succeed!

A Thankful Acknowledgment

WORD has reached us that our publication is well received in different meeting places and that the Leaders of those meetings are gracious in their introduction of our efforts. We are happy and thankful to all who are aiding us in this manner. The more help we can have from any and every mortal, the better pleased shall we and you all be. It is needed, too. Truth must conquer and all evil must be destroyed. Wisdom must supersede suspicion and superstition and fear. Our message is for just that purpose. Continue your help and increase wherever possible your aid to us. Not that we do these things for selfish gain or for personal glory, but for Him who has given us this earth plane that we might endure righteously.

We have the help from the spirit side of life and know they are looking on, waiting for that day of awakening when all the children of men will call to the One and Only God in the selfsame harmonious and peaceful manner. Whether that day cometh in this generation or in another, this we say with the fullest conviction—God's patience and mercy with His children is still with us, but we had better rouse ourselves to the point where we shall no longer displease Him if we would all want to have on earth as it is in heaven.

Spiritual Forces

THE wonderful communicating force in operation between spirit and mortal is none other than the divine force of deity which is ever at our service when the object to be attained is one of unselfish attainment, achievement or progression.

And we earnestly offer thanks to the Supreme Force, God, the Father, for this means of communication whereby proof is furnished to the reasoning mind of the existence of spirit ones near us, yet not far enough away to bar spiritual intercourse.

We often wonder why material matters are so largely dwelt upon by many of us, when one can readily perceive that the spiritual forces in nature are in evidence everywhere, and in everything, both on earth and in the firmament beyond in all directions.

And these spiritual forces are permanent, all-powerful, and furnish the motive power that governs all life motion, love, and active expressions of existence throughout the vast and limitless space of the cosmic whole.

So let us give up the sole considera-

tion of material matters, and let us, by all means available, devote more of our precious time daily to the contemplation of Infinite Spirit, to spirit ones, and to spiritual matters in general.

By so doing, we lose nothing in a practical way, because, by rendering service to spiritual matters, one is enabled to get more real enjoyment and satisfaction out of life, and the petty annoyances, trials and temptations are brushed aside and our material matters are kept in abeyance, and experiences of life are considered lightly as past performances of daily routine—transient, trivial and transitory.

A Spirit Message

THE truth about the spirit or inner thought of modern poetry is that I interpreted the conditions of nature as I experienced them in a spiritual sense. And it would be well for all writers of poetry or of phrase to embody in their writings the spiritual fitness of things, as it comes to their comprehension.

While the material things are before one on earth, the things that are spiritual are none the less apparent to all who will enter the silence and commune with the Over Soul, the Creator of all that cosmic consciousness can discern.

How true it is that poetry is more than a collection of sweet notes of song, and more than the imagery of a wordy vocabulary to entertain the reader. Yes, there is the spiritual side to poetry. It endures, it gratifies and comforts all who seek to get the good out of versification.

So, as one of the modern poets of the past generation, I am glad to know that I introduced the spiritual quality of a permanent good into my verses when on earth, to help mankind look up to divinity with aspirational thoughts.

(Spirit) TENNYSON.

(Note. — Alfred Tennyson, English Poet Laureate; career 1809-1892.)

DAWNING

THE day is dawning,
And the clouds are fast dispersing,
As the joy of living
Comes to you and me;
So cheer up, ye disconsolate,
And cease your mourning,
For all is hopeful—banish fear.

Today is dawning, cease repining,
For mercy, asked, is given free;
But never tire of well-doing,
For hope's beginning makes us free;
Freedom comes to friend and foe;
Mankind suffers not;
Cease repining; fear us not.

SPIRIT LOVED ONES.

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

GOD LEADING—MEN FOLLOWING

Through the Mediumship of Lillian Barit



WHEN at the beginning man came to the Eternal God for guidance, he came not only for advice but with a portion of fear also. Those who were leaders in that day had become so through virtue of their prowess, either of physical body or of the greatness of their brains.

The selection came always from the Angel of the Lord, and in every generation one may trace not the descendants of the former leader always, but one who has been under the tutelage of that leader, and as the eyes of one leader filmed with age, the instructed one took from the hand of the instructor the scepter of power, the willingness to serve his people and to submerge himself to the Father's ways, and for the good of his brethren.

Can you, earth people, not take from these the lesson of obedience, the pride of being led by the Angel of the Lord?

Man has become more prideful of his possessions. Man has multiplied and spread out over the known face of the globe which is your earth. In so doing he has not progressed as he should have, through avarice, greediness for power and possessions. Nothing so stunts growth as the ingrowing knowledge of the greatness of one small portion of man and his particular habitation in any portion of the earth. Man has turned away from the pure teachings of ethical living until now he is become an arbitrary and unkind and often an unsympathetic individual, caring perforce only for those within his own borders, and oftentimes only in his immediate clan. That is not what the ethical modes of teachings were installed for. They were given in every instance for a welding together of nations and their peoples for a greater peacefulness and into a greater adoration of the Eternal Being.

Man has diverted to himself, arrogantly forsooth, that the progress which is manifested in every age *has been* the product of his "puny brain"! He has put up quite an argument when the contrary view has been brought up for his consideration. Oh, how can *he* be so blind as not to see the Angel of the Lord in the words, in the deeds, in that *which he* seeks to perfect. So, indeed, is the "Wall" which now after so many buildings, is indeed thick, and hard to mark an impress of good will on it. Surprise is often manifested at our coming so close, and trying to break the cords of bondage; but know ye not that we also seek to break for ourselves this overshadowing wall?

Man, therefore, should indeed tread lightly, as on hallowed ground, when beginning to inquire When—Where—and How. Soon will the vapor arise in layer upon layer, obscuring the sun, and making all dark, but does that mean it shall always be dark? Not so, out of the seeming darkness shall arise first a new conception of the God-Father, and the meaning of all His Words of Wisdom.

A more wonderful progression of the Human Family will then follow in normal succession and in each and every unit of human life, which is designated by you as family, will again be apparent one whose vision will be unclouded, whose lips will be unsealed, whose heart shall be so attuned, that it will quicken at the approach of sorrow, and whose hands will move to brush aside the tears, and bring back the reflection of God, which is in the *smile* that shines through the veil of tears. So I, too, hold up the Lamp to shine you on your weary upward climb. Not only will the reward be commensurate with the

work accomplished, but the reward will far supplant it. For a Good and beneficent Father does not *forget* or *alter* His Promise to give a hundred-fold, and with the renewal of Light and Peace go also the opening of all doors, the issuing of new and realistic dreams, which in reality are the places seen, and things that are being taught.

Man, the image of God. Man, the Angel at birth, then growing away with childhood nearer the earthly things, and at the changing years again comes nearer the Godly conception, man, "The Angel of the Lord!" Then, if man perseveres in his budding and arises early and listens to the words of wisdom of his preceptors, and lays up their words of teaching, reaching out with *his brain*, asking of his preceptors *first* the reasons whereof, and then laying bare the reasons *which* spring out from his heart at the bidding of the brain force.

Then, be he one who gladly heeds, he becomes, perforce, a power for good; growing graciously in face, in demeanor, and in stature, becoming a soothing vision to the emissary of the Lord, who acts as the man's guardian and leads him to greater heights. On the other hand, does the man become bloated with the *idea* of his *own* bigness and thinks *that* which he knows *only* to be the best. He holds that God's pure teachings are his *own* inner revelations, then his guardian tries to reason with him, but all in vain; and the way has been opened for the lesser instead of the greater, and the guardian sadly withdraws.

So from childhood to man's estate, loving guidance is at hand, not forced on unwillingness, but ever ready to become attuned to the various needs of the time and place. God's wonderful Love is ever the Cover of Blessedness. His ever ready pity and compassionate tenderness will, if invoked, lead man forever upward on the earthly road. This earthly life is a true preparation for spiritual progression and obstacles placed by human hands and ingeniously cunning human minds, are tending always through their overcoming and vanquishing to lead the man into a greater understanding of the God within, that understanding which ever valiantly buckles on the sword to do whatever *Duty* is presented on the *Path* for the *right*, for the Ultimate Peace of Mankind.

So awakening soul carries its message of hope to down-trodden, downcast peoples and *prays* them to again *see* aright, making ready the pathway of the spirit. Spirit values truly are not the values of material things, and overshadow the light and make a dark pocket that remains in the consciousness of man himself through the Faith which revives within himself, first in God, and then in his spirit teachers. There rises in him like a tide the willingness to serve this Great Cause; the uplifting of Humankind, who have missed the way and while not asking verbally, their spirits are trying to again become alive and again lift up their voices, however faint, in the eternal chorus of "Praise Ye the Lord, for His Goodness and Mercy Never Fail."

Now the awakened spirit seeks to awaken his fellow-man to the realization of the life beyond the veil. In his haste to be understood, prattles of things not yet understood, and in many cases, instead of opening doors, succeeds in shutting them more securely than before, to these truths which mean light. Be not in haste, then, to tell the tale; but reason well your *course*, lay it according to the markings already along the way. Try

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

not with impatience, impotently to make a mark on steel, unless, indeed, you have the implement needed to make that impress.

The best way to manifest the knowledge vouchsafed you is by quietly living according to that teaching, broadening ever the spirit, the heart and the mind, so no matter whether you see the sprouting of the seed or not, be sure that it shall, like the Love of God, bear its fruit in due season. When other men become attuned to your quiet acceptance of the way, your charity and love of Truth, they will stop, though oftentimes most unwillingly, to wonder the reason. Why? Don't divert your thoughts from doing good. If the reasons for your faith are asked, state them with clarity and ease and have done. No argument that is heated carries as much balm and help as a quiet word spoken unhastily, albeit, firmly, and then no more. You will find that after the first few questionings, a change not only in the manner of the questioner and of the questions asked, but the dawning of wonderment, then as it is weighed in the light of reason, the return of the questioner for more and more knowledge.

So even if much seed should by chance fall on rocky soil, and much fall in soil which is too shallow to be fully productive, still those few grains which fall in good soil shall repay to us the years of toil, the years on years of heaping up this Teaching of Love, of Honor, of Pride, not pride of possession or success, but *pride* in the greater manifestation of the Brotherhood of Man.

(To be continued)

HOW DO WE KNOW WHEN WE ARE FOLLOWING GOD'S LAW?

By Walter Scott Haskell

WHEN we learn the plan, and the way the law acts in relation to ourselves, we can gauge our actions accordingly. If the law requires us to use the initiative and do our own thinking, instead of accepting what is handed to us, we are in duty bound to do our thinking. Suppose, then, this is the condition of affairs: The abstract forces, moved by the law of divine necessity, evolve brain centers in which to sense life and gain a concept of life. Anything that tends to thwart this procedure is contrary to law and our best interests.

All emotional states contacting with the outside world receive impressions of cool, heat, bitter, sweet, sounds, smells, etc., from objects around about. We get merely the sensation of objects. If we have formed no conclusions about bitter, sweet, cold, heat, etc., we are using no initiative, and, as far as knowledge goes, have none to speak of.

The moment reason begins to function, that moment an entity is born that steps out of the universal sense perception into a little world of its own. It coins its own ideas about what its senses give it. And this is what is demanded of the individual that the law created for the purpose of functioning. It will readily be seen that all purely faith doctrines are against the rule of the mind, and contrary to the divine plan of realizing through functioning in the individual.

We may take ideas from others, coin them over and use them, as long as the individual does the sorting and sifting in a workmanlike manner. But a negative acceptance of whatever is handed to us is as though the individual did not exist. With no self-directing power, there is really no entity apart from the universal.

We are all struggling forward toward that goal of understanding of life's meaning. Some of us slip, slide and sprawl,

but the procession goes on, and as soon as we get our feet we can try again and with renewed effort catch up with the foremost. There are scarcely any limits to progress. To learn how is the first step.

BENEFITS DERIVED FROM KNOWLEDGE OF SPIRIT-RETURN

By Dr. Wm. J. Bryan

THE terms of agreement to be fulfilled are those fair-minded terms whereby a mortal becomes quite willing to meet the spirit forces half way and then places his mentality in a quiet and receptive condition. This is not very difficult, but it requires some courage and an amount of willingness commensurate with the undertaking.

How glad the spirit relatives and friends are to come in close touch with us and to have the holy contact felt and appreciated by us. And this is quite natural. Because everybody enjoys a cordial reception into a home where dwells peace, harmony and happiness.

And spirits, being human, have the attributes and sensibilities of humans, although discarnate. In fact, they find it a decided relief to be divested of the coarse mortal body—with its selfish propensities.

Let us consider for a moment the benign influence which kindly disposed spirits bring to us for our benefit.

They see us struggling to overcome the strife that accompanies our earth-life, and they seek to help us climb up the spiritual mountains, whether we slip and stumble, making sad mistakes, or whether we keep in the narrow path that leads to the heights of a victorious ascent. They are with us like guardian angels, and we, who are wise, do well to form a firm alliance with those ministering ones.

When the opportune moment presents itself, we can accept the entrance of spirits into our midst, and we can render unto them the homage that is due to those who lead helpful, saintly lives.

When we come to the firm realization that spirit-life is a part of nature, and is no idle dream, we find that our daily existence commences its activities on a broadened basis of action.

A belief in spirit return is fatal to slothfulness, selfishness, uncontrol and ignorance. It causes us to ponder of the serious possibilities of life here and hereafter, and it fits us to perform our daily duties with alacrity, and with a cheerfulness that has no fear of cloudy days nor of lonesomeness. It helps us to banish fear, hatred and a gross material existence.

So, therefore, one finds a knowledge of spirit-return uplifting and of highly practical benefit. And it is something which satisfies the most eager longing for proof of immortality—the hope of every religious cult under the sun.

An all-wise Providence has seen fit to cast over us a longing to continue this life into the next, which is our life as spirits. And all who carry with them a mental conviction that life is eternal in the heavens are well prepared in thought to pull the door of spirit knowledge open wider and wider to gain entrance.

It is with a deep sense of thankfulness that I approach any spirit.

SPIRITUALISM

By Richard Ward, Ph.D., D.D.
(A BELIEF OR A KNOWLEDGE)

LAST INSTALMENT

IN THE writer's city there are numerous Spiritualistic gatherings, meetings, Churches, seances. Let us attend one of these meetings wherein we find a number of mediums gathered, and, after, or during the meeting, we listen in on their conversation:

"Hello, Mrs. A., how are your meetings coming on?" "O, fine! Do you know I had exactly forty-two sittings yesterday." "Forty-two! Gracious, you certainly are busy! But so am I; I had an average of thirty sittings a day last week."

* * *

"O, and how are you, Mrs. B. Say, I heard you had your place so crowded last night you had to turn about fifty away. Is that right?" "Sure it's right. I'm charging them fifty cents a head now, but they pay it all right." "My goodness! I can't get even a quarter out of my crowd. How do you do it?" "O, you could get a half a dollar out of them all right if you give 'em what they want."

* * *

"Good evening, Mrs. C. I hear you're reading now. When did you come out?" "Why, O—well I guess it's been a couple of years now, but I didn't read in public, you know, until the other day. Then when I was up at the Church they just pulled me up on the rostrum and made me give messages. Dou you know I read for over thirty people, and it only took me about three-quarters of an hour. Their regular medium, you know that awful Mr. G., well, he's too slow. Gives the people a "dollar reading" and takes about fifteen minutes for each one. Y' can't do that, y'know. Those people up at Church come there for readings, and unless they get their readings they'll go somewhere else. Give the people a short, snappy reading—make 'em like it, if they want more, let 'em come for a private reading. What do they expect for a quarter, anyway?" "Well, I guess you're right, Mrs. C. Up at my place the mediums give entirely too much, and I get hardly any private work at all. I can't hire the hall and keep it going that way, you know. I guess I'll have to sit down on some of them mediums next time, and make them cut the readings short."

Now let us listen in on the messages as they come to the people from the rostrum. Mrs. F., a well-known and well-liked medium, is speaking.

"To you, brother. No, not the young man with the red tie—to the brother down there with the glasses (as two men raise their hands). No, I mean the brother there with the glasses—the man with the beard—yes (sweetly), yes, to you, dear brother, to you. The spirit tells me you are affected somewhat in your hearing. Is that right? You are? Thank you. The spirit stands right in back of you, and puts her arms about you. She says she is your mother. What's that? Your mother is not in spirit? (Puts her hand to her ear and listens.) O, excuse me, not YOUR mother, but your mother's mother—your grandmother—didn't your grandmother on your mother's side love you as much as your own mother? She did? Thank the spirit then for telling us exactly who she is.

"Now to the lady sitting there with the pink silk dress. Yes, to you, dear. (The lady wears a worried look prior to the

medium picking her out, but perks up a bit as she hears the medium speak.) You are worried, my dear—you think that things won't turn out all right, don't you? Ah, you see, the spirit is right. But cheer up, dear, the spirit says that everything will turn out to your advantage, and you will be perfectly all right.

"Now the spirit leads me to the little lady sitting right here in front. Yes, to you, dear. I hear the name of Harry called (the lady looks puzzled). Harry is called to you, you recognize Harry, don't you, dear (lady things, then shakes her head 'no'). Well, of course, we can't expect to recognize all our spirit friends when they come to us; now let me see—O yes, Harry says he went to school with you, do you remember him now? No? Don't you remember the boy who was always playing tricks on everyone else in school? Ah, I thought you would recall him. (Lady speaks up and says, 'But I don't remember his name.') Well, dear, he gives his name as Harry—see, he is still the same old tease, he pulls your hair just as he did in the school days.

"To the gentleman over there by the wall. No, I mean the gentleman who is holding his hand up to his face. Yes, you, sir. Are you troubled with your eyes, a bit (he wears glasses, so he should be). You are? Thank you. The spirit wishes you to take good care of your eyes—have your eyes examined very soon because the spirit wants you to have your glasses changed. Thank you. (Most of us wear our glasses entirely too long without having our eyes examined, and it is a good speculation that this gentleman needed his changed.)

"And to the little girl right here. A very dear spirit comes and places her arms about your neck, hugging you and kissing you, dear. She loves you very much and wants you to know she is always near you.

"To the lady over there in the blue dress. You are thinking of making a change, are you not? Yes, you see the spirit knows, dear. Well, the spirit advises you not to be too hasty and to consider well before you do anything. All will come out right, so don't worry, but leave everything in the hands of the spirit.

"I hear the name of Alice called. Does anyone here recognize Alice? (Four hands are raised. The medium ponders long and well, then speaks to a very old lady.) Alice leads me to you, dear. (The old lady smiles and nods her head, saying, 'It is my daughter.') Yes, she calls you mother, and wishes me to tell you that she is very happy because you know she still lives. Alice is such a sweet spirit, and she is waiting for you, but she says, 'Not just yet, mother, but when the time is ready we will take you home.'

"And now, dear friends, I give way to my co-worker and friend, Mrs. H."

The medium sits down and Mrs. H. arises. Mrs. H. is of a different type—not quite so sweet in her speech, but blunt and direct. She gives short, snappy messages, then gives way to Mr. D., who gives messages filled with humor, causing an uproar every few minutes.

After the meeting many appointments are made with the mediums for private readings. Please remember I am but giving a scene as it actually occurred.

When Spiritualist mediums learn to look more to God—accept God and perform God's Will in its work, then Spiritualism and its Philosophy will draw the peoples of the world to the fountain-head of Light, Life and Love, through the very One who taught us of our truly spiritual beings and pointed the way to the only life worth living—Our Elder Brother, Jesus.

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

THE LIGHT OF THE SOUL

(Inspirational)

By Louisa Riemvis



THE entrance to God's realm of spirit stands a radiant gate ajar opening into the dwelling place of the soul. The earthly deeds and thoughts are the fair blossoms of achievement in the garden of the soul. The development of self is the real mission in terrestrial life. Few realize their real mission, and it remains for we dwellers in the soul realms to gently guide the way in loving tenderness.

The soul is a reflection of Infinite Intelligence, embodied or disembodied, manifesting in various forms of life. Soul is leadership, therefore making all things subject to one Divine Intelligence. Each minute atom has a soul or divine energy always in action, animate or inanimate. The soul manifests in the mineral, vegetable, animal and human kingdoms, that of man having attained the highest development. The human soul therefore necessarily draw to themselves more abundantly of this divine energy than the lesser kingdoms. Thus we have the highest development of soul in man and the most powerful vibrations of divine energy, ceaseless in action, ever gaining in momentum, forming the strongest reflection of Divine Intelligence (God), vibrating in and out of the body. Man is a direct reflection of Divinity. The earth life is only one phase of existence, millions upon millions of existences in different vibrations must be lived through to gain Perfection. Soul is the leader or ruler of the body subject to Infinite laws and attractions. Thus soul being a reflection of divine energy, vibrating in its special orbit of unfoldment, eventually must reach its goal of Perfection, or God-state. Even so, we believe there is still higher unfoldment than what we understand as Perfection. It is enough for mortals to think of reaching that pinnacle of success for our little talk now, and when humanity can grasp this significance, more shall be revealed.

As we stand at the entrance of this radiant realm of the soul, we notice the figure of the Recording Angel, swathed in billowy folds of luminous white, sweeping in the direction of the beflowered gardens, and a note of warning comes to us in the subtle wording of the soul. "Enter not therein without first purifying your thought of earthly things, for therein dwelleth the purest of the pure, the holiest of the holy, and this garden is sacred."

A great purifying flame enveloped us, as we rose (seemingly) up, up, up, until in a state of perfect peace, we were permitted to tarry for a short time.

And mere words cannot tell the wonder of our fleeting vision, but walk with me, dear ones, as I take you by the hand, and in thought we wander on the brink of the soul's plane, and I will relate to you our experience in this dreamland, for no earthly eyes have ever beheld such radiance.

We were set in the midst of a riot of radiant-hued blossoms, each little floweret bidding us welcome. The deep peace of God rested over all. The luminous many colored streams of light fantastic in shape hovered above the flower-beds, which proved to be the magnetic current from which seemed to emanate a life-giving force. Overhead, pervading all, a dazzling golden glow reflecting unwonted glory, and as our thoughts went out to receive of it, we were filled with unimaginable happiness.

This radiant vision as it burst upon my soul, engulfed me in its celestial beauty, and then once again we stood at the entrance gate, my fleeting trip terminated.

The rare smile of the Recording Angel is with me still, and the faint odor of flowers carries me again in thought to

the garden of the soul's dwelling place. Shall it always be as fleeting a visit, I wonder? An echoing voice whispers, "Be of good cheer, for again very soon shall you enter the enchanted gardens of the soul." So with you, dear readers, as my thought companions, will I walk many times, and now I reluctantly part with you for a time. As I leave you on life's magnificent high-road, the peace of God be with you and help you on your earthly mission.

May we all feel a real thanksgiving in our hearts not only for earthly things, but a real thanksgiving for revelations of the spirit, fleeting though they be.

May the great purifying flame of advancement so surely burn away the old mental moorings behind us that we may with the rushing tide be carried over the brink, touching the opposite shore of life, gaining in wisdom and understanding.

The Torch of Light in the Hand of God reflects its rays over the whole universe, casting its steady streams of Light, so that not one soul shall go astray or be lost, but forever guided upward and on, out into that Light that knows no dimming, but ever gaining in brilliance, the light of the Soul, or God's reflection within ourselves!

PSYCHIC DEVELOPMENT

By Rev. Milicent Hubbard

LESSON XI



OUR LESSON for November is to be changed in some measure from those of the preceding months.

We are to review in a measure our previous course, and see if we have gained all that was intended. First, have the various gifts been brought out clearly? Is the clairvoyance dependably clear and concise? Do the pictures have a direct bearing upon some given experience? If not, there is something wrong, and the error needs to be corrected at once. Ask the spirit teacher to show you the cause of the error, and to correct it with you. You must lend your support to that of the teacher's aid in making the correction.

Somewhere or sometime, an incorrect connection has been made, and perhaps false influences have brought about an unlooked for change in your class work. If so, do not neglect to correct the influence: go back and consult the lesson that offers an explanation for the particular fault.

Be sure that all pictures are constructive, or investigate the source. Be sure that false pictures are possible, for all souls who go to spirit planes are not advanced spiritually, and when making connection with a clairvoyant, may not be too particular that their symbols are clear or even accurate.

There is no time like the present to interview the higher teachers, and our knowledge of those same teachers leads us to believe that we should not especially invite those whose earthly pilgrimage brought to them popularity, or earthly gain. Many of the finest and best never give a name, and some refuse to use a title other than "brother" or some indefinitely applied title to designate them as an individual. For like people of the earth, there are millions of great spirits whose work is to direct the children of earth to live up to the ideals taught by Jesus.

Close with this prayer: "Our Father, we ask for true symbols; for Light in the darkness of our ignorance, and Peace for our soul. Amen."

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT, HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

OBSERVATIONS

Political Campaigning

RELIGION and the Church surely are receiving a terrific lambasting at the hands of politicians and would-be statesmen. Certain it is that the way religion has become a political football is a sign of disintegration. Is the Church receiving what it has brought upon itself? What has become of the reverence and respect that the Church once claimed for itself? The 1928 presidential campaign has brought out the fact that religion has been made a fundamental issue. It is not a whispering issue either, but absolutely full of loud noise.

The radio broadcasting stations, the platform speakers, the soap-box orators all speak of it. Never before has it been so fiercely debated. The opinion of the Observer is that when a condition arises that needs so much argument as in the present day situation, that there is something wrong with the matter about which the dispute centers.

Talking With the Dead

EDITORS and reporters are helping greatly to explain to their readers much about psychical manifestation. It would be far better for the sake of true reporting if they would refrain from using the expression, talking with the dead. Who wants to and who can talk with the dead? It is the LIVING we communicate with.

It is gratifying, however, that most of the articles do not always brand it as Spiritualism. After all, psychic phenomena needs no particularism to prove its existence. People everywhere are intensely interested because of the spirit power demonstrated in divers ways and newspapers and magazines reporting unusual demonstrations all over the world are to be complimented for their fairness in the matter. As the news is read there is bound to come an awakening and an appreciation that, after all, not all prophets are necromancers and charlatans.

In Memoriam

IT IS BOTH interesting and refreshing to read the obituary columns in which memorial verses and sayings are given. Many read: "Gone, but not forgotten," "May you forever rest in that everlasting home of peace," "Free from care and sorrow," "Sleep gently," "Back home to God," "In sad memory," and others, "In loving memory."

Sending out those thoughts is communing with the ones who no longer are about in an earth-made body. How much sweeter would be the memorial if such communion were done with the knowledge that they live on and that they can understand your message for their memories even though you do not understand they send you messages in return.

THE BANNER OF TRUTH

By Leon Brittell

Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth.—Psalms 60:4



RECENTLY the writer opened his Bible at random, and the place where his finger touched was the above text. Possibly I may have been guided by Higher Powers, but be that as it may, this verse seemed like a revelation and a flood of light, and it induced a train of thought and much reflection.

Webster's dictionary defines a banner as an ensign, a standard or a flag of a country, state or order that has on it an emblem

or inscription. A banner then indicates frankly something about those that carry it. There is no deception here, because under international law other nations are supposed to know what cause each flag represents. If it was found desirable to conceal the identity the banner would not be displayed. They that carry a banner do not fear to tell who they are, otherwise there would be no banner. David in his communion with God tells Him that He gives a banner to them that fear Him, to be displayed for the Truth.

The people that truly fear God are not afraid to show their colors; they are not afraid to tell who they are and to explain their cause. To one who is right with God there is nothing to conceal. They that have the Truth do not hesitate to tell it.

In the text under consideration there is a hint given that some day the Truth will be discerned by all of the people; that certain God-fearing ones will lift high the banner of Truth and will recognize it; that out of the medley of present day beliefs and theories Truth will emerge and become so plain as to be unmistakable and no one need to be misled. Some time men will not merely think and believe, but they will KNOW. Those who truly fear God and keep His commandments will be the pioneers; they will be the ones to display the standard. The writer does not wish to be dogmatic as to say that any particular religion is the Truth, but he does wish to commend The True Light for their zeal in putting before the people the truth as they see it. It is a worthy enterprise to seek to uplift others and put before them the Way of Rectitude that is worthy to be followed regardless of what hereafter awaits us, but I believe that everyone will be punished or rewarded for the deeds done in the body; but this does not mean eternal condemnation, because all will be saved.

* * *

Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.—Ecclesiastes 12:13 and 14.

SPIRITUGRAMS — No. 17

Each sentence is taken from one of the inspired Songs of David. Do you know which ones? See answer in next issue.

1. In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness.
2. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.
3. For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.
4. I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people.
5. The Lord redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in Him shall be desolate.
6. Glory ye in His holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord.
7. For the kingdom is the Lord's: and He is the governor among the nations.
8. O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works.
9. Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away.
10. But thou, Lord, art most high for evermore.

The answer to SPIRITUGRAM No. 16 follows: Psalms 83:1, 25:11, 4:6, 80:17, 84:5, 66:4, 133:1, 145:11, 135:13 and 89:52 respectively.

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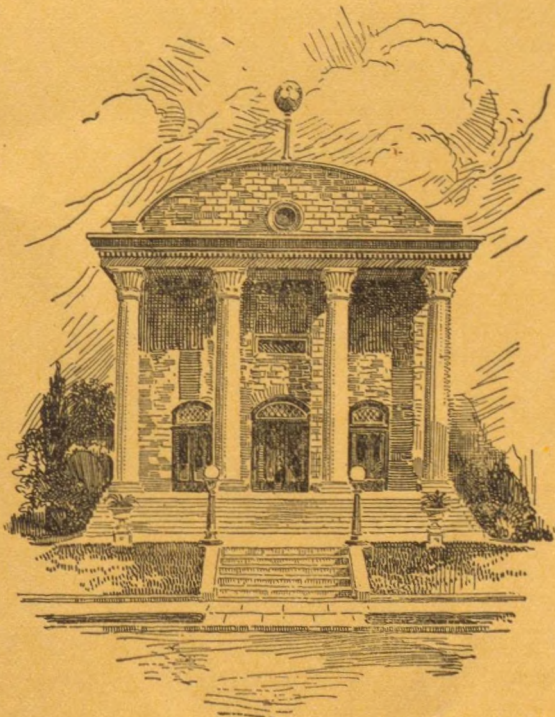
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A MAGAZINE FOR SPIRITUAL UPLIFTMENT



HIS PUBLICATION is devoted to truth and stands in defense of God and His laws. We welcome all truth-seekers and want the army of truth-finders to grow into a real brotherhood of man.

The organization that comes forth with this periodical does so not for name nor for material gain. The great struggle to overcome doubt and fear requires the generous support of all who will join hands with us.

We quote below some of the statements which have appeared in our previous editorial department:

"We do not believe in capital punishment. The law of God commands us not to take another's life."

"The Board of Editors stands for TRUTH and RIGHTEOUSNES and in BROTHERHOOD. They pledge themselves individually to try and give of their very best efforts."

"Communication with those spirit loved ones who have given up their earthly bodies is an established fact."

"You cannot destroy life. It lives on forever. Life or spirit is eternal."

"The high and the lowly, the strong and the weak, white or colored, believer and non-believer, all need the service and gospel of Him who sent us forth."

"God is love, and most certainly is not to be feared."

"There is always good within us, and it is good our loved ones inspire us to bring out that goodness."

As we continue with each succeeding issue, our every endeavor will be to come openly with those convictions that will make for more happier and harmonious relationships between race, religion and revelation. We are in sympathy with those organizations and individuals whose aims are for a higher life hereafter. Their co-operation and correspondence is invited.

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