The True Light

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THE LAW OF GOD

I.

THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME.

II.

THOU SHALT NOT MAKE UNTO THEE ANY GRAVEN IMAGE, OR ANY LIKENESS OF ANYTHING 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 GUILTLESS 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

PASSING OVER

Brought Forth by Rev. M. E. Claas

(An Abstract)

SO MANY weep when one of their loved ones go over the border. When a little child from out of their midst is called by that All Watching Eye the spirit reaches over and from there wants to return to bring you great blessings. It looks on at the way you lament and cry and mourn and it hears how many say, "gone no more to return." They that mourn know not that the loved one gone over is standing spirit to spirit, hand in hand, with you. To some it would seem impossible that such could be so while others partly grasp the thought, they are about and still others know and understand for such can see they are about, or they are able to hear the voice of that loved one, or they might feel the touch of the small hand.

It would enlighten you and brighten your pathway these coming days to know that when one of these little ones is called over the border, they go into a sort of slumber. Most would say, "Yes that is the sleep from which never again to awaken." But that is the sleep of the material eyes for when they close, the earthly clay or body is of no more importance. The spirit awakens and is carried with gentle angel hands. You call them angels, we call them spirits. An angel is one that had not been in this earthplane in a material clay, but one that had been with the Father. When a spirit is sent out to take on form or enter into a material clay, that is an angel that is approaching the earthplane. After it once does take form it is a spirit, not an angel.

So when carried over they enter into our beautiful Summerland and then they awaken. Sometimes they seem to be a little afraid. They look about, they see not their own parents with whom they were but they see other loved ones, they see other children, they see those that are helping to make merry. After they have been away from this material plane for about three days according to your time, they are brought back in contact with those still in the earth plane. Nine times out of ten they would not want to remain again in the earth plane.

It is here in Summerland (third sphere) that they have abundance of joy and happiness—that sort of happiness that cannot be had in your material plane. You have great happiness in your earthplane especially for the little ones, but not as in the spheres. After the spirit has made its way in Summerland and is accustomed to certain rules and regulations, they are instructed either that they might return to this material plane and bring certain peaceful messages, or that they might become a guide, instructed in the duties of what a guide does. They are taken about the whole earth plane east to west, north to south. They know how to find their way, how to grasp the thoughts and they can send forth their thought. They will know what is going on possibly in one hundred homes at the one time. So you see the enlightenment, the education they receive is far greater and of higher advancement than you have in your material plane.

To have such wisdom in your material plane would require up to manhood to gain and then it is only about one quarter of what a spirit, a little spirit, has been taught in one year over the border. You see how rapidly it goes. That is because we need not have the cares and worries of the material plane or to carry about that house that is a prison to the spirit. The spirit reaches forth just as a steel is drawn by a magnet. You have nothing in your earth plane to be compared with the beauties of our Summerland. Not even your water falls that so many admire in the winter and in summer, can compare with what we have over here.

We can go forth, reach out, walk the clouds, reach different planes and we can be of help to many in the earth plane. As we advance we grow in strength, in wisdom, in what I would call, refinement. So again I reach out and say it is not always those marked for their great education in the earth plane or for their material wealth that counts over here. No, it is the inner part, the spirit part that counts most.

When a little one from your midst has gone over the border, you may have them come to you as with little tattering feet and you might hear the whisper of their voice, you might feel their touch, then just welcome them. You will find how that welcome will go to the very depths of that magnet, drawing to your very toes, for they want to bring you wisdom. Summerland is the plane of education for the larger spirit loved ones as well as the smaller. When I call them larger and smaller I do not mean in size, but I mean length of time they were in the material plane. Speaking of the larger spirits, if their deeds have been right and they have reaped goodness, they take with them their shining light, and they pass through the spheres rapidly.

Even your lawyers, physicians and other highly educated start just the same way. They hover about your earthplane before they can start from the first plane up. Why? Oft-times their earthly education has brought them down. A spirit of less education will oft-times rise quicker because it learns better, and so reaches higher. So it is important to start your journey in the earth plane right, spiritually and not wait until you reach over. Remember you reap what you sowed. Then you too can bring to those that remain greater and better opportunities and you can guide them in such a manner that they may reach to higher planes than you had reached to on your going over.

These points I bring you that you may think of, that you may have more peace and contentment, for when we tell you of our Summerland, we are telling you of the heavens where your little ones come to. It is a beautiful place, we have everything, it is as one love song. We can go from one place to another. We have camps of love and brotherhood where we gather and from these camps we are sent forth and bring you your messages, your songs, like a wireless in the material plane. It is these messages that is meant well for you and if you follow you will be very happy. Then your coming over will be an uplifting moment and it will carry you far, far into the higher realms, where the unceasing happiness is, where the unceasing brotherly love is, righteousness and truthfulness.

Keep your conscience clean that your life will have no shadows and when you reach over, will stand in whietness, reaping spiritual sowing from your material traveling. This is what Charles your brother wishes.

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

THE GREATEST REVELATION

By Wm. J. Bryan, M. D.

COMING into the presence of the righteous elements that go to make up character, we begin to realize that the concomitants of all creative force multiply as we ascend the ladder of aspiration and ideality.

But the entrance of great numbers of advanced spirits into our presence may be considered as a mark of confidence; and it it to our credit that we can attract them to us freely.

The evidence of spirit-return is based largely on acceptance of the validity of spirit phenomena.

A spirit seeks to manifest its presence in our midst by giving certain physical demonstrations, such as gentle raps, table-tipping and levitation. And if we are apt to be convinced by mental phenomena, like messages, so much the better.

Every one must be convinced in his own way, of the fact of spirit-return. No two persons' minds are exactly alike. So that which convinces one, may not do so with another, and vice versa.

Let me say that all who are at all receptive, frank, tolerant and willing, may have abundant proof of spirit-return furnished.

Nearly every medium wishes to give the spirit ones full credit for the use that is made of the impressibility of the medium. A medium accepts credit for his share of co-operative effort, but the power and the message are purely from the spirit side of life.

However careful a medium may be to get in good physical, mental and moral condition for mediumsihp, one is never in perfect condition. So our spirit loved ones do the best they can with imperfect instruments to manifest through.

Let us hope for the invention of some electro-magnetic contrivance of mechanical construction that will enable any one to talk direct with spirits—just as we now use the telephone. It is predicted that in the near future, such an instrument will make its appearance, and cheap enough to be found in every home. Then it will not be necessary, for writers on spiritual subjects, to dwell on the subject of proof of the existence of spirits.

Now cometh the day and the appointed hour, when the Son of Man approaches, to have us realize that worldly affairs are transitory and ephemeral when placed in comparison with knowledge of spirit—and its ultimate source—divinity.

We come to a realization of the vast power for good, when the mind finds that law and order reign throughout the universe. With regularity and with infinite design, the stars move and rotate with precision, and like the seasons of winter and summer, on earth, they come and go with regularity year after year, without an omission.

So everywhere, one finds that design in nature, is from the Supreme Force, God, and we abide by this knowledge.

How careful one should be in making any statement regarding the fundamental principles of nature, because by a misstatement, from the viewpoint of an agnostic or a materialist, mental confusion would "take us from elsewhere, carry us through somewhere, but land us nowhere."

We rest serenely with the firm conviction, that our spirit loved ones are near us, many times, and that if we furnish the conditions of mediumship, communication with them can readily be established.

And one cannot logically say that spirit-return is merely imaginary; he cannot judge till he has thoroughly investigated psychical phenomena, and shall have really communed with the spirits, through mediumship.

Scoffers come to disprove, but they go away mystified, interested, and desirious of making complete investigation of the different phases of mediumship, whereby it is proved that we live, as spirits, after so-called death; and then we can return again to the earth plane, to manifest spirit presence.

And these facts are considered the greatest revelation of spirit-power to mortals.

GOD IS LOVE

By Ida W. Inniss

(Abstract of Recent Inspired Address)

AT THIS point of entering into a new year, we look again with gratitude to the God who has guarded us safely through this past year and say: "O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for time to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our Eternal Home."

We all can meet together in that One Creator—God—It matters not if we have different concepts of what God is, the very word, God, has power back of it—Say it often—*God, All, Everywhere, God is Love*—and we are all His children. We all desire love, it is the very essence of our being, we cannot live without it, and as we grow in spiritual understanding, we really know what Love really is. Let us be grateful for all the little kindnesses, the smile, the helping hand, the word of cheer, all are love, and when we see something before us that is not loving, let us turn silently to God and turn on the light of love by offering *Love—All—Everywhere—Right here.* I have seen the darkness of hate vanish before the light of love. The power of the word is great, often instantaneous.

When we do not accept, we do not suffer from. Others may send out unkind thoughts to us, but if we do not take them in, they cannot hurt us. If thoughts of sickness and pain try to get into our mental house, turn to God who is Life, and declare *Life—All Everywhere,* and so practice the presence of God, bringing him into your every day walk in life and into all your affiairs. The great lesson to be learned by all is to acknowledge *God in All* our ways. It may be the simplest are the greatest things we are doing, if we give God credit for it, and acknowledge Him as the Power by which we live and move and have our being, the work will be well done, and without fatigue, worry or discord.

When we know what God is, we will know what we are. Study the perfect moral and be like it. Jesus said: "Be ye perfect even as your Father in Heaven is perfect." That is what we must strive for. God is Spirit, and man is His image and likeness, so man must be spirit too. Man is love, life, truth, beauty, joy, all that is loving and lovable, wholesome, healthy, and good, and anything else is no real part of us, any more than darkness is a part of light. The moment you turn on the light, the darkness vanishes even if it has been there a hundred years. So let us all practice the Presence of God, by affirming often: *God, All, Everywhere; Love, All, Everywhere; Life, All, Everywhere; Peace, All, Everywhere; Joy, All, Everywhere.* May the sunshine of God's love glorify you every day, may its wondrous light caress you, and its spirit ever bless you."

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

KNOWLEDGE

By Louisa Riemvis

CAST THOU thy nets into the great sea of the universe and haul in the fruits of knowledge. Even as fish do not float on top of the water, neither does knowledge float on the surface; but rather as the deep-sea fish it must be angled for and hauled up to the surface.

In the ocean are both the seaweed and the fish; even in the deep sea of thought are there the virginal knowledge and also the cast-off and useless thought-forms of the past.

As ye learn to discriminate between the twain, ye are in a fair way to feed the multitudes with spiritual food, as Jesus fed the hungry with the five loaves and two fishes.

The bread of life is distributed evenly by God thy Father; eat ye thereof and satisfy thy hunger and thy thirst; for in the universe are vast storehouses of abundant supply where thou mayest eat at will. When the material and physical senses pall on the taste, attune thy soul with God, thy eyes shall be opened and thou shalt see.

There is no need for spiritual blindness. At all periods in the history of mankind, have universal teachers been sent from the spirit realm to uplift the race, to restore spiritual blindness; yet there are many that see not, even in the brightest light. Illumination is everywhere around you so wherefore are ye blind?

A cycle or period of time is fast drawing to a close and a new dawn beckons. A spiritual dawn where all that is dark becomes light, where much that is hidden becomes revealed. Search ye the annals of history and become convinced of the ineffectual rule of materiality, then watch for the greater illumination of spirit that is fast approaching!

O ye seekers of truth, cast thy nets into the illuminated pools of spirit and thy nets shall become filled with precious understanding. Only those who are spiritually ready and who have served apprenticeship to God may draw up this choice haul of knowledge. Others may aspire but only those who have earned the right by high aspiration and humble service may partake of this highly soul stimulating food.

The white-clothed table of the divine and holy spirit scintilates with brilliancy of light and the consecrated messengers of God upon the earth plane who are privileged by divine tokens to sit at the table of the holy spirit are thricely blessed.

Therefore I say unto you, souls of the mortal plane, the gray dawn of a new day is vanishing, the sun is on the horizon, invisible hands are ready to lead the way walking noiselessly before you; follow thou in the wake of the luminous trail, eyes raised in aspiration for guidance and thou shalt "leave footprints on the sands of time" wherein posterity shall walk. Thy forefathers are sounding the trumpets and it's call echoes over the universe.

Hear ye the strains? Many shall hear and take up their burdens, for in the procession upward the burdens lighten. Souls are fortified and renewed and spirit pours the elixir of life.

"Become as little children," for of such is the kingdom of heaven. Earth is only a school-room, it's anti-chamber leading into the portals of the spirit world. Even as a little child learns the rudiments of life, so must each soul learn the rudiments of spirit. Seek ye ever the truth and it shall be revealed to you, for the golden key of aspirations open wide the door of knowledge!

OBSERVATIONS

SPIRITUAL PHENOMENA CONVINCES

WE PROCLAIM the glad tidings of a new dispensation, a newly revived religion and a philosophy of life that meets all requirements. Investigators of Spiritualism invariably demand the proof of spirit-return, and we furnish same, by demonstration of the various phases of spiritual phenomena. A spirit message convinces any reasonable mind, because the medium and the investigators are strangers, and names are given that could not possibly by mentioned from the mind of the medium. Some skeptics are convinced by physical phenomena, and some by mental phenomena, each one in his own way. But it remains for the medium to furnish the proof whereby all conditions of collusion are eliminated. Strangers meet a medium and hear from her voice the names, dates, characteristics and other details that serve to identify the spirit loved one, and in this manner the spirit message is brought to the investigator (through the medium) in a manner that convinces one of the truth of spirit-return. While we caution all to proceed slowly and surely with spiritual communication, we cannot refrain from again advising all to enter the silence in the quietness of the home, and there commune with their spirit ones direct. A personal experience like this convinces one that spirit friends can and do impress our mentality, and with pad of paper and pencil, in the dark room, we can write down our own spirit messages as they reach us direct.

WHEN SHOULD A MAN DIE?

A LADY NURSE said: "That old man is no use to himself, nor anybody else—he would be better off dead. He is bed-ridden and cannot help himself; only a tax on other people's time and strength. I wish the doctor would bump him off." It occurs to the writer that such talk originates from a person with a narrow point of view. Suppose the old man is bed-ridden and has to be helped. This particular man had worked hard and amassed a comfortable fortune that his sporting sons and daughters were already making free with. They begrudged him a few months of attention in his last sickness. They wanted all his earnings, with him out of the way the moment his earnings ceased. Aside from the moral aspect, there is another point to look at. Most of us are living on earth with the idea that it is a sort of preparatory school for the after-life. In the latter days, when the body is sick and ailing, and the grave yawns for its victim, that is the time, if ever, that the person in the body begins to think seriously of life's meaning. It is a period of dealing with vital issues. It is a setting of the mind in preparation for the great change. In younger life it is natural that we think not seriously of death, when all is bright and hopeful, but only of earthly gains and pleasures. It is a crime to rob an old man of his best moments of serious thought that will help him over the border, by wishing him dead because he is no longer earning. That last sickness, with its reflective moments, is the best of that man's whole life. All previous moments only led up to this harvest time. It would be a serious loss to that soul to deprive it of the golden opportunity of death-bed realizations. For the love of justice, wish no man dead before the Lord's good time.

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 LXX—WRITE THE THINGS WHICH THOU HAST SEEN, AND THE THINGS WHICH ARE, AND THE THINGS WHICH SHALL BE HEREAFTER. Revelation 1:19. From these words we can understand what is revealed from the spirit side of the universe to those of the material side, and which is just one form of spirit-communication. The medium through whom these words are given (John Divine) is proclaiming as a Truthfinder that man can and does see the things spiritual. Whether what one sees cometh with clouds (verse 7) or is heard (verse 10), that which is revealed or brought forth is for our spiritual welfare, upliftment and comfort. It is not the so-called dead that return, but the living, as in the instance referred to, the Lord (verse 8) speaketh and who liveth was "dead" and still lives (verse 18) and admonishes FEAR NOT (verse 17).

The things which shall be hereafter has a double significance, first, the spheres or the Father's House, where are the mansions according to our building while traveling in an earth-made body, and secondly, those things before our journey both while in body and out of body. We therefore welcome those who come to forewarn us of impending dangers or who tell us of those heavenly conditions about which we seek more light. In acknowledging their spirit presence and activities, we are not to make any graven image nor any likenesses of these things from beyond and as specifically commanded by God of the children of men. We are warned not to hold those spirit loved ones to tell us only of the materials things, for remember they want to make their spiritual progress and they want us to follow spiritually, as "We are our brothers' keepers."

LESSON LXXI—FEAR NONE OF THOSE THINGS WHICH THOU SHALT SUFFER: BEHOLD, THE DEVIL SHALL CAST SOME OF YOU INTO PRISON, THAT YE MAY BE TRIED; AND YE SHALL HAVE TRIBULATION TEN DAYS; BE THOU FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH, AND I WILL GIVE THEE A CROWN OF LIFE. Revelation 2:10. Many are called but few are chosen, and it is because of faithlessness, untruthfulness and the doctrines of men that so many lose opportunity for spiritual reward. Too many yield to the tempter's power, and the evil thereof brings about a condition of imprisonment, bondage or darkness. This is the condition of lamentations and of gnashing of teeth. This then is the "devil's" work and which condition the Truthfinder and Truthspreader must continuously guard against.

God's works will not be mocked, and the day of reckoning comes upon those false teachers who have not done rightly by the spiritual gifts, those talents that are God-given blessings. The Truths are revealed and to those through whom given must in the same truthful way be retold. In many cases this requires spiritual courage, for the enemies of truth are both many and also have spiritual powers but which they misuse for selfish and material gains. They who would truly be in the service of the Father must hold fast even as did our Elder Brother, against whom there were many persecutions and is still so with His real followers.

LESSON LXXII—TO HIM THAT OVERCOMETH WILL I GRANT TO SIT WITH ME IN MY THRONE, EVEN AS I ALSO OVERCAME, AND AM SET DOWN WITH MY FATHER IN HIS THRONE. Revelation 3:21. The Spirit that speaketh and whose throne was seen holds out the invitation to us who still travel this earth plane, to conquer the evil and so gain our stations high in the realms. "Where two or three are gathered in My Name, there too am I in their midst," and so we would make ourselves worthy both to receive and be received spiritually. Overcoming the material obstacles that we place or let another place in our pathways of righteousness and truthfulness and brotherly love is indeed a victory fitting to wear the crown of life. Abiding by God's laws is required of us. Blind faith or dependence upon another one to cleanse us of our own misdeeds is not overcoming those conditions that keep us from God and the throne which can be ours by right thinking, speaking and doing.

In our communion with God the Father we should not fail to give thanks for the blessings He has showered upon us and to rightly ask continued guidance in making our return to Him. He will give us strength and will send those to help us to overcome. As the Father shares with us, so should we share with others, and so, too, did the Nazarene. Jesus is the Example whom we can follow. He helped us when on His earthly travel and He still helps. If we would not shut our doorways to our spirit loved ones gone over, then neither would we shut our doorways to Him. The great truth which he brought, Love One Another, is to be carried out. He who showed the way, "overcame the world," the material and gained His crown in the Father's House and would help us to do likewise, if but willing to try to do our part. They who have gone ahead can and do show us how we should go, and by looking to the spirit side we get that help that is not so quickly available about us here.

LESSON LXXXIII—" . . . AND I WILL SHEW THEE THINGS WHICH MUST BE HEREAFTER, AND IMMEDIATELY I WAS IN THE SPIRIT . . ." Revelation 4:1-2. God is Supreme and we worship Him in spirit and in truth. As we rightly reach to Him we learn and know of those things in His Kingdom. What the Father willed no man can undo, and when He lets His children behold those things they are not to be lightly considered. Moses saw into the promised land, Jacob beheld above, Joseph foresaw feast and famine, Daniel foretold the fall of material kingdoms when interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's dream, David's songs of praise and thanksgiving were about the Father's House, Jesus foretold and foresaw many things; and so we could go on with the things that were seen and those that are being shown and seen today.

In the words of a spirit loved one who speaketh as did the one through John Divine, we proclaim, Woe unto such who do not right with what is given in Truth from the Spirit realms.

Those that see and feel and hear spiritually and who do spiritually are indeed blessed. They who are trying to reach out in like manner to learn and know of these things are blessed. These blessings are for now, here, for everyone everywhere, and well it is not to wait ere it is too late and the opportunity slips from us.

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

ECTOPLASM

By Alcinous B. Jamison, M. D., F.A.C.P.

ECTOPLASM is an external or cortical covering, a modified layer of protoplasm containing a large percentage of water, often called the physical basis of mortal manifestation of spirit in all types of manifestation of mortal life.

A more evolved being dominates the less evolved entities in its creative efforts. Therefore the desire for accretive material of a being is readily answered by the lesser evolved entities who accurately in every detail accretively fill out the design form with a replica in the image and likeness of its creator, in whatever stage or degree of mental evolution the incarnated being is able to manifest. The same laws of creative accretive mental action are made manifest mortally by all the infinite living beings below the complexity of spirit-man.

Cytoplasm is a word more commonly used to express the essential accretive substance (an aggregation of entities) both of the cell body and nucleus of the germinal design entity, an organism cognizable by a psychic.

Spirit in its germinal state possesses an archetypal design form ready to exercise its moral creative powers, is encased in protoplasm as observed in a seed, nut, egg, root, etc., and is able to exhibit its design body in its entire completeness while waiting opportunity for protoplasmic conditions to incarnate its design body in a denser replica and thus gain creative experience on the mundane plane of life.

The aggregation of entities that constitute the integral parts of a substance called protoplasm not only responds to the desire of a being accretively to fill out its design-form replica, but enters into all the functions of the psychophysical organisms of all the infinite diversified beings on the various planes of consciousness.

Mind is a psychophysical autonomic organism, an ever active transmitter and receiver of feelings or thoughts, with a will to energize them, causing unuttered and uttered thoughts to become a cognizable, forcible, objective nucleus around which all the powers for good or evil collect and remain as long as energized by the emotions, the thoughts or the will of man.

On the mundane plane of consciousness, where the animalistic mind and senses dominate man, he perceives "solid substances" and "dense living things" that delight him, which his mind and hands fashion into all sorts of useful and artistic creations that please his very limited sensitivity of consciousness.

When spirit-man's mind, through the process of thinking, evolves sufficient sensitivity, his psychic senses become an objective source of information. On this plane of consciousness he realizes he is using organic substance in objective phenomenal mental creations for useful and artistic purposes. He realizes that the "mundane" phenomenon of life is not so dense or solid as his once limited perception caused him to think; also that what he thought was space or void was of very similar ethereal density, duplicating the less conscious earth's manifestations. The seemingly very solid earth moving in "space" is really only a little spot, region or jungle for the incubation of mentally primitive beings that they might journey to newer regions of a continuous cosmic abode as their intelligence or spiritual unfoldment will permit.

Mind is the property or essence of a physical organism and uses corporal entities in all its diversified functions in the phenomena of life. Its activity depends on the amount of the entity's energy or force it is able to part with in the process of active thinking before becoming exhausted psychophysically for a time.

Spirit's protoplasmic accretive mortal replica, called man, was in answer to the desire of the spirit to fill out its design body in its image and likeness to objectify its thought creations in all living reality,—a mute language a psychic can read by the phenomena expressed by all living things.

Psychoplasmic substance used in mental operations is only a little more ethereal constructive material than our mechanics use in making all sorts of wares for the use of man.

In the seance room, spirits draw psychoplastic substance from the medium and the audience in their effort by thought to create temporarily a duplicate of their once mortal replica. We must remember that a unit of mind is an automatic organism, an integral part that constitutes an inorganic cosmos. Hence all the phenonena of life are made manifest by psychoplastic substance of various degrees of density to that of very attenuated ethereality.

When spirit-man by intelligent thinking evolves his mind and senses to those of a psychic sensitivity, his thought creations become objective companions with him. Then he realizes he cannot serve two masters, good and evil, at the same time. He realizes his book of life is an objective one for him to read as well as other beings.

It is not much trouble to read the nature or mind of a horse, dog, lion, savage or semi-savage man at the present stage of his evolution. The psychoplastic substance of his organism is indelibly stamped and pictured by his thought creations upon his plastic body and mental environment. The vanity-box may paint the lips and face of a woman, but under it the mind chisels on the psychoplasmic face and body, in bold letters, the feelings, thoughts and will of the vanity-box owner.

God-man's feelings, thoughts and will mould the psychoplastic substance to construct and beautify its plastic mortal body. Spirit-man can mentally transform his organism into the image and likeness of saints, angels, gods and goddesses, if he has the incentive of will to do so. But, alas, the ancient phonograph record that he is, *every repeating* his *fall, degradation* and *dependency,* he naturally remains an awfully homely gargoyle dolt, amusing the beautiful creatures that environ him.

ROSES OF YESTERDAY

ROSES of yesterday have faded and gone,
Their sweet-scented petals the wind has strewn;
They are trampled on by many weary feet,
But wherever you find one it will be just as sweet.

They must drop their petals that have withered and decayed
To make room for the new roses already on their way.
So our lives are like the roses of yesterday,
We must give up our earthly bodies of clay.

Then just as the rose blooming anew,
That is what you and I will do;
The roses grow in grace and beauty,
They brighten your lives, such is their duty.

When we close our eyes in eternal rest,
We arise anew to the higher life blest;
So on earth help the weary ones find their way
To their spiritual bodies that will never decay.

By LILLIE BELLE PARENT.

THE TRUE LIGHT

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Thanks for Greetings

SO MANY interesting letters wishing us well have come this past month, that we feel encouraged to try to better our printed efforts in spreading truth. Our sincerest thanks go out to all who kindly remembered us. Let us quote from some.

Permit me to say in commendation of your work that I am fully in accord with your efforts to emphasize the teachings of masters of the past in connection with present-day psychic manifestations. Long ago I became convinced that psychic manifestation alone could not constitute the lasting foundation of any religious movement. There must be the spiritual atmosphere, in other words the Christ ideal connected with, or as the result of, such manifestations. I hope that your work will succeed, and I am sure that as time goes on the increasing number of those interested in the thoughts which you are trying to promulgate will thank you for the good you are doing.

That came to us from an attorney-at-law with whom we have no acquaintance whatever. Though some distance from us, we hope we may one day have the opportunity to shake you by the hand. Here is one from a co-worker.

I am wishing for you all that a friend can wish another, that partakes of life's richest treasures which has been so bountifully given unto us. May its spiritual store be unfailing and its material blessings great. May the incoming new year bring to THE TRUE LIGHT much added material in the way of divine wisdom and may its scope of activity spread over many untrod fields. May its success grow with each issue, and God's breath pervade all.

Here is how another put it. If I am ever down your way I should like to see you and grasp your hand. Well, brother, we will welcome you when you do come and so too any others—but let us know before hand and we shall try to be at hand.

The Houdini Message

FOR A COUPLE of days we were startled at the communication purported to have come from the spirit of Houdini through a trance medium revealing the code which Houdini, while in earthly body prepared. With full confidence we awaited just that message and patiently hoped the right conditions would prevail to enable his spirit to give it. But alas, the charlatan as of old still worketh. Before the spirit of Houdini found opportunity to give proof of spirit communication in so far as it deals with the specific code, fraudulent efforts on the part of others interfere with the true accomplishment of his earthly wish. Now one opportunity is no longer available to him who denied opportunity to others. For his spirit sake, we regret this.

Many thanks are due him for exposing frauds in days gone by. It is sad however that he had to inflict so much harm to the True Worker, and consequently, the Truth. There are many wolves in lambskin clothing, but as Rupert Hughes put it, "Nothing is more difficult to conceal then insincerity." The fakir, the trickster and they who continue in the environment of magic and who otherwise would deceive, cannot withhold proof of spirit-communication.

However, the conditions must be right. The seeker must be sincere. They who would help the searcher after more light should be making their earthly journey in an highly spiritual manner, ere they can be called worthy exponents of the Works of God. Then both truth-seeker and truth-finder will progress and advance. And the reason is this—if we would have understanding here it will hasten our spiritual progress and advance hereafter.

Houdini the man missed opportunity and so too has his spirit. The loss is his, and ours. God the Father still rules, and our communion with Him is, Please God, give all of us light, have mercy on us all, everywhere we be.

Abolish Capital Punishment

THERE is considerable agitation in most quarters to do away with the horrible death penalty of the different states of the United States and of the foreign states. To execute one judged a criminal is a flagrant violation of the Law of God given through Moses, THOU SHALT NOT KILL.

Such barbaric action has no place in this enlightened age and generation. So let be gone for all times the electric chairs, the gallows, the guillotines and the firing squads.

Death to the body is not death to the spirit. It lives on, for it is not destructible. It belongs to God the Supreme Spirit, and man should awaken to the responsibilities we have for each other's spiritual well being. Write your legislators to exercise their influence against the inhumane treatments of killing.

What Spiritualism Is and Does

IT TEACHES personal responsibility. It removes all fear of death, which is really the portal of the spirit world.

It teaches that death is not the cessation of life, but mere change of condition.

It teaches, not that a man has a soul, but that man is a soul and has a body.

That man is a spiritual being now, even while encased in flesh.

That as man sows on earth he reaps in the life to come.

That those who have passed on are conscious—not asleep.

That communion between the living and the "dead" is scientifically proved.

It thus brings comfort to the bereaved, and alleviates sorrow.

Spiritualism is the Science, Philisophy and Religion of continuous life, based upon the demonstrated fact of communication, by means of mediumship, with those who live in the Spirit World.

It brings to the surface man's spiritual gifts, such as inspiration, clairvoyance, clairaudience and healing powers.

It teaches that the spark of divinity dwells in all.

That as a flower gradually unfolds in beauty, so the spirit of man unfolds and develops in the spirit spheres.

Spiritualism is God's message to mortals, declaring that There Is No Death. That all who have passed on still live. That there is hope in the life beyond for the most sinful.

Books Worth Reading

"LIFE AFTER DEATH," "Enigmas of Psychical Research," "Psychical Research and the Resurrection," "Science and a Future Life." These four books are by Prof. James H. Hyslop, once Professor of Logic and Ethics at Columbia University. For the last several years he has held high offices with the American Society for Psychical Research. All Spiritualists should read Professor Hyslop's works.

Other books that will surely please are: "The Law of Psychic Phenomena," by Dr. Thomson Jay Hudson; "The Abolishing of Death," by Basil King; "The Shadow World," by Hamlin Garland; "The New Revelation,' by Arthur Conan Doyle; "The Seven Purposes," by Margaret Cameron; "Fact and Fable in Psychology," by Prof. Joseph Jastrow; "Spiritualism: Its History, Phenomena and Doctrine," by J. Arthur Hill. Many of these books are to be found in most public libraries.

"The Physical Phenomena of Spiritualism" and "Your Psychic Powers and How to Develop Them," by Dr. Hereward Carrington. Besides these two outstanding works, Dr. Carrington has written a wealth of material it will pay the Spiritualist and those interested in Spiritualism to read.

And by the way, folks, don't forget The True Light. I do not know of any magazine that is more inspiring. The editors and printers deserve a lot of credit for the quality of the paper and the excellent, clean, clear type. Many a magazine with a hundred times its circulation is not in its class in this respect.

If you are a Spiritualist, or interested in Spiritualism, do not let the small sum of $2.00, the yearly subscription, deter you from enjoying so many instructive and joyous hours.

By JOHN L. MCCULLOUGH.

THERE was a little boy
And he had a little toy
And he put it right into his pocket;
And when it got there
It found itself where
There were marbles and string
And an electric light socket.

By UNCLE AMOS.

Ectoplasm has been discovered, observed, analyzed and photographed. Materialism can no longer assert that thought is the result of matter.

THE CREATOR AND THE LAW

BEFORE the earth, the sea, the sky;
Before the sun, ruler of day;
And before the moon, ruler of night;
Before every star in the vast expanse of blue;
And before every orb in the regions of unending space;
Before all these things were created
There existed God the Creator.
Many worlds hath He created
For the benefit of His children
And for His own glory.
The Ten Commandments hath He given us:
His Law hath He put in our hearts.
He hath written His Word in books
And placed it in the mouths of many wise souls
Thruout the ages.
He sent the Great Teacher, the Elder Brother,
To be our guide and exemplar;
To show us the Way, the Path
Of life and of rectitude
For our happiness here:
And to those who keep this Law
Hath He given the immortal hope
And evidence of the hereafter.

By LEON BRITTELL.

YOUR STATE OF MIND

TOMORROW brings skies of gray
To those who fear today.
Each one of us must do our part.
'Tis foolish! Future fears should fill the heart.

Today life offers a clean stage
On which to act, and earn our wage;
Then act your part, with all your heart,
Make up your mind today to start!

Tomorrow's laugh will chase away
Your foolish fears of yesterday.
That the world is bright, or folks are kind,
Depends upon your state of mind!

By JOHN L. MCCULLOUGH.

A PERFECT DAY

THE mill is grinding,
The flour's flowing;
The river's winding
Where man is sowing.

The Spring is waking,
Summer expecting;
Flowers are making,
The bee inspecting.

And men are tilling,
And work is hope,
For man is willing
With earth to cope.

The world is rising
Upon its leaven—
For love's devising
The breadth of Heaven.

By GENE HOMER.

He who taketh exception to truth because it cometh from an unchosen source is not seeking truth.

PROVERB PROOF-TESTS

Proverbs XX:27—The spirit of man is the lamp of Jehovah, searching all his innermost parts.

(Old Testament statement of Truth)

MATTHEW V:16—Even so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

(New Testament practical teaching for applying Truth)

You make the application!

AMOS.

SPIRIT GUIDANCE

IN OUR earthly travel here,
Remember the heavenly sphere;
Then comes peace and brother love,
The will to obey God's law.

The flowers unfold to beauty,
To the Will of the Father on high;
So, too, should humanity by that Will
Give up the past and unfold to beauty.

By CHRISTIAN B. KALBFLEISCH, JR.

SPIRIT STRENGTH

PLEASE God sustain me in my flight,
Direct the wings of erring youth
That I may rise up to thy light
And bask in thy immortal truth.

By WALTER SCOTT HASKELL.

SPIRIT LOVE

IT IS not the earth-made body
That brings the purest love;
It is the purity of the spirit,
As sent forth from God above.

If the body rules the spirit,
And brings it on a downward path,
Then pray to God in spirit,
He will send those who uplift.

Abide by the Law of God,
Give thanks to the Father on high
For sending us this spirit love,
To make our earthly travel bright.

By THE SILENT OBSERVER.

TOO BUSY

THE Lord had a job for me to do
But I was just so busy
I said, "I'll surely do it,
But just wait till I get through."
Then I forgot about it
Till I heard a small voice say,
"Wasn't there a call for you
Before this other day?"
But I just kept on working
At the task I set to do
And thought, I'm just too busy,
I'll wait tlil I get through.
And then came a day when I needed the Lord,
And I needed Him mighty bad;
I begged and prayed and His mercy implored,
But for me no ears He had.
And then I remembered that job I forgot,
And my heart and soul grew sad,
So now, when I hear a call from above,
I hasten and hurry with my heart full of love.
I'm never too busy to follow the word,
And never forget the command that I heard.

By HERMINA SCHMID.

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

GOD LEADING, MEN FOLLOWING

Through the Mediumship of Lillian Barit

(Final Installment)

TO THE released spirit, who has been welcomed by his guardian teacher, and is willing to be taught, comes an interesting and entirely new condition. He sees an additional light layer of foam slip from his shoulders, like a cloak; and as it falls his eyes are opened and he sees, for the *first* time, with a clarity of vision, that shall ever be with him. He may now go to the different teachers and listen to their various ways of expounding the "word." When his heart is satisfied and he grows weary of listening to these heavy words of wisdom, he is transported to the Plane of Impatience. There he sees what impatience has done for these denizens of the plane, and instead of progress, is the full standing still, no upward or downward movement, just the stillness of not moving. His mind takes the lesson unto itself and he seeks from those about the reason; why they do not go ahead and he then realizes that these others are in a state of expiation. They are placed as a sign to new-comers as to the fallacy of thinking themselves ahead of the first teachers, and wanting, so to speak, to skip the first grades and soar to better exponents, or so they think.

The Spirit is brought back to where the teachers were, but not now, does he see numerous groups; but he finds himself within the walls of a school of learning. Here in the mellow light of a great opal orb, he finds a lecture in full progress, no sounds does he hear as he did on the earth, the waves assail his force of brain, and he follows through. When the lecture is completed his companions require him to state his thought on what had been propelled to him. All enquire of him, his exact reaction to life, and they welcome him to them as a brother.

Then come periods of relaxation when youth, which is indeed eternal, and beauty which transcends descriptive powers, congregate, and make sweet the vapours, arising from the ethers, with song and praise. They infill all the hearts of the hearers with pure strains of rapture. Then the garlanded bands of children, who are the true essence of God's breath, come dancing to the voices raised and bring the light of love.

The spirit will oft inquire of his "host." Are there no unhappy, dejected people here? So we take a little changed vibration and waft down into a dale, where the vapors and the lights are denser. We find those who in mortal life *hid* from knowledge forced on them. Who lived lives of indolence, luxury, and as they often thought intelligent lives. Forsooth, that they had a speaking acquaintance with books, and read without understanding thoroughly their purport and directions, were they then the "Lords of the world." Into spirit life came they then, all unprepared and uncaring. Thinking within them had they not everything material, then it must needs follow they would have everything spiritual for the asking. Then the questions are asked of them what and why should you believe so? Their pride is still stiffnecked and the reply is ever the same. We thought our possessions would give us rule here as there. Awkward as it must be for them, the first lessons of human love must be taught to them, and the awakening love of service is either slow or rapid according to the willingness of the pupil.

So, the spirit, being piloted, sees at a glance how blessed was the word, he laid up in his heart, and how good his reward of life may become. There are many steps on his path, that he plodingly must take before he begins that which he wants to be. Adept to give to his fellow-man the knowledge of the change. The love he has left, and the pure rays from the centre which have warmed him and lighted for him, the desire to reach greater, wider, and more wonderful heights of loving. Realizing God's greatness and His fullness of enlightenment which is the second step of progression of the awakened soul.

For the gate of God's Kingdom is ever open, to those who approach with reverence for Truth. For God is the Father, and all the world is his child and every clime is included, none are forgot.

The spirit, which is in man shall purify itself through the acknowledgement of the Supremity of God. Love God first and show that love to His children, humankind. Then shall the first faint rumblings of the new and greater Kingdom become a fixed and earnestly striven for fact, by the partially awakened children of God. God, the Father is and always will be the Fountain of Life coupled with Love; and always shall He send the sprays of Purity and Blessedness from His Divine Source to overflow into the lives of men, to purify their objectives and make them more in unison with Divinity.

God wrought wonders in every age, called by man miracles; but to those who every day see His kindness and mercy know that the *Natural* Laws of then are the same natural laws of now. These laws are as little understood in this time and age, as they were fifty centuries ago. The man then as now, was imperfect in his perceptions and longings, and had to be shown repeatedly the same lesson, in differing aspects; but yet, the very same lesson.

When Faith springs up, it is the mirror of man's understanding of what has been taught him. When understanding dawns on his horizon, then he becomes the vehicle through which God's word may come. Men look at other men's raiment, and consider his material worldly standing, and so give honor to what they believe him to be, through his achievements. The man who has been taught words of wisdom, looks within, at what manner of spirit has a man, and uncovers the overlaid "word of God" and begins to ponder the ways of man. Listening to the words of his mouth, seeking to understand the meditations of his heart, then tries mightily to trap up and hold the flow of molten truth. Truth, which flows like a stream, seeking to imbed its rooting firmly in good soil, so that God may be blessed in this age, by the understanding hearts of many, not only the few.

Mercy belongs to God, for He is indeed merciful. Goodness emanates from His centre for He is the Crown of all Achievements and gives to rich and poor alike, that which he needs, not once but always in due measure; whether the individual thinks so or not. Good is measured by man as the raiment, food and other possessions of mankind; but not so are the goods of spirit called. Spirit Life, Land of Promise, Beulah Land, Land of Sunrise, Land of Sunset or Promised Heaven is within your own lives to attain.

The attributes of God are within. Love holds the torch aloft. Be ever awake to the possibilities in all men, and send out the helpfulness within you. In every case this means, another flower in the Kingdom of God on Earth, another possibility of quickening the hard encrusted hearts of men called Humanity. Then with the splendor of the scene ahead, partially

unfolded. with the sunlight of a new and splendid dawning. Come then, ye followers of God and keep the lamp trimmed. God Lives. Amen.

In the silences of the spirit, when the gateway to the awakening is open, comes the balm from the Almighty, all understanding God. When men were strong of arm and body; but young of brain. When the weit was spoken and only one here and there had the understanding meant in each word and sign. When the lowliest, the meekest felt the striving to speak, then he was set aside from his fellows, for the spirit of God had fallen on him. The God pictured then, must be the same as had been taught. The one who portrayed God knew men and their ways. You call it psychology, not a new way of erudition, not new, older even than the inspired but sadly overwritten book you call the Bible.

Is it not then in the light of knowledge that frees the mind and makes stronger brains, better attuned to bodily vigor, rather uncover, than hide the true beauties of holiness and meekness, in bending human will to the Power of the All-Seeing Spirit. The Power that has Progress in His ideal, for the greatest leaders to stir up first the imaginations, then the hearts of His Children. When this fact is accomplished, he opens the storehouses of spiritual values, and infills not only the leaders, but the others groping for it, with his greatest gift the enlightened soul. Upliftment of soul has been the aim in every generation, and the pages of histories oft times neglect to state the transported look on the faces of their heroes. Therefore, again hiding from the younger, groping generations the true fact, that these great names now, were God infilled Spirits within men. They listened to the call to do, dared to follow the beckoning light, and answered in truth, for truth, that which was told them to do.

God, the Father needs no praise for what He has done. What He accomplishes through His children, is the essence of light and the vapor gives to Him the knowledge that His children are guarding His every word. He expects the light to be steadfast, also for it to be handed trimmed and bright, from the hand of one to the other to brighten and cleanse. To open not only closed doors, but hidden ones as well. God has revealed to no one man or to no one hundred men the whole truth. For the knowledge of the greatness of the finished world and its laws; and how they were to be administered; would be entirely of too much weight for puny man to be able to follow. God refrains from visiting all of His anger. Anger is not what you call anger, His anger is in reality sorrow, for it floods the earth with His merciful messengers, charged with upliftment, not with vengeance

Peoples live and carve out one niche, they die out, another people on another part of the globe, take up where the other people have left off, go on a little higher, and then they too die out. Here is part of a very true miracle, unknown one to another, separated by waters, still carrying out their part in the universal scheme of things ordained eons and eons of time past. Many planets have many ways of doing, seeing, living. But what one age forgets, another remembers. So the cycles of time, understanding, pride of purpose and there love follow one after the other; each doing what is necessary, to make the people then living on whatever planet they happen to be, act and make more seemly, according to the cycle they manifest in the "way of the Lord thy God."

The same God, munificent, beneficient, who forsees the comforts necessary to mortal peoples, who makes the minds to open to knowledge at the correct time; who protects the weak from those too strong for them. Who gives to the bird his mate; who gives to the land its seed; who gives to His beloved children dominion over all below them, and with kindness leads them out of darkness into light. Who heals all things. Who makes time as naught. Who sends all things in His Own Good Time to His faithful workers. Amen.

THOUGHT

By George Heald

THOUGHT, which is a very simple word is a most important one. It is as important as any in existence. What does it stand for?

Thought creates for us either sorrow or happiness. Our prisons would not be filled to capacity if many of those unfortunates did think before they committed their misdeeds. What can thought do? Think evil and you do bad. Think good, and you create happiness both to yourself and associates.

In my estimation children at school should be taught the power of thought, of right thinking. It should be their very first step in education. More benefit would be derived if such instruction would continue constantly than by filling their heads with much unnecessary teachings which will never be of any use to them.

The brain is the power machine of our body, and upon which we rely for thought. Our thoughts can be cultivated for good at our will. A good reminder as to how best to cultivate good thought is in the replica of the three wise monkeys—hands covering the eyes that we might see no evil; hands covering the ears that we might hear no evil and hands covering the mouth that we might speak no evil

SPIRITUGRAMS — No. 19

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

1. Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His holy hill; for the Lord our God is holy.
2. Teach me to do Thy will; for Thou art my God: Thy Spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.
3. Into Thy hand I commit my spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.
4. Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit? Or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?
5. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful .
6. But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy works.
7. Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men.
8. Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled; thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust.
9. But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.
10. Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and for evermore.

The answer to SPIRITUGRAM No. 18 follows: Psalm 8-1, 88-10, 79-8, 49-20 146:4, 39:7, 51:10, 32:1, 121:8, and 126:6 respectively.

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

HOW SPIRIT MANIFESTS THROUGH MATTER

By Geraldine Wood

SPIRIT works through matter. What is matter- A new age will have to coin new terms, and a new use of this term. In the use of terms, our division between matter and spirit has been too sharp, too erratic. Spirit, life draws from the ethers, and builds around itself the shield we call the material body or covering. We are spirit now. We merely cast aside the outer form which in age becomes a burden. Except for the casting off of the old we are no whit different. We still have a body. Is this body a material one? To those who remain behind it is a spirit body, to the possessor it is a material body in a new environment.

There is no sharp dividing line here. Matter is merely that which the spirit calls forth according to the law of its nature. Science has discovered the electron. It is invisible and a part of the atom which was previously called the smallest known particle of matter. Is the electron matter? Science has restated this problem. It now tells us that living matter at length resolves itself into a force having the properties of motion. If this force is withdrawn from matter it becomes dead, disintegrates, and returns to its elements to be used again by forces, which playing upon it, call it again into being as material. Were this wonderful power of life to withdraw from the planet earth, this would become a "dead" planet, it would disintegrate and become again invisible, a part of the elements from which it was drawn by the creative power of the spirit whom men term, God. God is the life-giver, else He is not the Creator.

God is also divine mind. Matter under given conditions responds to the play of spirit upon it and the phenomena called intelligence results. The brain of man is matter under these given conditions. The union of the spirit with the physical brain constitutes the province of mind. In mind we have the seat of divine power and all the highest attributes of the human justice, mercy and love. It is the central sending station of the spirit and from it go forth all the commands to the human body. It is the seat of reason and the home of the soul. Control the mind and you control all.

Now all minds are not equal in receptive power, or, if equal, they are unlike one another. Some can never respond to those vibrations of spirit which others readily receive. By the operation of our will-power we can open up new channels of thought and reason, and so open new channels for spirit communication. Along the avenues of thought with which we are already familiar we can receive the more readily. Inspiration comes, and that mind responds which is capable of response. Some are born with talent along certain lines and the brain readily responds to outside influence along those lines.

So we see that when spirit operates through matter such as the tiny cells of the human body, it manifests as life merely, but when it operates through matter such as the human brain it manifests as intelligence. This is the highest manifestation of spirit through matter of which we, as humans, have any cognizance. Spirits on the other side wishing to manifest through into the physical must use a medium of some sort. Outside influence using your brain make of you a spirit medium of the mental type. Outside influences using the physical make of you a medium for physical manifestations from the other side.

God is the creator of all things physical. God is a spirit and we are a part of that spirit. We are immortal because no matter what physical conditions we may be brought under that life within us can never be destroyed by anything in this outer world. We will still live no matter what happens to our physical. "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. (Matt. 10:28.) What does this mean? Even if the body were killed the spirit would still live on, but because of the evil influence which were brought to play upon that soul it would lack the development which it would and should, have attained. It is plunged into the depths because it is shut off from the heavenly effulgent light of its innermost sanctum or self, that light which is termed spiritual and which connects the soul with God.

We say a soul sins. Sin may be merely undevelopment, but we do not say an animal sins because of undevelopment. We say the animal is unaccountable because of a lack of understanding, because of a lack of intelligence.

Two people commit the same crime. Yet one is undeveloped in understanding and the other is fully aware of the evil of his act. Who shall weigh this understanding and justly punish the two culprits? No wonder our courts are lacking in justice. Yet at the final bar of judgment, which judgment is God's, that soul receives its just reward, a reward measured by the light of understanding within. Is not our God, a God of absolute justice? Are not His ways past finding out? We are just beginning to comprehend His love toward us and His mighty power to save, for the Spirit which pleads with our spirit, is ever a power unto salvation.

LIFE

By Richard Boness

WHAT IS LIFE? Life is the foundation upon which everything on the earth or in the heavens above is based. Life is spirit. Life is God. Most humanity think life is that period of time that the spirit spends in its house of clay while traveling here on this earth-plane. But this is not so, because when we know Life is God and we also know God is Eternal, then that part—God or Life that dwells within our houses of clay must be eternal, and therefore lives on after the so-called death.

Life on this earth plane is like a preliminary school to something which is higher and better. Our lesson in this preliminary school is the Law of God or the Ten Commandments. This lesson teaches us to go on a righteous, truthful, brotherly pathway in our walk through life here on this earth plane, thereby preparing us for that higher school which we shall enter at the time when the angel of death shall call us to cross the border.

This Law was handed down through inspiration, from God to Moses, thousands of years ago and should be used by humanity as a rule and guide to govern themselves in their travels here. The application of this lesson was exemplified in the way in which the Elder Brother traveled here when he was in body amongst men.

Man cannot create life, neither can he destroy it. This power is by God alone. Man creates the material clay and God sends that atom of Himself or life into the man-made clay, thereby making it a living being, The clay is as naught without this part—God.

At the beginning of creation God created man in His own

image, from the dust of the earth, blowing the breath of life into his nostrils and henceforth man became a living human being.

Our learned men in this earth plane have tried to create life but their efforts have been in vain. They could make material forms that would appear life-like to the material eye, but the life or spirit they could not bring forth into these forms to make them living beings. Man cannot destroy life. He can only separate the life or spirit from the clay.

The proof thereof is simple. If man would seek the truth, he would find that his spirit loved ones whom he had thought were dead, return again and communicate with man through inspiration or through the instrumentality of a body, said body being qualified for that purpose.

It behooves each one of us as part-God to travel upon this earth plane, in the spiritual way, abiding by the Law of God, and following the teachings of Jesus.

PSYCHIC DEVELOPMENT

Lesson XIII.

By Rev. Millicent Hubbard

PRAYER for opening of the New Year Classes: "Blessed God of Light and Truth and Love, we turn to you for strength, and to those ministering spirit friends who come to teach us Thy Will, for we know they come with Thy blessing. And though there is in reality no beginning and no leaving off in this great Universe, we, Thy infant children can only see as far as the horizon of material phenomenon, and so we require a relative term that expresses to our limited understanding, a point of change; so tonight, we seek to reconsecrate our efforts to do good as we interpret GOOD, and to devote more time and strength to acquire a closer relationship with the Spirit Teachers. Direct us in all our ways, and may Thy Will be our will. Amen.

Sit quiet and relaxed; allow the eyes to rest easily and comfortably, looking toward a blank space of wall or screen; allow the hands to lie so that the palms may receive contact. Do not force the vision nor imagine more than really takes place. Be sure to see, sense, or hear whatever shall manifest as spirit. Let the mind be free of all material interest, for when the thoughts are directed toward material interests the results are not satisfactory, as they are apt to be the sub-conscious promptings and not spirit manifestation. We cannot be too careful about deluding ourselves in psychic matters. And, be sure to accept who ever comes and not ask especially for a certain person in spirit, lest the imposter shall impersonate the one for whom you ask.

And again, let us warn against trying to recognize each spirit as friend or relative, for in either case it is a selfishness that prompts an attempt to KNOW each spirit because of previous relationship in earth life.

However, it is proper to ask that the teachings shall be extended beyond last year's lessons. That the phenomenon shall include pictures of the Celestial Realms, that the Teachers may show themselves for whom they are, and that direction for the daily life may be given to the student during the sittings this month. Be sure that the development is taken up with the thought of doing God's Will, and not for amusement or personal material gain; these being against His Will, and contrary to the Law of the Cosmos. Try to find some one who needs help, and see what you are able to get for them from the spirit friends; this will broaden and sweeten your atmosphere, and create a spirituality of the high order. After the contact weakens, close with prayer: "We thank you our beloved teachers and spirit friends for your efforts in our behalf, and we do solemnly promise to live worthily before God and in the sight of man for this coming year, and we ask you to help to guide us in the LIGHT of Truth. Amen."

HUMANITY

By Elizabeth Antz

WE OF THE SPIRIT know the frailties of human existence and come to enlighten those who will listen to our pleading. Joy spreads her wings like that of a dove and sends her radiance to those who embark for the higher realms of thought.

A crocus fair with face upturned reflects God's radiance, to manifest to those on earth of His glory. This flower so humble brings happiness with its presence; so why will not God's children emulate the crocus and bring into all corners of the earth the radiance that God endowed him with?

Peace be unto you.

Mighty ocean of thought unlashed on billows of time, sent to inlets of universal ports, to be wind-sailed to progress' reef; when we who come may partake of God's bounteous store of universal understanding.

THE TREE OF LIFE

By Walter Scott Haskell

IT IS said that the leaves on a tree are the tree's lungs. The tree takes oxygen through its leaves and forms the carbon of the tree. All the mineral comes from the ground through the roots. And the tree's limbs grow away from the trunk, yet are to be used on which to bear fruit.

There is a great similarity between a tree in mortal life, and the tree of life as a whole. The tree of Immortal Life—the life force and substance—sends out branches from the main stock—human minds, that at first grow away from the main trunk, and live its own individual life. While taking life force from the tree it uses that force for its own little purpose. Yet, really, however much it may diverge from the main stock, it is doing the work of the main stock. It is the tree's lungs. Through man is to come the blessings of life and the fruit of life, just as the branches of an earth tree bears the fruit of that tree. It is a great thought. To realize that we have been chosen to represent life's forces, and give them expression, should be a great honor. We are not merely our individual selves, but the avenue through which the Immortal forces act. And as soon as we mentally grasp the idea, and cooperate, we become identified with the immortal forces. We are that now, only we don't know it.

How important it is that we do cooperate with the main trunk. Because a conscious realization of the situation in the minds of the human representative, is the only way the Immortal can realize through us. And it is the only way we can realize, for the goal is individual.

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

MORE ABOUT REINCARNATION

By William Geiger

(Previously written about in the last, or January issue)

APART FROM the teachings of the prophets of old about the truth of reincarnation as gleaned from the Jewish History or Bible, there is what might be termed a practical side. So it is we may continue our search for more understanding by taking up another phase of the subject.

The claim has often been made by many observers that the present generation is far wiser than generations of the days gone. The present and particularly the rising generation each are WISE in all matters. It does not follow that there are very many prodigies (this is still another phase of reincarnation). It is that the young of to-day know more about the things that have not been told them nor shown them. Noticeably they are keen to fully understand incidents that are in the far, far past. Out of all this is a greater desire for things differently from customs, or conventionalities. They have no inclination for things cultural, but are eager about phenomenalism. Let us try to know what it may all be about—this wisely proclivity.

Have you observed how the tiniest infant knows its own, how it looks at visitors with intelligence, attracted to some and visibly fearful of others? Is it not interesting how these very little ones make themselves understood although they speak not one word, still get what they are after? Have you noticed that the girls are not interested in what is of general interest to males? Some of us may call this intuition or instinct.

As these tots grow older, begin to romp and play and study and start to mould, construct or create material things, we find they follow their own inclination. Quite naturally they, too, are quick to copy others. In spite of the fact that they will mimick others or that their local environment is not just the best, we find they still follow as they themselves seem to understand and know. Some elders insist they become engineers when they would follow a tendency toward music. In those cases where the children are denied the right to follow after their own cravings, we find them failures in what was forced upon them by the elders or guardians. The successful inventor, discoverer, artist, poet, author, composer or leader is called a genius and has a personality that is called unusual simply because he does something that outdoes his neighbor. What he has accomplished was through the imaginary, was visionary, and while much of these accomplishments are because of spirit guidance, it is due in great measure because of the impression upon the spirit before it again incarnated. It tries to fulfill while in earthly journey, that which is set out to do. Alas, it is too often that the real purpose is forgotten after earthly habits such as selfishness, vanity or egotism overcomes the Godly or spiritual force.

It is well to remember that what is true of accomplishment may be found in failure—the conditions of light or darkness is with the incarnated spirit according to the conditions of a previous carnal journey. Only this journey the spirit wants to strive to do better. In the struggle to make right the spirit often yields to the material or fleshly part, and instead of reaching a higher destination spiritually, it falls lower. However, it realizes its own error without another pointing it out.

To continue. The writer knows of many experiences where one has visited a locality or strange city for the first time, yet, all seemed so clear after viewing the houses, the streets and in some cases even the people and their customs. They recognized the scenery as though they were a part of that place. It is because of having been there in a previous journey. The impression is upon the inner self or spirit part. True the body in which now incarnated was not there, but the life, the spirit, that part that knows, it was there, but in another form.

Many children and many grown-ups have a fear of fire, of water, or of accidental passing out of body. It is because they were burned severely, or were drowned or otherwise gave up their bodies in a previous journey and before their time was up. There are those who have an attraction for certain races or certain types of people, of animals or other forms of living beings, and is because of association had during a prior existence.

Reincarnation is for the liar, the thief or the saint. As they have sowed, so do they reap. A liar shall not enter the Kingdom of God, neither will he who takes what belongs to another enter therein, and the so-called saint who brings the untruth, who spreads hypocracy and who deceives his Father Who is in Heaven, is no better off. Where then are these who so brand themselves and who are so branded by another? Look ye about, study self, and if they be not in the spirit realms, then they are again in body, and it is to make right what was not done rightly during previous incarnations. And while we strive toward the spiritual, the Godly, the truth, it is the conditions of the past that we must overcome, and when they become manifest in our every day activities, let us be sure to analyze them as either worth-while or not so worthy, and act towards that which is more worthy and righteous. Then it is we will not be required to again come back. Then we shall have reached a higher and more perfected state.

A CASKET OF JEWELS

HAVE you a jewel-casket all lined with purity
And set with precious stones of love and duty?
Have you a golden smile, a jewel rare indeed,
Have you a jewel-casket tucked away somewhere?

Have you a jewel-casket set with rubies of affection?
Have you a jewel blue of spiritual light, perfection?
Have you filled it full of silver, of gold, or world renown,
Or have you filled it full of Godly deeds well done?

Or of pure thoughts and love for your fellow-men,
Or is it filled with hatred or jealousy,
Or bitter thoughts to your friend or enemy?
Have you filled it full of charity, or selfishness, or woe?

Be that as it may, we all have such a treasure
Tucked away somewhere in our souls,
But it remains with us just how shining and bright,
Or how dull and corruptible we make it.

If with good deeds kindly done, we have a jewel-casket rare,
And a blessing to us when we leave this mortal sphere;
It takes not gold or silver, or the world's most precious stones
To form a jewel-casket, no indeed!

We build it thought by thought, and upon *our* actions depend
Just what kind of a jewel-casket is ours!

By Louisa Riemvis.

SPIRITUAL REQUIREMENTS

By Thomas Carlyle

IN THE beginning of any good work, consecration to its requirements is necessary, so that the efforts put forth may be a sequence of careful planning.

With spiritual manifestations, we find this condition, and more. We must have the co-operation of enlightened spirits, for in them lies the initial power for all psychical phenomena. The spirits are the chief factors for spiritual manifestations; while the medium is also necessary, she must be considered only as an instrument attuned to receive the spirit vibrations, and more-or-less imperfectly adjusted. For absolute perfection has not yet been found.

Nowhere can it be said that we are in duty bound to do as directed by spirits, because there are spirit loved ones who are sadly ignorant and undeveloped.

But those who have progressed, and show evidence of high character and moral attainment, may be unhesitatingly received by mortals as able and accredited teachers.

A medium should use her judgment, discretion, and reason, in mediumship, just as she would in other personal matters that concerned her general welfare.

Love prompts the loved ones to return to the earth plane, to prove that their lives are not extinct, but that the indwelling spirit has endowed them with life eternal as spirit entities.

We do realize that the Supreme Force showers blessings on all of us, daily, and a greatful acknowledgment of this, advances us in character, while our spirit loved ones are also benefited thereby.

The rise and fall of tides in the ocean, the revolution of the earth every twenty-four hours, gravitation, the magnetic current northward, and many wonderful features of physical life, all tend to make us reverent toward the Creator for the wonderful manifestations of divine power—which is silent, yet potent.

Conditions of joy thus cause us to glorify our Creator; and we are reminded that, while man may be considered the culmination of creative genius and super-human supremacy, he has a free-will to express his own individuality. But in exercising the free-will, how many of us consider that we should never lose sight of that Supreme Intelligence which shapes our ends, rough-hew them as we may?

As a child recognizes the guidance of parents till he reaches adult age, he should then "paddle his own canoe," with common sense and skill that will enable him to avoid the moral boulders that are to be found in all directions. A human derelict on the ocean of mankind is a menace to all others.

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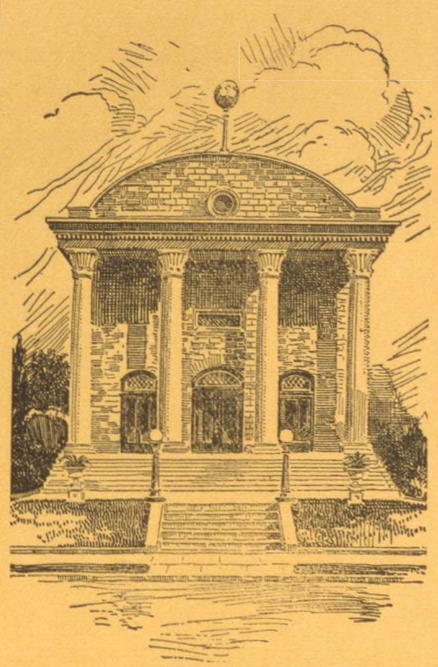

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The True Light

A MAGAZINE FOR SPIRITUAL UPLIFTMENT

THIS 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 or 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 RIGHTEOUSNESS 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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