

THE ORDER OF THE ESSENES

2527 SUNSET DRIVE

TAMPA 6, FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION

LIFE IS CHANGE.
IT CAN BE FOR THE BETTER

FOR YOU: -

You will be interested in Page 13 of Instruction 13 which accompanies this letter. - Jesus was an adopted son of the Order of The Essenes.

This we know from communications of contemporaries of Jesus - letters between members of the Order. There is nothing remarkable about this knowledge. We know much of Socrates from the writing of Plato and others. Socrates antedated Jesus four hundred years.

In those days the Essenes adopted and brought up many young men. If an adult desired to belong, then as now, he was prepared for three years. Much of interest along this line will be revealed later. The important thing at this time is to show you the way to accomplish your cherished aims.

From the ancients much wisdom has been preserved. Doubt not, the need of it will be apparent in the era we are now entering.

Mencius has given us this: "If a man love others and that love is not returned, let him examine himself as to his love of others. If he rule others but his government is not successful, let him examine himself as to wisdom. If he is polite to others but they are impolite to him, let him examine himself as to real respect for them. When by what we do we do not achieve our aim, we must examine ourselves at every point. When a man is right, the whole empire will turn to him."

The way of right-ness, right-use-ness, we can point - but each must travel the path to attain and accomplish. Be faithful. The road is interesting and enjoyable. There are many flowers and much fruit to be gathered along the way.

It is easy to see that men can discover a physical power, like electricity, and make it available to all, but no man can discover and make available to another, spiritual power.

The use of spiritual power is an individual matter. Each person must make his own contacts, but we can and do help you to attune yourself, so that you will be able to "bring in" these things, just as you attune your radio to far off stations.

After reading Lessons 12 and 13 we trust you will begin to work for a planned life. The next instruction will give you another essential in the formula for attainment.

The secret of creative thinking is to have your mind in league with Infinite Intelligence - You are creating the bond.

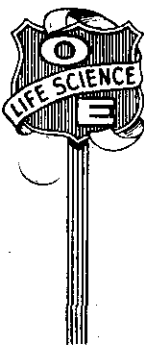
Faith! Friend,

THE ORDER OF THE ESSENES

By

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Enc. 13



THE Essenes

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Instruction 13

Assuring to the acceptable and accepted
HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS.

The objective side of man has a wonderful power to inspire and to encourage the subjective side; to arouse the subconscious mentality where all latent power and possibilities lie.

Deep within man dwell slumbering powers which would revolutionize his life, if aroused and put into action.

. . . . THOUGHT GEMS

The commonplace public scarcely understands the idealizing principle.

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Sportsmanship. — Never laugh when you win, and you will never have to cry when you lose.

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Confidence is a foundation stone. It has performed miracles in every line of endeavor.

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Fear will fill with poison the golden cup of life.

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Obstinacy is egotism, firmness heroism.

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Your experience, rightly viewed, must teach you that seeming failure seems to point the way to greater success.

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Establish an ideal, and you polarize a magnet which will draw you to its realization.

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To doubt your ability is to attract failure. If you hold a skimmed milk opinion of yourself, you cannot expect others to hold a whipping cream opinion of you.

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It is our endeavor to adapt to the comprehension, reduce to understanding, some of the starry truths which shone in the past, and gleamed dimly through the darkened knowledge of later disciples, laboring to revive the embers of the fires which once burned.

"For a Planned Life"

You will, upon self analysis, realize how easily the mind wanders — fails to hold a train of thought.

In this matter of a vision you must come to appreciate the great value of a fixed purpose, a central theme around which your thoughts can cluster, and to which your life units can bring substance.

Scattered thoughts like scattered seed can not bring a bountiful harvest.

Wheat, oats, rye, barley, and millet sown together would make a crop difficult to harvest.

An ideal, a definite goal and an overpowering purpose eliminates weed seed from the mind.

What is ambition? Is it aimlessness? Or purposefulness?

Do big game hunters use scattering bird shot?

Do sculptors just whack away at the marble, or have they models?

Thoughts must have a focal point — the vision, the plan, the purpose give that to which the thoughts will direct attention — bring the thoughts into focus.

A picture taken with a camera out of focus is hazy in outline, and indistinct. The more out of focus, the hazier — the more nearly in perfect focus, the more distinct in detail is the picture.

Vision is one of the life essentials. Ella Wheeler Wilcox beautifully expressed it, "Choose thy destiny" in this poem.

"We build our future thought by thought,
For good or bad, and know it not,
Yet so the universe is wrought.
Thought is another name for fate,
Choose then, thy destiny, and wait —
For love brings love, and hate brings hate."

We cannot leave the matter of vision, of the necessity for a purpose, a plan, without further consideration. It is the cornerstone of accomplishment.

From what has gone before you should grasp that you should make plans at first well within your power of accomplishment. Do them — surmount them. When you have risen a degree, it creates confidence; it develops power, it gives courage, it steels the sinews and the mind for greater effort. Then try the larger tasks.

The matter of having in mind an ultimate goal is well, but that you will change and advance, when once you reach it, as Henry Ford did.

One important natural law that should make you realize the importance of a vision or purpose is this: — Life moves from within, out, the germ of vitality is always at the center, not on the surface. All nature teaches that law — the tree — the plant — the fruit — the animal gather growth from within. The acorn,

from which grows the oak, contains within it the plan in every detail of trunk, branch, leaf, and fruitage. Nature did not give it mentality as it gave man — but just implanted the one vision — a life purpose.

No architect would be so foolish as to attempt to build a house without a plan. First of all, he decides how many rooms are wanted, then he proceeds to arrange the rooms conveniently and surrounds them, as a group with a pleasing exterior. He next calculates the quantity of material of all kinds that will be needed in constructing the house, and ascertains the cost.

We mortals, however, attempt to build a life and a career while giving but scant attention to the kind of life we want to build or the sort of career we ought to achieve. Furthermore, we seldom sit down and, in all seriousness, estimate the kind of material needed in our lives in order to build them adequately for the chosen career. Man succeeds or fails in proportion to what he has incorporated into his physical, mental, and spiritual edifice.

Wisdom pleads for the planned life, and for the plan to be worked consistently and continuously.

There is no possibility of side-stepping responsibility here, or of "passing the buck" to somebody else. You need not lay failure at the door of hereditary traits, environment, associates, or anything else. You alone are a success or a failure as you have builded into yourself the materials out of which either is made.

Nobody has the power to put into you one single trait of character. No one can change your traits unless you permit it. You are an individual free soul, and you are exactly what you have made yourself. You are, in a much larger sense than we are accustomed to think, your own maker.

What about the future then? Are you looking ahead and planning to make that future all that you would like it to be? It will be only what you make it — nothing more, nothing less.

Naturally, if one is creating visions, or making plans or working out a purpose — they are for him or her. The plans of our phone operator were "to get a raise" — but you noted how it was done.

Proper visions, for your accomplishment, are not to be classed as selfishness.

Selfishness is of several varieties. There is the selfishness which wants something — money, land, power, anything — and wants it to gratify a personal desire, to elevate itself above others, to satisfy material ambition or greed or lust. That kind of selfishness is destructive; it rides rough shod over the rights of others; it cares nothing about how it gets what it wants so long as it gets it. Law, morality, justice, all become obscured in the vision of the materially selfish man — the man who always "looks out for number one", who thinks of himself first, last, and all the time. And his selfishness works his own destruction in the end.

Then, there is the selfishness that wants the same things which the first selfishness wants, but for a different purpose. It wants money in order that it may be put to use in making others happy, it wants power for the purpose of making men better and the state more perfect, it wants a big business so that it may give employment to large numbers and smooth their rough environment and supply needed goods to the largest number at lowest cost. That sort of selfishness is wholesome, commendable, worthy. It is also constructive and its reaction on the man is to give him greater power and happiness.

In each case the man is working for *SELF*. That is the point to be made here. No matter what you are doing, who you are working for, what you are selling, you are in business for yourself.

Now, let us again take a specific case, that we may get a proper conception of just how a vision works out in practical life.

This case is of a young man — working on a small salary as a packer and shipping clerk in a wholesale notions and dry goods house.

He was discouraged. He was not getting ahead. He had his friends trying to help find him a better job — more pay. He had heard through one of them that there was a society or order that claimed they could help people attain health, happiness and success.

We cannot take up too much time in the detail of case records, but in as much as he is President and

general manager of that concern, there is probably much value in giving the high spots in his case. His advancing visions are illuminating.

It was learned that he was with a good firm — enviable reputation — numerous well paid salesmen on the road as traveling men.

He was convinced that it was not another job he wanted. His first vision was set upon becoming one of the salesmen on the road. He first had to get the job of inside salesman.

He was given the hint of even greater possibilities, by being told that the majority of high salaried executives came up through the ranks of salesmen.

That men spent years studying to be doctors, lawyers, engineers, and professional men he knew, but he did not until painstakingly told realize that a good salesman is "a lawyer influencing the mind of man, a preacher in his sense of right and wrong dealing, a physician diagnosing and prescribing for business ills, an engineer building business enterprises, a teacher educating his customers, an architect constructing ways of making goods build better business, an artist painting pictures of profit and pleasure and happiness, a musician singing a song of optimism and success and harmonizing the discordant players among his prospects who are out of tune."

He was told there were any number of books and correspondence courses on salesmanship and to begin to study the subject. He joined a night school class.

That immediately he was to get a magnifying glass — a good strong and powerful one, and was to begin examining every piece of goods his house sold — to count the threads per square inch — and that he was to ask the boss for any literature or catalogue put out by the different makers, — and was to get a book from the public library on weaving cloth, and that his job was just to know the goods the house handled up one side and down the other, and all he could learn about the companies making the goods.

When he asked the manager for the catalogues, the manager found out he was studying the goods and about his magnifying glass and that he was fitting himself to be a salesman and from that minute on marked him for observation, and often asked him questions about the different materials. These questions brought rays of happiness, because he knew that he talked intelligently and understandingly and it gave him a feeling of satisfaction to have his superior giving him attention.

The day shortly came when he was made an inside salesman. He kept up his studies — soon it was apparent that the customers calling to make personal selections and purchases seemed to prefer to deal with him.

He knew of the weaves, the dyes, and so many interesting things about the goods, and talked so intelligently that the customers had confidence in the goods.

This house carried one line of shoes. He took up the study of them, and the sale of shoes began to jump upward. One day one of the customers remarked to the manager, "That is a mighty good shoe you sell. I don't see how it can be sold at that price."

The manager asked what made him think so.

"Man, look what goes into it and where it comes from. Young Nichols told me all about it."

When the customer left the manager went over to Nichols and remarked that he personally was not as well posted on their line of shoes, as he thought he might be, and asked if he knew much about them.

Nichols picked up a shoe with a patent leather vamp and dull leather top and explained:

"The vamp is made of Russian horse hide, tanned in New Jersey with bichromate of potash. The top is in all probability of goatskin, grown in South America and tanned in Philadelphia with gambier brought from the East Indies. Wood oil from Michigan renders it soft and pliable. The brilliance of the patent leather was obtained by polishing with a composition containing lampblack from New York, turpentine from North Carolina, linseed oil from Ohio, dammar from New Zealand, asphalt from South America, benzoin from Sumatra, benzine from Pennsylvania, amber from the Baltic Sea, sandarac from Africa, mastic from Greece, and Cuban Lac.

"The heavy sole came from the back of a Texas steer, tanned in Kentucky with oak bark from Tennessee. The sole is stitched to the welt, the welt to the insole and upper with linen thread spun in Scotland. This thread is strengthened with wax made from rosin and tar extracted from the pines of Georgia and South Carolina. The cement which holds the thread channel around the edge of the sole owes its origin to Brazilian rubber tree sap. The leather for the box toe was hardened by shellac hailing from Siam. An Australian kangaroo furnished the hide for the tongue. The polish on the sole is due to a coat of bayberry tallow from the West Indies, mixed with honey and beeswax from Florida and turpentine from North Carolina. Tragacanth from Persia cleaned the top and tongue.

"The twill for the lining was made from cotton grown in Mississippi, woven in Massachusetts, stiffened in Philadelphia with paste made from Kansas wheat flour. Thread spun from Sea Island Cotton supplies the top stitching. The felt heel pads are made from the wool of Ohio sheep, felted in a New York town, distributed in Boston, glued to place with gum arabic from Egypt. The shoelace is made from cotton grown in Louisiana, woven in Massachusetts, colored with logwood from Yucatan, aniline blacks and other chemicals. Iron ore dug in Sweden supplied the nails that fasten the heel to the shoe. The lacing hooks and eyelets were fashioned in Connecticut from a combination of zinc from the mines of Joplin and copper from the Lake Superior regions. Agatine covers and gives them

their darkened gleam. Silk from China provides the tag, made in New Jersey, embroidered with the name of the maker of the shoe."

Shortly thereafter Nichols was on the road.

This case history should be an object lesson to you of the simplicity of vision.

Where you are, and now, you can have a vision of doing something in a better way — a conception of yourself as a better individual.

Just look back at the best thing you ever accomplished, analyze the beginning.

You observed the law, though you knew it not, you went through the processes of the boy — who got his first bicycle, gun or watch, we described early in these instructions.

It all started with the mental picture — vision — and then was followed by the other steps in the natural law, you will learn about in the days ahead.

. . . THOUGHT GEMS . . .

You really have something when you arrive at the stage where you can view your trials and troubles as blessings in disguise — recognize stumbling blocks as stepping stones, and look forward with joyful expectancy for the great good fortune which you know they fit you to grasp and enjoy.



Mental self command — the habit of constructive thought direction is more important even than physical soundness.

Section 2 Instruction 13

To those familiar with Bible history, and who have given consideration to the life of Jesus, there is one thing that stands out prominently, and that is there are eighteen silent years. Of this period of his life the gospels give us no clue.

That during this period he must have been a student cannot be questioned because many scriptures were in circulation at that time; these have been restored to us, and we now have some of the sources from which came many of his thought gems.

You will appreciate the fact that at that time there were not many books, there being no printing presses nor known methods of duplicating or reproducing manuscripts.

Likewise it is evident that there was a class apart — the learned class. Also that most of the instruction was oral — by preaching the gospel (truth) — very few could read.

You can well imagine that the manuscripts, writings, gospels, psalms, stories or books or whatever called were results of long and difficult labor and were precious. This being so, they were in the keeping of some select or chosen few, and that these chosen ones had some kind of society, fraternity or order, and that within these organizations were kept the writings and the handed down knowledge. Such was the order of the Essenes.

As a matter of knowledge, we should know something of the history of the Bible — the Christian Bible as used today.

In the fourth and fifth centuries, more than three hundred years after the death of Christ, there were church conventions or councils, and from all the Jewish and Christian Books and manuscripts which had been preserved and in use, they selected those to which they would give approval. It was a matter of voting upon what should be known as the Holy Bible.

This matter of selection took time, discussion, and debate. Each locality naturally had its preferences. The sections that had studied, discussed, and had used one as its text and gospel, naturally were ardent advocates that their book should be included.

It probably took on the aspects of a modern day political convention. There was much controversy as to whether the Apocalypse of John, which we now know as the Book of Revelations, should be included, or the Book of Enoch, which was nearly two hundred years older.

Among the books in use in the life time of Jesus was the book of Enoch and the Psalms of Solomon, neither of which is now included in the Bible, but by the Disciples and early church were considered just as authoritative as Genesis or the Psalms of David.

Among the books in the days of Jesus, which we now have and which we can tell influenced him, were the Assumption of Moses, The Martyrdom of Isaiah,

The Story of Ahikan, The Letters of Aristeas, Fourth Maccabees, First and Second Enoch, The Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs, The Book of Zadok, and the Psalms of Solomon, and doubtless others, which have been lost entirely.

Many of the teachings and examples used and the principles illustrated could only have been taken from them — there is just too much of it to be any possibility of another source.

This is not a charge of plagiarism. These books were a part of the sacred scripture of that time, and just as ministers of today quote from the Bible, he was quoting, no doubt, and his hearers were more or less familiar with the fact he was giving the teaching on the authority of the text of those Books.

These manuscripts or books from which Jesus took his texts and which doubtless constituted his library so to speak, have been discovered. One of the manuscripts of the Book of Enoch is in the Royal Library of France. Another is in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. A goodly number of other Ethiopic manuscripts of the Book are in the Library of Princeton University.

The Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs is known to have been written a hundred years before Christ was born. It exists in Greek, Slavonic, and Armenian manuscripts, and English translations.

These formed a background for the famous Sermon on the Mount. From these, Jesus and Paul

repeated phrases and verses, and adopted bodily the doctrines and theology.

These books or manuscripts are known as Pseudepigrapha, which in Greek means "falsely signed writings".

The reason for this is that all writers of the Pseudepigrapha did not claim originality but attributed the authorship to some noted Jew of long before.

The fact is that the very phrases of these old books were a part of the vocabulary of Jesus.

. . . THOUGHT GEMS . . .

Greatness is not the gift of majorities. It cannot be thrust upon any man — men cannot give it to another.

Men can give place and power, but not greatness — greatness is from within.

●

Truth can no more be seen by the mind unprepared for it, than the sun can dawn upon the midst of night.

While the world lasts, the sun will gild the mountain top, before it shines upon the plain.

●

This work is supported by the voluntary offerings of those whose hearts tell them what to do in return for such help.

●

Socrates was the first to utter the two golden words of wisdom — "Know Thyself".