

THE ORDER OF THE ESSENES

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DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION

Dear Friends:

Every season is a season of joy. We are told by those in spiritual light that the joy of life actually becomes the blood in the body. So one can readily see that if we are filled with the true joy, the blood stream becomes purified and the whole body becomes revitalized. So let us keep the mind and heart singing with the statement that the joy of the Lord is a well spring within me and I am established in instant results.

Along with this lesson you may remember that tradition says that at the birth of Christ, the angels sang: "Joy to the world, the Lord has come, let earth receive her King." So in our own consciousness the new life in Christ is really a renewal of the whole planet and every one on it, that can and will receive the good news. We walk in a redeemed world, and by declaring it we will be ushered into it, by the very Truth that has set us free, free from all bondage.

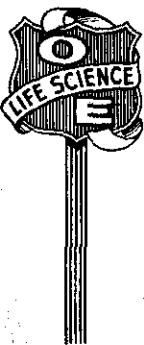
We want to express appreciation for all of you who have caught the vision of the redeemed world and by your generous gifts have enabled these lessons to go forth freely to any who desire them. All Good is of God, so we thank Him, the Giver of all.

Faithfully yours,

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S. Hamner Davis

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THE Essenes

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INSTRUCTION 128 Assuring to the Acceptable and Accepted
HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS.

God, the One, is the only Being:
The Allness of Good, is the only Presence:
The Principle of Truth, is the only Law:
Divine Mind, is the only Intelligence:

Eternal Life, is the only Existence:
Universal Love, is the only Power:
The Eternal Now, is the only Time:
The Omnipresence of Heaven, is the only Place:

The Substance of God, is the only Supply:
The Truth about Man, is the only Reality:
The Temple of the Living God, is the only Body:
CHRIST in Us, is the only Man.

- Creed of The Dauntless.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

"And he said, So is the Kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed upon the earth; and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should spring up and grow, he knoweth not how. The earth beareth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the fruit is ripe, straightway he putteth forth the sickle, because the harvest is come. And he said, How shall we liken the Kingdom of God? or in what parable shall we set it forth?"

Mark 4: 23-30.

Today let us ask ourselves, do we have our faith in the eternal values or in the changing world of appearances? What is it, that we, as Truth students, accept as of lasting value? This article deals with the answer to these questions through the study of the parables of Jesus on the Kingdom of Heaven.

A parable is distinctive; it is more than an allegory or fable. From the details to the central thought, every statement of a parable is true to nature or human nature. Meditation on some of our best loved parables brings to light unexpected meanings that escape us at first. When we compare abstract, spiritual truth with objects in material and everyday experience, it increases our understanding. To the spiritual eye, parables reveal, to the carnal eye they conceal.

In ancient times the spiritual eye of the Israelites could see the pillar of fire directing them, which the Egyptians could not see because they dwelt in spiritual darkness; and at the present time it need not concern us whether or not the other fellow sees Truth. We may, and do, hope and pray that he does, but he does not have to so long as we see It and keep the vision. For Truth will demonstrate for the other fellow too, if we keep our clear picture of the Kingdom. By persisting in our vision, the other fellow will be bound to get a glimpse of It too, even though we make no effort to reveal It to him.

Christ in man is eternal, self-existent, without beginning and without end, and therefore not subject to evolution. This must also be true of the Christ Kingdom. When God saw Himself manifesting as man, He visioned him in the Kingdom. Jesus preached the gospel of the Kingdom to the multitude because "he was moved with compassion for them, because they were distressed and scattered as sheep without a shepherd." "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand." So long as we are divided by our beliefs in good and evil, we fall.

Humanity throughout the ages has been in the process of bringing the Kingdom to mind or conscious awareness. This Kingdom was revealed step by step to mind of man long ago, through the covenants of God.

Now a covenant is an agreement entered into by two or more persons or parties, and the first covenant mentioned in our Bible is told of in the allegory of Noah - "But I will establish my covenant with thee." "And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth."

This rainbow symbolizes the perfect blending of the race into obedience to the one harmonious Christ principle. Christ is the white light - the pure light. A ray of white light passing through a glass prism, separates into planetary colors so as to form a spectrum which delights the physical eye. In looking at the rainbow you cannot see where one color stops and another color begins. They blend into each other as we blend into the one Christ Body, and our Kingdom of Heaven consciousness is that in which Divine ideas blend into each other in such a way that there is no separation. That's why we call it the universal consciousness of light. "And as were the days of Noah, so shall be the coming of the Son of Man."

This Kingdom is not a new Kingdom, Jesus said, "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." The door too, to this Kingdom, has been there all through the ages for us to open. The time has come when it is being broken open whether we will or no. That is what is happening now, and it cannot be stopped, for it was foreordained. The time has now come foretold of all the prophets. Because of our unbelief we have not heeded their warnings and we find mankind as a whole unprepared to meet these times. It is up to the ones who cannot go out and serve in other ways, to do what they have been appointed to do, right where they are, in and through every activity; and to stand fast so that we will not be crushed, as the fixed beliefs of a world of good and evil give way, and the door of the Kingdom opens. That is what we are doing for mankind, standing, standing fast in Truth.

The God-seed or the Word of God started to sprout when the covenant was established under Noah; "And the water shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh." The seed grew to fruition in the time of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. "But now hath Christ been raised from the dead, the first fruits of them that are asleep." "Christ the first fruits; then they that are Christ's, at his coming." The Christ-awakened are keeping the waters from becoming "a flood to destroy all flesh."

Please read the 24th chapter of Matthew very carefully and you will take comfort in the fact that the days of great tribulation shall be shortened for the elect's sake. The elect are those who have chosen to walk in the Christ Way in all meekness. In this way man lays down his life for his fellow man, in that he puts off the old ways for

the new ways in Christ, for the sake of the whole. In this Christ filled life, there is rich reward added.

The destiny which Christianity promises to man, clearly involves a redemption or remaking of nature, which would not stop at man or even at this planet. Paul tells us that the whole creation is in travail, and that man's rebirth is the answer, for man is the central fact in all nature, and redeemed humanity is to be something more glorious than unfallen humanity would have been. The union between God, man, and all nature in the person of Christ is an eternal value, and has redeemed the world. Our part is to LOOK UP! discern and accept this gloriously changed world.

The powers of redeemed man are unlimited, all life will be "Like Him" when we see Him as He is. Not the old man, but the new man. Christ is the first of His kind, He will not be the last. The weary world has had an injection of essential life direct and uncontaminated. This new creation is just breaking in, are we ready for it?

We have a right to ask: what is the Kingdom and who is it for? In this connection Jesus said: "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom," and all those who follow Him are of the flock. He also told us, "My Kingdom is not of this world", "neither shall they say Lo, here! or there! for lo, the Kingdom of God is within you." It is not a place but a state of consciousness, in which soul and body are in harmony with Divine Mind. And the Kingdom is not confined to man's consciousness alone, for It is everywhere present. Jesus said, "The Kingdom of God cometh not with observation."

Jesus came to reveal, not hide, and confuse, and be subtle; He was the true teacher; let us be wise and remember that any teaching which confuses is of the personal man, glorifying himself for his much learning. "There shall arise false Christs."

Our Lord's prayer "as in Heaven so on earth" does not mean two states of consciousness, but it means the ideal and its manifestation. In the 21st chapter of Revelations, John says, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth are passed away." Let us keep our vision upon the perfection of the new heaven and the new earth which is now being born in our midst, as the old heaven and the old earth are rapidly passing away right before our sight. As we release them and "come to ourselves", we already behold the manifestation of these new ideals, in new ways of better living, new ways of easy living, in that they free us from hard labor.

"Come unto me, all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

For my yoke is easy and my burden is light". We have in the old belief actually made a God of hard work, thinking thereby to gain the world. But we literally worked ourselves to death, when all the while there is a more excellent way to live. We do not mean that we "Do nothing" exactly, for Christ is dynamic activity. When man has truly acknowledged the redemption and believes it, each will find his specific work of achievement. Each will discover the beauty, the majesty and the glory of his own soul. The Kingdom of God contains no disease and no suffering.

These ways are mentioned often in the current literature and in scientific journals. They are the fruition of the divine ideas implanted in man during the times of his covenants with God. For God does not create the visible universe directly as man pours a concrete pavement, but God creates ideas which we, His image and likeness, use to make our universe. God's creations are spiritual; man's material and spiritual, according to his understanding.

The operation of our creative capacity is made clear through the study of the parable of the seed. Soil must be prepared. We have all been in the country enough to know that the path everyone uses is as hard-packed as a rock. Even if we dropped a seed there, it would be trampled upon and lost. So in our consciousness, what is it that beats down and hardens the mind until there is no response? Do we think we can quit some unprofitable habit any time? We forget that we get hardened in mind the longer we have the habit. The mind with rocky soil has no depth or stability; it is always eager to hear new truth, but its truth is fruitless. That mind must spend more time in prayer, that God's Alchemy, which is spiritual chemistry, may change the mind and heart. It does not change them to be what is called "soft-hearted" but to be receptive in heart and mind.

We do not see the poppy when we look at the seed, but we know and believe it is there in all of its beauty of perfection, or we would not plant it. So in spite of all appearances, we must see in every man the seed of the complete Christ man. Tender growth is delicate and it is necessary to nurse it. The word of God is the seed. As the seed puts forth shoots it bursts from its shell. Usually this shell is completely absorbed by the new growth. Even in good ground the fruit varies from thirty to a hundredfold. In good years the crops are plentiful, in other years not so plentiful; so we lay by of our over-abundance for those years.

This is the answer to many questions concerning the laying up of the over abundance, which is good Truth, But if one saves money with the idea of hard times coming, or any other dismal prospect, the idea is false, and will bring dismal results. We joyously invest the running over abundant measure for the sheer joy of it,

all in Divine Order. God is a lavish God, only man's belief in limitation builds a wall against it.

Let us illustrate by this true story: a woman of seventy was praying so hard in time of illness that the one thing we requested her to do was to stop praying! She was praying so vehemently it had become an expression of frantic fear. She said that she had been a praying woman all her life, so why did not God answer her when she needed Him so! Our answer was to remind her that now was the time to rest on those good years of prayer and rest on the overabundance of prayers, trust God and be at peace, to let go of her incessant chatter and let God have a chance. Comparing this with the seed: as the soil would react to too much of water or too much of sunshine, so does the consciousness react to unbalanced spiritual care. The Kingdom of Heaven is harmony and balance; the Truth is gentle and never forces its way into any mind. But by grace are ye saved through faith.

But one is apt to say, "Whence cometh the tares, didst thou not sow good seed in the field?" The tares represent general racial beliefs in error that we are not conscious of, so their presence signifies a culling season. Tares seem inevitable in our present state of unfoldment and no awakened one ignores them, but henceforth, he watches that the more complete good is sown, that it may come forth according to creative law, even though we "sleep and rise". This is another way of saying wait on the Lord, who works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform. This is part of the ancient covenant, for the very name "Noah" means rest; in which state, seed for a new consciousness is saved.

We must begin where we are, and if we faint not, the new man of the new race, of the new age, will step forth: burst the bonds as the seed bursts its shell, and bring forth the fruit a hundredfold. A hundredfold means the perfect man. This is the promise.

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THOUGHT GEMS

What is excellent, as God lives, is permanent.

Emerson.

The only way to have a friend is to be one.

Emerson.

God is my strength and power and He maketh my way perfect.

2 Sam: 22: 33