

THE ORDER OF THE ESSENES

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DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION

Dear Friends:

Every individual Christian has a great responsibility, which is to stand in the Truth so firmly that we, as a nation of people will not lose our freedom. Let us be alive, alert, and wise in understanding the world of appearances. Certain things that people fear cannot come to pass unless the people lose their religious and moral substance of life.

The health of a nation depends upon the spiritual health of its people, otherwise we may lose all sense of responsibility for the public good. This will bring about social conflicts and disorder which might lead to totalitarian rule as a supposed remedy. In this instruction you can understand how imagining evil has caused people to look more and more to Government for too much support. This way we will lose our freedom and independence, and our best thinkers of the day are warning us in regard to it. Even though our quest is for economic justice, it must be united with an insistent concern for freedom. Let us put the substance of spirit in all our affairs and let it stand as a witness for the true way of life.

We do not suggest that you join a church, but you might think out some way in which you can unite with others to increase the substance of a responsible society, and a Church does make an effort to stand for this. There is an emerging ecumenical theology in the world today, and it is good to know and be a part of it as we establish our allegiance to the Most High. The man who understands his own nature deeply is best able to love and serve his fellow man.

"Let knowledge grow from more to more,
But more of reverence in us dwell;
That mind and soul, according well,
May make one music, as before,
But vaster."

Tennyson

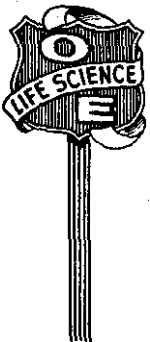
Faithfully,

THE ORDER OF THE ESSENES

By

S. Hamner Davis

Enc. 150



THE Essenes

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INSTRUCTION # 150 Assuring to the Acceptable and Accepted
HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS.

" THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURETH FOREVER "

LAST EVE I PASSED BESIDE A BLACKSMITH'S DOOR,
AND HEARD THE ANVIL RING THE VESPER CHIME;
THEN LOOKING IN, I SAW UPON THE FLOOR
OLD HAMMERS, WORN WITH BEATING YEARS OF TIME.
"HOW MANY ANVILS HAVE YOU HAD," SAID I,
" TO WEAR AND BATTER ALL THESE HAMMERS SO?"
"JUST ONE," SAID HE, AND THEN, WITH TWINKLING EYE
"THE ANVIL WEARS THE HAMMERS OUT, YOU KNOW."
AND SO, THOUGHT I, THE ANVIL OF GOD'S WORD,
FOR AGES SKEPTIC BLOWS HAVE BEAT UPON;
YET, THOUGH THE NOISE OF FALLING BLOWS WERE HEARD,
THE ANVIL IS UNHARMED --- THE HAMMERS GONE.

Author Unknown.

RIGHTEOUS JUDGEMENT .

In the whole race there has always been the inherent knowledge that there is a relationship between holiness and health, sin and disease. The ancients in writing the Scriptures spoke of the rewards of righteousness, and told of the calamities that came to those who were not living a righteous life. We, in our day have a belief that there are occasions when righteous indignation is justified.

To forestall questions from those who have not made a study of the Bible let us point out a few of the interesting accounts of what we mean by the foregoing paragraph. You will read in I Samuel, 5 and 6 that when the Philistines carried off the Ark of the Covenant, they were afflicted with tumors until they carried it back to the Israelites. This is a symbolical way of saying that a man can not forget God and remain healthy. In Job 5;2 " For wrath killeth the foolish man and envy slayeth the silly one." Proverbs 14;30 " A sound heart is the life of the flesh; but envy, the rottenness of the bones." Also, Proverbs 16;24 " Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones." Under the old law the sins of the fathers were visited upon the children unto the third and fourth generation and we call it heredity. But this is for the Adam man, for in Adam all die, but in Christ all are made alive. Our modern medicine has explained the relation of the soul to the body, many will accept this who will not accept the Scriptures. Knowledge has always been in the world for those who seek it.

One is our Father, God. The real or spiritual man does not suffer, and neither do we if we know the spiritual man. Jesus addressed the mortal man just enough to make him nothing, for He said, "Go, and sin no more." We no longer believe in hereditary troubles, for God, the Good does not make such a law. We, as followers of Jesus have certainly not been tarrying in Jerusalem, when we have continued to accept evil as inevitable. The command of Jesus has been ringing many years, to follow Him. Is it not strange to think in the first place that the Lord of Hosts sent calamity, and in the second place the consequences? Even the Prophet Jeremiah said that a man's word is his only burden and Jesus repeated the same idea, when he said that by our word we are either justified or condemned. Could God have given us any richer heritage than the power of the word? True words are full of power, although false words may seem to have greatness. That type of power passes as it is changeable.

Strange to say, a lie must seem to be reasonable to gain any credit, for in this way it takes on a semblance of Truth. The law of the flesh is death and it has seemed so reasonable that we have accepted it, forgetting to look to see if it corresponds to the law of life in Christ Jesus. The only claim the flesh has is that it seems to be true, while all the time man is spirit and immortal. Man is not mortal.

We can illustrate it in this manner; if some queer looking person tells a strange tale we are not apt to believe it, but if a noble looking gentleman tells the same tale, we are apt to accept it or at least give it consideration. Swindlers have masqueraded as gentlemen for this very reason, in order that what they say may seem plausible. Every steamship has notices to beware of card sharks, but people still get trimmed because they cannot believe such nice looking men can be dishonest. You can read daily accounts of similar things in the newspapers, but we speak of it in order to show that the flesh is just as plausible when it is not giving true reports that are in line with spirit.

Many have accepted sin and the devil as being real, but those who have not are studying some form of Truth. Even the stories as to why Jesus came to suffer for sin are not true. We have to rethink our religion in terms of God as the Principle of wholeness, goodness and truth. Truth about God is expressing Principle, while lies express the opposite.

The race has experienced that which it has made by its false image. This image has been formed from beliefs concerning godliness and sin. The command is "Thou shalt have no other image before me." There are great lovers of God who have made some mighty demonstrations, yet who have accepted certain things that were false and thus came down under those particular things. We know a teacher who has done this in regard to prosperity, saying that if the Lord did not want her to be rich she is willing to do without. This caused her to lose her position in the long run, as it is false humility. Who is the Lord who would ask us to be poor? Certainly not God the King of all creation, but the false man made God, the image man has set before the true God. People think they can free another by taking over the burden, and they can, but that is not the way of the true God, the God of wholeness.

By thy words thou art justified and by thy words thou art condemned. What the heart feels is often spoken on the words and sometimes we speak one thing and it carried another, that which is in the heart. It is good to continue to speak what you believe to be true until you feel it, for the sick will respond to such a one. Jesus caused the fig tree to wither to show that we can be free from reaping the false that we have sown, if we are willing to blast such mistakes out, so that they cannot bear fruit. This was an experiment in Spiritual chemistry or ancient alchemy.

We are cautioned not to remember how sick our friends look, or remember the ugly details that people feel they must tell us in confidence. Let them confess, but also let it be dissolved in the solvent of pure spirit. The ancients knew this also, for Isaiah expressed it in 43;18 "Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

Let us get over imagining evil, thinking about how to act if such and such calamity should come about, but spend that time in imagining good to the utmost of our ability and consciousness. Those who take up Truth at what is called "late in life" can make a new life, and many are doing it in a marvelous way. Sin is a mistaken idea of life, of who you are and what world you live in. This is the only sin anyone ever committed. One lives out the mistakes made in mind if they know no better, but Truth erases the mistakes and life is free.

The question arises as to why the Truth student does not immediately show forth all the truth that he has accepted. You may compare the imagination to a dirty window pane that has not been cleaned for years until one cannot see what lies on the other side, but, when washed, the view may be that of a beautiful garden. One of the foundation stones of the temple not built with hands is made when we acquire harmony between the thoughts and the externals. The world in which we live is the exact record of our thoughts and if we do not like the world we live in, we do not like our thoughts and that makes the discord. There are thoughts which we love greatly while we think them and they make conditions which we love, and this is harmony. There is much joy in life, therefore play the harmony of your own soul and all around will feel it. The song of the spirit is in each one, so by thinking out that song, it will break forth into the affairs. We can sing mentally until a joy of heart takes possession of us and this joy will bring new life into the affairs. Fretting brings discord and delay.

It is strange that so many religious people have as their first idea of goodness, that they must make life in some way harder for themselves and others. They literally drive themselves and members of the family with being over zealous. They reason in this way; if spirit needs no rest and is strong to do all, they are as able as spirit to do that which is harrowing to the whole family without murmuring. This is not like Jesus, who slept and ate, clothed like other people and only did differently when it pleased Him. He never asked His disciples to share the hardships, which He chose.

The yoke of Jesus is easy and His burden is light. God is rest, Do violets strain and struggle? It is not being in adjustment with Divine Mind to be thinking hard lines to travel on. Because we are spirit we do that which our own judgement prompts us to do, and lay no burdens on each other because of our ideas. If it is hard to heal, it is because we have made the mistake of believing in hardships, in hard ways of working. Jesus did not cast Himself off the pinnacle to show what He could do, neither did He heal for this reason. He moved by the dictates of spirit along lines not laid down by men or historic precedent. If we watch we will see that spirit guides us into the paths of pleasantness. Any other way is one we have chosen independent of Jesus Christ, and is the mistake upon which we move about.

We have no idea how much of the inefficiency of mankind comes about from thinking about the wrongdoing of ourselves and others. There is nothing more defeating than to feel that by some mistake in life we have not accomplished that which we might have done, and that our misfortunes all hinge on that mistake. This may seem to be true, but it is nothingness. There are no mistakes in spirit. Your family never made any mistakes in spirit, for spirit is all that is real. Facing those old troubles with the words that they are nothing, will have a marvelous effect in putting them in a new relation with you. Not that you will be hardened to bear them, but they will be dissolved.

The day of the Lord cometh silently, at a time when you think not. God is merciful and gracious and the truth acts through love, not accusation. Efficiency comes with letting the goodness of the merciful and tender spirit speak, wherever evil is apparent. It is a sign of your realization in truth, when you can make sin as unreal in your mind as matter. Spirit is the only substance, matter is no substance. If Holiness is the only presence, then sin is not present. We close this instruction with the words of John 2;3 " Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

***** GEM THOUGHTS *****

I do not accuse the world or myself of sin; all is well.

Be still, softly still. Freely let go and freely receive that you may live without pressure. Tension comes from fear -- fear that you are not fulfilling, ever straining, doing, doing, without uniting with the Father. In Him apprehension is released, the heart is relieved of pressure.

Be loosely still -- pausing through out the day. Cease carrying yourself. Cease straining, crowding, forcing life to work for you. Let life move in you in its own course and life will sustain you, life will renew you, life will give you strength.

Freely let go in the depths of your being -- the mind content, the heart at ease. Let go from the top of your head to the soles of your feet and rest in this very moment of eternity. Joy, peace, serenity are under the surface. Softly open to receive -- trusting, trusting yourself to the Father.

From a booklet "Now, This Day."