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ITEMS AND IDEAS.

❋❋❋ The Covenant.

❋❋❋ Five is the number of the Covenant.

❋❋❋ This is the fifth number of the weekly.

❋❋❋ Ten is the number of the Covenant under the Law.

❋❋❋ All of the Law was condensed into the Ten Commandments.

❋❋❋ These Ten Commandments were kept in the Ark of the Covenant.

❋❋❋ The Covenant was made, between Jehovah and Abraham, for the whole of humanity.

❋❋❋ The messenger of Jehovah was called the Angel of the Covenant, and this messenger has appeared at regular intervals during the entire history of the planet.

❋❋❋ I have heard the Voice of this Angel of the Covenant and when I saw the face of my wife in a vision, before I had ever seen or heard of her in the flesh, the voice said: "I have shown you the face of the Angel of the Covenant."

❋❋❋ I now understand this to mean that the Divine Feminine is to be, in Regeneration, the messenger of Jehovah to mankind. When I caught the vibration of Mrs. Downes' poem, "The Sistine Madonna," I was confirmed in this interpretation. It does not mean that my wife is any more than your wife or any other wife, but it does mean that the Divine Feminine, clothed with the sun, is the fulfillment of God's Covenant with Abraham.

❋❋❋ St. Paul informs us concerning this Covenant: "For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swear by Himself, saying, Surely blessing, I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee * * * Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath." It was impossible for the mind of Abraham to believe the promises, and so they were confirmed by an oath.

❋❋❋ It was a Covenant of generation to a man who was a hundred years old. His wife was but ten years his junior. "Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?" Abraham had also laughed within himself at the idea of being "the father of nations." But the I AM confirmed this Covenant of generation, by a temporary regeneration, and Sarah gave birth to a son who was named "Isaac," which means laughter.

❋❋❋ So the regeneration of humanity began with a laugh! The regeneration of Abraham and Sarah, although temporary, was a prophecy of the Regeneration of the race. They both had their names changed; Abraham means "Father of the Multitude," and Sarah means "The Princess." Study this case closely if you want a correct and scientific explanation of Regeneration. The Bible is the very best text-book on Mental Science that you can find. It tells the truth on even the favorites of the Almighty. There is nothing kept back in the biography of priest, king, prophet or patriarch. You get the whole unvarnished story of a man's life when you read it in the Bible. Do you say that the quickening of Abraham's manhood and the absolute regeneration of the womanhood in Sarah was not by the so-called law of evolution? True, my darlings, true, but God has a way of doing things by direct commandment. You will receive regeneration in this direct way. You will be "born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which lives and abides forever." This is the Only Way. God speaks and it is done. But you may also remember that Abraham was a long time under the tuition of the Almighty before his mind was prepared to receive the quickening of his body.

❋❋❋ I hear some of you men saying "What is Shelton giving us? Why do you go back and rake up that old record?" Because the record is not old, but very, very new. In the year 1892, in Kansas City, and in the year 1901 in Little Rock, the Angel of the Covenant came to me saying: "I AM the Lord God Almighty! I AM the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. I confirm unto you the Covenant which I made with Abraham. What I promised to Abraham in Generation I will confirm in you by Regeneration." And with many other signs and words the old Covenant was raised from its dormant condition and made alive in me. Now, boys, do you say I am giving you a jolly? Not a bit of it! The woman to whom I am dictating these words was entirely unknown to me when I first received this Covenant. But to confirm it, her face appeared to me in a vision. In spite of herself and in spite of myself, we were drawn together and the very first time I saw her I called her "Princess." She laughed and I laughed and we have been laughing over it ever since, and—sometimes we laugh with tears in our eyes. She knows and I know that the change called "regeneration" is going on in our minds. Why not? Somebody must be called to make the beginning. It is more wonderful every day than any story of Abraham and Sarah. Life is a joy! It is full of what Sarah calls "pleasure." The days of mourning and sorrow are passing away. Enter into the joy of thy Lord!

❋❋❋ Prof. Charles W. Pearson, of the chair of English literature in the Northwestern university, which is conducted under Methodist auspices, has thrown a bomb into the ranks of Methodism in Evanston, the seat of the university, by giving out for publication a statement of his belief that Biblical infallibility is a superstitious and hurtful tradition, and that the Biblical stories of Christ's bringing the dead to life, of His walking on the water and of feeding the multitude with the loaves and fishes are mere poetic fancies, incredible and untrue.

Professor Pearson declares that the policy of the Methodist church is one of inactivity, obstruction and Jesuitical silence on the views in which the leaders and scholars of the church have gradually come to believe, but which are not held by the body of the church.

He says that most of the present teaching is evasive, and that most of the Sunday school teaching is almost farcical and entirely inadequate.—*Associated Press.*

In contrast with the above press dispatch, read this number of CHRISTIAN. The editorials were all written before the contributions were received, and yet there is perfect harmony. It is a trumpet call to Faith in the New Testament record and the spiritual interpretation of the Scriptures. Dr. Dewey writes of "The Light of Life" and the lamp which holds this light is Jesus Christ and the Apostles. Mrs. Downes makes application of the gospel records to the whole world and calls us all to Christhood. She makes Religion as scientific, permanent, and natural as the sun in the heavens. For all religions she says: "A grave is dug." Her words are prophetic. The corpse is ready! The funeral services will be conducted in monotone. But it is the only thing that we can do. The dead thing has already become offensive to the nostrils of the living. Does this mean that Religion is dead, or that it can ever die? No; it simply means that the institution has died of the dry rot. They have been clinging to life by splitting up into sects until there is no longer any of the old stump left. Then the old stump itself is kept alive by the relics or supposed relics of the dead. It is strange what great faith the institution has in a dead apostle or a dead saint! A bone from St. Peter's little finger would cure cancer or even raise the dead. Even the wood, a little splinter of it, from the cross would work wonders. Bah! Jesus Christ is alive and well, thank you, and attending to his own business. He is still walking on the water, feeding the multitudes, and raising the dead. But he deals with individuals and not with the institution.

EYE TO EYE TALKS.

I to I talks!

Say, sweetheart, we were talking about life. What is life? The only definition for life is life, for life is nothing but life. There is nothing alive except life. You know that a thing is living when it moves. At least, this is the sign of life in the objective. There are movements in life that are so gentle that we can hardly discern the movement. In the early spring we go to the cornfield and if life is active we say that we can almost see the corn grow. There is a movement going on and a very perceptible movement, therefore we say we can almost see the growth. The slang phrase "Get a move on you!" is very emphatic and scientific.

Yes, the Jews are going back to Jerusalem. After all these years of wanderings they are gathering themselves together again and will soon be nationalized. They have to get a move on them, and many of them are already in Palestine, while thousands of others are getting ready to go. It is a movement of the Spirit. It is the same Spirit which scattered the Jews among all the nations. It was necessary for the Jews to be dispersed among all other kindreds and tongues. Somebody had to take the gospel of Jesus Christ into all the earth, and the Jews were the people to do it. You see the very first disciples and preachers sent out by the Spirit were Jews. In our modern thought we have the idea that the Jews rejected Jesus Christ; but they didn't. They are the pillars of Christianity. The twelve apostles of Jesus Christ were Jews and they have been reigning over the twelve tribes of Israel all these centuries. They will never cease to be the apostles of Jesus Christ. Death has nothing to do with it. "God is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for all live unto him." So Jesus Christ and his apostles and the early church are alive and have been alive all the time. The Jews were scattered into all nations and lost their nationality in fulfillment of prophecy and in order that they might preach the gospel to all the world. The time is now come for them to return to their own land and become once more a nation among the nations of the earth.

Do you say that I am getting away from idealism? No, no! I am joining idealism and realism in the bonds of matrimony. If you run away with idealism and forget realism, you will lose your head. If you run after realism and forget idealism, you will lose your heart. The old Jerusalem will become the New Jerusalem. Men will have on this earth in objective form an exhibition of divine power. God will prove to men that he is from everlasting to everlasting. He will also prove that his Word is an Eternal Word and never fails. So, you see, my darlings, the New Jerusalem of the mind must come down from God out of heaven. It must become an objective reality. Do you ask me if its streets will be paved with gold and its walls be of jasper? I would not be a bit surprised. When it comes to jewelry, the Jews beat the band! When they undertake to show off before this world they will do it with splendor beyond the calculation of modern thought. Do you remember that the Temple of Solomon is one of the Seven Wonders of the world? It was built by the Jews and they didn't spare any gold. It would not be surprising to me if they built a city after the pattern shown to St. John on Patmos. They can do it! And mind you, sweetheart, before that time comes this world will make such rapid progress in realism that a city with streets of gold and walls of jasper will only be a part of the splendor of the earth. It is the inauguration of the pneumatic or electrical age. Besides, you know, by the time Jerusalem is built, immortality will be an established fact. There will be so many persons who are immortal that men will know that the earth is to be redeemed from the curse of disease and death. So, sweetheart, let us bring the loftiest idealism down to the most matter of fact realism.

This reminds me that Alpha, the Speaker of the Word, said that Helen Wilmans would remain here on earth and that her body would change into an electrical body without the loss of personal identity. Alpha spoke these words to the editor of CHRISTIAN and he had nerve enough to print the proclamation and keep it standing for three months. Helen endorsed the prophecy and still affirms and reaffirms that it is true. Now comes one Seth A. Rhodes, of Chicago, head of a watch tool manufacturing establishment. He went down to the Mental Science Convention at Sea Breeze and remained there for many days, hobnobbing with Helen Wilmans and her husband. When he returned to Chicago, he told one of the yellow journals, called "The Chicago American," that Helen Wilmans was a woman of seventy who looked to be eighty; that her hair was gray around the roots, and that the other part looked as if it had been dyed. He gave out the impression that she was a fraud and knew it. Now, this looks like a slap in the face of Alpha, the Speaker of the Word. Rhodes judges from appearances. This is not righteous judgment. Helen Wilmans may dye, but she will never die! It does not make any difference whether her hair is white about the roots or is as white as snow all over. She is passing through a storm and she is at the storm-center. It is proving the immortality of her spirit and the immortal and incorruptible youth in her mind. The physical changes may be made in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. It takes time to make the mental changes. There is a vast difference between Helen Wilmans and Mary Baker Eddy. Mrs. Eddy hides from the public while Helen Wilmans carries her white hair and old age to the platform and makes speeches. She invites publicity. She courts company. She asks people to come down to the place where she lives and see how she lives. If she practiced dyeing her hair, she would dye it down to the roots and not leave part of it white. If she undertook to deceive, she would deceive. There is no doubt about Helen Wilmans being sharp enough to make deception complete if she undertook it. The trouble with the woman is that she could not carry her deception long at a time. There is such a childlikeness in her that she would be sure to give herself away. The deception would be complete for a little while, if she undertook it, and then she would put her foot in it. I am looking at the real woman, face to face, heart to heart, and eye to eye. I tell you now, as I have told you before, that she will stay on this earth as one of the witnesses to the truth of immortality.

None of these things move me. There are many things that Helen Wilmans will have to learn before a full and complete manifestation takes place in her body. She will have to learn that she can not discover, uncover or invent immortality. It is a direct gift from the Creator, as much so, or more so, than mortality. She thinks she made herself; but she didn't. Therefore, she will not regenerate herself. However, she is digging along a line of thought that is necessary to swing the mind away from the superstitions of religion. God has chosen her to do a certain kind of work and she is doing it under the inspiration of the Spirit. God is using her in spite of her rejection of God. You know the Almighty does not care a little bit for our notions. He is using the Jews for the glory and majesty of Jesus Christ, and yet the Jews think they have rejected Jesus as a messenger from God. The Spirit moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform, but he keeps moving! It is my business in this world to reconcile Mental Science, Christian Science and Divine Science in the Science of the I AM THAT I AM. Do you suppose that of her own strength Helen Wilmans could rise above the waters of condemnation which the Postmaster General has sent over her and her affairs? It is the wisdom of the Almighty which sustains her. The Postmaster General has marked all of her letters fraudulent and posted notices in every postoffice in the United States. This would kill anything that was common or unclean. If Helen Wilmans were a real fraud this fraud order would smash her business. She might rally and go on in a sort of fragmentary way, but she would never be looked up to as a teacher and leader in the world of thought. Several others have been sat down on by the authorities and have remained down. You may say that some of these who have been declared frauds are still going on with their business. Yes, but they have no following as leaders and teachers. They are doing just exactly what all other frauds do—deceiving the credulous and thoughtless. Do not compare them to Helen Wilmans. She is rising to a higher place as a leader than ever before.

I am glad the Spirit used Smith to issue this fraud order. Helen does not feel bad about it, because she is not a fraud. Then, you know, it was issued by one of the Charlies—Chas. E. Smith. I believe he parts his name in the middle and calls it C. Emory Smith. He received a black eye from President Roosevelt and lost his job; so, while Helen is going right on to kingdom come, Smith has returned to his newspaper. I like the craft, for I have been a printer and editor all my life; but I notice that when one of these newspaper men gets into office it turns his head. There was another one of the Smith family, and he also parted his name in the middle—J. Hoke Smith. He was made

clerk of the Interior Department, but he got to feeling bigger than the President, and so he lost his job and returned to his print shop in Atlanta. These clerks in our great department store, called the United States, swell up with importance like a floor-walker in a dry goods store. The Smith family are always getting left. Isn't it strange that there never was a President Jones, or a President Smith, or a President Brown? I don't think you will ever hear of a Smith getting to be President; and when they get to be even clerks in one of the Departments, they think they own the earth. If a Smith did not print this paper, I would say "a plague" on all the Smiths!

While this Charlie Smith had the authority he exercised it and pronounced Helen Wilmans a fraud. In other words, he said that Helen was not respectable. All the ethical archangels in the East who claim to represent the New Thought, said "Ah!" "Oh, my!" I am glad she is not respectable. I don't like respectable people. They are not only cold, but—clammy. When you take hold of the hand of one of these "respectable" people it is like taking hold of the tail of a snake. I know Mark Twain said that he would rather meet the devil and shake him by the tail than to meet all of the European Concert. Well, I would rather meet a real, genuine devil and shake his tail than to shake the hand of a hypocrite. I stand for realism! It was intimated by some people that I was a coward for not standing by Helen Wilmans by going down to the Mental Science Convention. It was not a question of physical, but of mental friendship. I could not have changed one of her hairs from white to black or from black to white. I could not have held her up by physical strength, if I had tried it. Mental Science is not muscle, mud, or massage. The way to stand by people in distress is through the Power of the Silent Word. My treatments have had more effect for good in her case than all the chin music of the Mental Science Convention. I confess that it would have taken some degree of physical courage for me to have faced the aggregation of phrenologists, astrologists, and other curiosity-seekers who went to that convention. Rhodes seems to be a fair sample and by his own confession, he organized a company and went down there to make a physical examination of Helen Wilmans. It was not to come in contact with her Mind, but to see how many gray hairs she had in her head! Speaking of cowardice, let me say I am one of the bravest of the brave. "Lady Blanche" is laughing so she can hardly take this down, but it is all mortal mind. Sometimes she and Helen can exhibit more mortal mind in a minute than I can get over in a week. They both had an exhibition of my bravery last summer. We were all three walking along a narrow road in the mountains. There was a precipice on one side and a very steep mountain on the other. While walking in this narrow way, we met a cow. It was not the sacred cow from the temple of Isis, but an old-fashioned mountain cow with long horns. I scaled the mountain and left the girls to face the cow. They are still laughing about it. I can't see the point. There was only one of two things to do, jump over the precipice or scale the mountain. Of course, I knew there was enough affinity between a woman and a cow to keep them from hurting each other. In many respects, a cow is just exactly like a woman. Did you ever notice how, if an old cow gets into a garden over night and destroys everything, that she will look as mild and unconcerned and innocent the next morning as if she had only been doing her duty? Now, I am proving my bravery by dictating this to a woman. (It is getting so hot around here I guess I had better quit and take up another paragraph!)

What did we begin to talk about? Oh yes, it was life. When a boy I stood on the burning deck—no on the school house floor, but hot enough to be a burning deck, and repeated the words:

"Life is real, life is earnest,
And the grave is not its goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest
Was not spoken of the soul."

In mature manhood, I can emphasize the same words with the firm conviction that the dust can be returned to the dust without the soul becoming invisible. In other words, we ought to shuffle off this mortal coil without leaving the earth or losing our identity. It has been promised in the Scriptures that those who are invisible should become visible and those who are here should be changed. It is said that those who are on the earth will be caught up into the air and meet those who have passed out of the physical body. It is called the resurrection from the dead. Nothing ever comes before the time. If these promises were not to be fulfilled soon, they would remain dormant in human thought. Everybody is seeking for an objective manifestation of life. It is being discussed on every hand. That which was looked upon at first as a fad, is now being seriously discussed as a fact. It is because the time is ripe. The Resurrection is at hand. The asking, seeking and knocking has been going on for nearly two thousand years. At first, the early disciples lived in daily expectancy of the resurrection. It is always so in the psychic plane of prophecy. Things that are to be, look as though they were right at hand. The sense of time is eliminated from the consciousness of the prophet. I have had to wait many years for things I thought were going to take place right away. But the things that were spoken by the prophets two thousand years ago are now ready for fulfillment. The quickening of the Spirit is felt even by those who have not given any thought to the subject. The whole world is once more in a state of expectancy.

Mental Healing is being investigated. All over the world the discussion is going on as to how many minutes should be given to each patient. Bless you! Can Mental Healing be given? It is not a question of minutes, hours or days, but fact. Is there anybody on this earth who can give mental treatments by mental telegraphy? If so, the Kingdom of God is at hand. Now, there are thousands of people who will read these lines who know to a certainty that mental treatments can be given. This fact has more tremendous import than any discovery of the age. Marconi has set the stockholders of the Cable Company to trembling, because he received over the Atlantic ocean the letter "S!" Why? Because the reception of this little message proves that wireless telegraphy is here, and that it will do away with the clumsy cable under the water. The power to transmit healing vibrations through telepathy is the letter "S" from the throne of God. This letter "S" of Mental Healing spells salvation from disease and death. If the stockholders of the Cable Company are put into a panic by Marconi, can you wonder at the drug doctors and the creed preachers for trying to put down Mental Science? No matter how much fraud you may prove against healers, you can never do away with the fact of telepathy. It is here to stay and this means the abolition of the old methods of medication. It also does away with the old methods of salvation. If we can send our thoughts from one to another by telepathy, then those who have passed into a higher life can send their thoughts down to us. It means communication between earth and heaven. It is the education of mind up to the point where we are capable of receiving messages from the higher vibrations. All these long years we have been praying without expecting any direct answer to prayer. Now when we address the throne of grace, we expect the throne to respond. It is not all one-sided. When I speak to God, I expect God to be polite enough to answer me. In other words, if I send my thoughts out into the ether, I expect to get a return in kind. I know that I am getting a return in kind, for as I sow so shall I reap. If I send out thoughts of hatred, anger and ill-will they will come back to me loaded down with the same kind of vibrations. If my soul sends out love, truth and justice, I will receive the benediction from the same kind of vibrations. You see, we are being educated up to the point where we are ready to receive the vibrations of the Holy Spirit.

It takes time to make the mental change and prepare the thought of the world for the reception of the truth. But it does not take much time for a change in the physical environment. When the prophecy of regeneration first came to me, I was restless. I kept looking at the physical and wondering why it didn't change. I saw my bald head and year after year my hair grew whiter. Instead of becoming young and strong, I seemed, not to be growing old, but standing still. I did not move backwards or forwards, but remained stationary in the same place where the Word found me. Now I know that the change in my physical body may take place in one night. There had to be a mental unfoldment. If the change in the physical had come before the mind had reached a certain stage of unfoldment it would have caused wreck and ruin instead of regeneration. If there could have been such a thing as making the physical body perfect before the mind was ready for it, there would have been a lunatic in a regenerated body. Such a thing could not be. I will know just why and how the change is to be made before it is made. The quickening will come to the mind before it is manifest in the body.

WHAT DO YOU SAY ABOUT IT?

Before the weekly CHRISTIAN was a month old, Dr. Dewey made this statement in a private letter:

"You will surely greatly extend the circulation of CHRISTIAN this year. I believe you will run it up to at least a hundred thousand paying subscribers."

This startling statement stuck! It stuck so close to me that I am telling you about it. I threw the letter into the waste basket and then fished it out. I said: "Oh, pshaw, he doesn't know anything about newspaper work! He is wild and impractical! The fourth of that number would be a big thing for a weekly." But the Spirit said: "He is right."

Now, let us go at it in a business way. CHRISTIAN is run by an individual for individuals. There isn't any kind of an organization or institution behind it and never will be. One dollar a year for an eight-page illustrated weekly gives every individual subscriber the worth of his money and much more. How can we get the 100,000 paid-up subscribers?

I am going to print a full page picture of Dr. Dewey in CHRISTIAN. How large an edition of this number of CHRISTIAN can you put into circulation? I have sent out sample copies promiscuously by the thousands and tens of thousands. It does not pay. How many copies can each of you circulate to advantage? I can furnish you the papers at $1 per 100, which will just pay the actual cost. Let each individual buy as many papers as they think they can distribute to advantage. This makes each one a partner in the publication and does not throw any heavy burden on me. It is just as much your business as it is mine. I want you to feel like you owned as much of CHRISTIAN as I do, for you do.

I will take my time about having the cut made from the photograph, which I have already received, so it will be as perfect as can be made. There will be other pictures to follow, and as soon as we get down to business and understand what we can do, there will be no trouble about the 100,000 paid-up subscribers. The subscription list is now in such a shape that it can grow to any dimensions without confusion. So far the ruling of the postoffice department has been a blessing to CHRISTIAN, although it has cost big money to get out of the wilderness.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

❀❀❀ I will not give time or space to the answering of questions about particular passages of Scripture. The only way you can understand the Scriptures is by grasping the general trend of thought. You can prove or disprove almost anything by scraps of the Bible. The patchwork made from passages in the Bible has formed the crazy-quilt of modern religion. However, once in a while I will give attention to these things.

❀❀❀ "How do spirits manifest? Does the conscious soul put on form at will, or do they wear their spiritual body all the time? When we hear spirits talk is it thought-transference?"

A spirit and its body are one. There is no difference whatever between a spirit and its body. The fleshly body is something we can put on and off, for it is temporal and changeable. But the spirit and its form are one and the same in being. There is a universal ether or atmosphere in which spirits live and move and have their being. No one in the flesh ever saw a spirit except by clairvoyant vision, that is the vision of the spiritual eye. The change, then, takes place in your eye and not in the spirit. The old prophet, you remember, asked the Lord to open the eyes of his servant that he might see. The change was to take place in the servant's vision and not in the object of his vision. Spiritual being is the only permanent being, therefore it is unchangeable. The spiritual body is part of our spiritual self and can not be separated from us. There is no putting on and putting off in spirit So-called "materialization" takes place in the mind and vision of the one who is in the flesh; there is no change in the one who is in the spirit. Thoughts and words are also one and the same. The transference of thought is the transference of words; there can be no thought without words.

❀❀❀ "If it will not stir up strife, please explain, in CHRISTIAN, I Cor. xi., 11. I read 'outside' for 'without,' but do not know that I am right. I have tried to evade these thoughts, but they will loom up."

To save my readers the trouble of looking it up, I will quote the passage in full: "Nevertheless, neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord." No, your "outside" will not do. The translation is correct; it says exactly what it means and means exactly what it says. You will often hear people saying there is no sex in spirit, but that is just exactly where sex exists. Sex is inherent in spirit. If it were not for sex, God could not exist. And even if He could exist, He would be forever banished in the loneliness of His own isolation. God must have society. He is a social being. He is forever contemplating Himself and holding converse with Himself. The Divine Masculine and the Divine Feminine are forever making love to each other. Therefore, the man is not without the woman and the woman without the man in the Lord. It means two thoroughly individualized beings in perpetual vibration with each other. In regeneration they neither marry nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels of God. God does the match-making. They are one because they are One. As it is in the universal, so it is in the personal. The male and female Principle is One; therefore, the individuals male and female are two in One.

❀❀❀ "You say man appeared suddenly on earth in the full majesty of his being. In another place you say evolution is true to a certain extent. Now about where do you think this sudden creation left him and evolution began? Do you think he was possessed of any language or is that the product of evolution?"

There is no evolution in the spirit, the real man. Spirit is the same yesterday, to-day and forever. The physical man is the subject of evolution or unfoldment. Language is of the Spirit and was taught to man by the Almighty. Spirit is unchangeable being. Man is Spirit. When he appeared on this earth he was clothed with the body of a man and not that of a monkey. Man has always been man and monkey has always been monkey. Everything must bring forth after its kind or it will stop bringing forth. When you try to cross from one kind into another evolution is suspended. Mules do not breed.

TID-BITS.

❀❀❀ The photograph of Dr. Dewey was taken, especially for CHRISTIAN, last week. I make this explanation so when you see the picture you won't be accusing me of using a photograph taken twenty years ago. The young gentleman is seventy-three by the almanac, but this photograph shows up a man of fifty—and he has only begun to grow young.

❀❀❀ "Am so glad you have procured Dr. Dewey as a contributor to your paper. Never read him before. I read his article this week three times. I want to get all there is in it."

This is the unanimous verdict of all who have read after Dr. Dewey. You will have to read his articles over many times to get the full vibration. He accepts no authority for truth, and no authority but truth.

❀❀❀ I have many letters like the following from a lady of culture and refinement:

"I wish to get your vibration, therefore send this dollar. It is not that I wish to be treated for anything. I have nothing to complain of. I like the Spirit you are of, and the more I, or anyone, can grasp of it the better."

❀❀❀ Here is an extract from a sincere letter from a man:

"I began taking CHRISTIAN in August, 1898. From the very first your writings impressed me with your absolute sincerity, honesty and great advancement in spiritual knowledge. I soon learned to know when you were speaking as Dr. Shelton, the individual, and when the I AM of the universe was speaking through you. After this there was no confusion in your writings, and seldom anything whose meaning I could not quickly catch. * * * By the way, Mr. Douglass' lessons are very fine. They have been a most valuable feature of CHRISTIAN, and I am glad he will continue to write for its columns. * * * I am pleased that you gave us a picture of 'Lady Blanche' on the first page of the first number of the weekly. It carries with it a pleasant vibration. She is ample justification for your exalted ideals regarding the Madonna and the Divine Feminine. * * * Dr. Dewey's writings are read with unusual interest and satisfaction. I have his book, 'The Way, The Truth and The Life,' and some lesser ones. May CHRISTIAN live long and prosper."

❀❀❀ Here are two letters written to me by two little tots over in Avon, Ill. I wish you could see the original letters written in their own handwriting. The first reads:

"Dear Shelton: I have got the exseman on my left leg. I want you to treat it. I have got two of them on my leg. Two spots, I mean, and some on my forhead. Grace."

And here is the other one:

"Dear Mr. Shelton: My thumb hurts me. It is all swelled up. I want you to treat me. This is Camille, not Grace. I want to keep well so I can go to school. Camille."

Grace stumbles over eczema, but I had to go to the dictionary. Camille, who is the younger, was wise enough not to tackle any such word.

THE HEART OF GOD.

ALLAN PARKINSON.

I saw where a million souls reside,
A city built by the ocean side;
And a thousand veins to the waters led,
To carry the sewage from quick and dead;
And the teeth of the crested breakers white,
Ate and dissolved it, as day the night.
And the bosom of Ocean was not less fair
Because that dark stream entered there.

I saw through the ages the stream of Death
Engulf each form at its final breath.
Winding pathways led to the brink.
Saint and sinner,—all, must drink.
Brute and beast swelled the charnal tide,
Which sank in the earth and was purified.
And the breath of morning, pure and rare,
Kissed the bloom of roses there.

I saw all the sins of Eternity cast
Into the Heart of God, so vast.
And the tide of LOVE that surges there,
Made them pure as a virgin's prayer.
All the hosts, misguided by false belief,
Adulterer, liar, harlot, thief,
All cleansed, came forth to the soul's re-birth,
Fair as the lily or rose from earth.

Los Angeles.

THE LIGHT OF LIFE.

JOHN HAMLIN DEWEY, M. D.

I am the light of the world; he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.—Jesus.

In my introductory article I called special attention:

First—To the New Testament promise of spiritual gifts through direct illumination from the spirit—the operation of a specific influence and power called the Holy Ghost. I also gave briefly my explanation of the nature of this illumination, and the special gifts it thus opened to the soul.

Second—To the fact that these gifts described and affirmed by the apostles as possible of immediate realization through this process embraced all the higher attainments and special powers of spiritual insight, esoteric wisdom, secret knowledge and occult mastery claimed for the mahatmas, adepts, yogis and hierophants of the various schools of occultism, Oriental and Occidental; and promised by these cults, to earnest souls, who desire them enough to go through the long and severe discipline of self-denial, struggle and persistent effort prescribed by them for such attainment.

I called attention, also, to the fact that Jesus, an humble carpenter of Judea, came into the complete realization of all these gifts by this immediate illumination from the Spirit, at the age of thirty (the first, as far as we know), and that his immediate disciples, though not reaching the full measure of his realization, did, in a short time, by following his example and instruction, attain a marvelous approximation to it.

In my second article I called special attention to the additional fact that this New Testament promise of these exalted attainments by direct spiritual illumination involved also the complete transfiguration of the life of all who received this divine anointing, by its lifting them through a spiritual transformation (regeneration) out of selfism and the limitations of the sense life into the freedom and permanent supremacy of the spiritual and impersonal life of impartial love and brotherhood of which these spiritual gifts and higher powers are the spontaneous fruits, or legitimate and inevitable expression. Indeed, it is this changed life upon which the special emphasis of the Christ and apostolic teaching is placed, the higher soul powers or spiritual gifts being of secondary consideration; the life to which they belong and of which they are the fruits, being the end to be sought.

If, then, the gifts are sought for their own sake, some personal consideration surely prompts the seeking, and the seeker fails to put himself in unity with and so fails to become receptive to the spirit to which they belong and which alone can bring them to realization in him. But if we really desire to rise into the resurrection and impersonal life of universal love and service, by being lifted out of selfism through complete regeneration, and seek this emancipated and impersonal life for its own sake, without special thought of the gifts, as such, then we invite and become receptive to the power that will effect this change, exalt and illuminate the life in mind and body and crown the emancipated soul with these deific gifts or powers of the spiritual life.

As we have said, all these supersensuous powers are inherent in the soul, but can be awakened and called into spontaneous activity only on the psychic and spiritual planes of consciousness. A certain degree of conscious, supersensuous activity of the mind's powers is possible and legitimate to the psychic plane of the soul life and relationship, as shown in my first article, but their complete emancipation and deific supremacy of action is possible and legitimate only to the spiritual plane of consciousness and realization; and the direct influence of this illuminating spirit is needed to awaken and permanently enthrone this higher consciousness and bring into spontaneous activity the mind's powers on this plane.

And, again, the supreme desire for this impersonal life of the Spirit—the true Christ or God-anointed life which constitutes this plane—for its own sake, is also needed to open us to the descent of this emancipating and illuminating influence and power into our souls to effect this result.

It should be remembered, also, that it is this immediate transformation under the operation of a distinct and specific influence and power divinely provided and ordained to this end, through recognition and cooperation with it that constitutes the Christ gospel—the "good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people."

I wish also to reaffirm, right here, that it is from no *bias of early education* or relic of superstition and traditional authority, but from a deep-seated conviction born of a living vital experience, that I so confidently assume the New Testament record of the Christ and Apostolic life and experience to be essentially true, and capable of reproduction in universal experience. And, also, that though the secret of their marvelous attainment in the short time there represented was lost to the church, we may, by an unbiased study of their experience and teaching in the added light of modern psychical discovery and demonstration, recover and successfully apply that secret to ourselves. My point is: What that secret did for them in so short a time it can also do for any number of the average humanity in the same time under like conditions.

In my last I promised to make special application of the light which some of the modern psychical demonstrations throw upon the psychic and spiritual side of our nature and its higher possibilities, also upon the secret of this immediate spiritual illumination. I will begin, then, with a further consideration of telepathy as

A KEY TO HIGHER THINGS.

Experiments under the most rigid tests of scientific inquiry by the Psychical Research Society have demonstrated beyond all question the fact of telepathy or transference of thought and mental states from a positive and active mind to another mind in passive and receptive relation with it. By a mutual understanding and alternating attitudes of mind between them, complete mental telegraphy, or conscious silent converse has been effected and established as an unmistakable fact of practical experience.

Wireless telegraphy has now become a scientifically demonstrated fact, and in view of the marvelous developments of electrical science in its numerous applications, the scientific world is in reasonable expectation of still greater developments through the light which this discovery throws upon the further possible applications of this seemingly omnipresent and unlimited energy.

Telepathy, or this silent transference of thought from one mind to another, has been a spontaneous experience of thousands, without their knowing how or why. These facts of experience having finally been critically examined and established by the most rigid tests of scientifically conducted experiments, a solid foundation has been laid for a demonstrative science of practical mental telegraphy by which direct, intelligent communication of mind with mind independent of sense relations, may be entered into at will.

This new science is yet in the formative stage, but in its possible applications in the realm of psychology and mental development it promises to vastly transcend in its emancipating and revolutionizing results even those of electrical science in the realm of physics.

Already mental telegraphy is a practical, every day experience with some, and unconscious telepathy with many. Every silent mental treatment of others, present or absent, is a practical application of telepathy, whether so understood or not. Indeed, the entire work of mental and Christian science, whether applied to the healing of disease, the quickening of sluggish mentality and arrested development, the correction of perverted tendencies and vices, and the restoration of moral degenerates—all of which are certainly accomplished by these methods—is nothing else but applied telepathy.

When it is not silent, but the effect is wrought through the orally "spoken word" (positive affirmation or denial) it is applied hypnotism or the direct influence and power

of suggestion. Suggestion by the orally spoken word is applied hypnotism. Suggestion by the silent spoken word or projected thought vibration is applied telepathy.

Where this silent power is exerted for another's harm (black magic), it is still telepathy misapplied. The same power of suggestion, or mental influence that can quicken and build up can also paralyze and tear down, when directed to this end, which, I regret to say, has been done even in this New Thought movement.

Fortunately, however, a general knowledge of the science in its practical workings gives also the law and means of self-protection against the projected thought vibration of an enemy; and, still more, it gives the power to return good for the intended evil, by sending back the melting influence or subduing vibrations of love thoughts in the forgiving spirit of charity and good will. "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good," was the Apostolic injunction. It is by this means only that the world is to be emancipated and redeemed from selfishness, and all the adverse conditions which the perverted activities of self have induced.

Love, of which charity and good will are the expression, is all-powerful and all-conquering. When, therefore, we dwell in love and act from this spirit, our thoughts go forth clothed with subduing, all-conquering and healing power over our enemies and all adverse conditions. (See the Master's supreme injunction, Matt. v., 43-48.)

LAW OF THOUGHT VIBRATIONS.

Some physicists tell us that the jar from the blow of a hammer upon the earth's surface repeats itself upon the space-ether until its vibrations have reached the most distant star. Whether this be literally true or not, we know that the light that reaches us from the most distant orb is but the perpetually flowing waves of such etheric vibration, projected into the ether by the motion of the planet's activities, just as a pebble thrown into the peaceful lake starts a series of vibrant waves that succeed one another until the equilibrium is restored.

In like manner, every thought and active state in us produces each its own special vibration in the still finer, more subtle and more easily stirred ether which constitutes the inner, all-pervading and all-encompassing mental and soul atmosphere, and the extent and rapidity of these radiating waves of thought vibration may not be estimated by any standard we at present possess. Time and space are practically annihilated by them.

When these projected waves of thought vibration from one mind penetrate the aura or psychic sphere of another mind sufficiently to become registered on its sub-conscious sensorium, it stamps thereon the character and quality of the thought and mental state that produced the vibration. When the impression thus made by these vibrations on the subconscious sensorium is sharp or intense enough, it is carried over to the objective mind and awakens therein corresponding thoughts and feelings, which, to the personal consciousness, may seem original or self-produced.

Thus are our lives constantly influenced and modified in greater or less degree by the vibrations perpetually radiating from the active states of thought and feeling of other lives which flood the mental or soul atmosphere in which we live; and we, in turn, are correspondingly affecting other lives for good or ill by the same law of interrelated life, whether conscious of the fact or not.

It most vitally becomes us, therefore, to see to it that for our own and the general good we cultivate and cherish only kind and helpful thoughts and feelings toward *all*, since our individual influence affects many, and the direct influence of these many reacts upon us, sending back upon us in corresponding, multiplied ratio that which we have awakened in them. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

The character and quality of our thought and motives constitute the seed we are sowing into the world, not only of human life, but of all life, in which we are active centers of a living and perpetually radiating influence; and we must necessarily reap what we sow, some thirty, some sixty and some an hundred fold, according to the conditions into which we sow.

In the light of this spontaneous and inevitable working of the law and power of thought vibration (the power of suggestion or the spoken word of focused thought), we perceive the deep and far-reaching wisdom of the Master's injunction that we love our enemies and bless them that curse us; and also the true science and deep philosophy upon which the Apostolic teaching from which I have so freely quoted is founded.

If, then, so much is involved in the spontaneous vibrations unconsciously projected by the ordinary mental activities, how much more when the vibrations purposely projected from our thoughts and feelings are focused upon another by directed attention and mental concentration. We thus intensify the effect, according to the clearness and vividness of the thought picture, and the energy of our concentrated attention; and these are determined by the depth and intensity of the emotion or feeling from which they spring, and with which they are clothed. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

It is thus that our thoughts and mental states are to be fully transferred to another, their projected vibrations being specially focused upon him by directed and concentrated attention, awake corresponding thoughts and feelings in him. This is applied telepathy, and when people become familiar with its workings and practical applications and cultivate the conditions for them, the silent word spoken from one to another, present or absent, and at whatever distance, will be as readily recognized and responded to as are the words spoken within the hearing of the natural ear through the sound vibrations on the external medium of the atmosphere.

I have said this much about telepathy and mental telegraphy, and the possible applications in the field of mental development and psychic experience, of the principle involved, for the special light these disclosures throw upon our still higher spiritual plane of soul relationship and mental action. The key here suggested for the opening of our consciousness to this plane and sphere of deific and heavenly revelations, communion and fellowship, will be the special subject of my next article.

THE MADONNA AND SOUL SCIENCE.

LOUISE DOWNES.

The ideal woman is a Madonna. She has her place in the literature of all Ages and all Climes. She is the foundation stone of the Creeds of the world. All religions have outflown from the Madonna ideal. She is writ in nature.

In the oldest Egyptian religion on record, Isis, in the absence of Osiris, conceives Horos. The same ideal is retold again and again in the Creeds of Christendom. A woman conceives a child of God. A child to be the Savior of the world.

Laws of Art outflow from facts of nature and are discovered in the intuitions of humanity. So wherever in the history of religions we find a universal dogma (a dogma is a belief for which there is no known scientific basis) we will also find in the light of science, that that *dogma* has been resting upon a fact of nature; and this has been one of the services the Church has rendered humanity. It has kept, under the guise of the supernatural, everlastingly before the world *facts of nature*, while science was creeping along toward the scientific understanding of these facts so called supernatural.

The supernatural is that which we do not understand, but are going to.

Science has wrested from the physical world the pall of supernaturalism placed upon it by the Church, and it stands to-day at the threshold of spiritual nature declaring: "The Universe is governed by Law." "The Universe is material and spiritual." Under the light of Twentieth Century science, unseen forces of nature become the seen—It is day. Science, the Morning Star, is far up. Scientists of the new day hitch their "wagon to a star" (not a monkey).

The Madonna is writ in nature. It is an ideal which the Church declares belongs to one woman alone, the Mother of Jesus. The Mother of Jesus was Mary. This figure appears in every religion history has recorded. In Christianity alone is its esoteric beauty buried under rank materialism. Idolatry, when it became Christianity, carried with it into the new expression of itself the same habit of thought; it took with it into its new relation the idolatrous habit; that of substituting the fact for the truth, the outer for the inner; that which is manifested for that which manifests. The spiritual meaning of the Madonna has been lost to Christianity. Christianity has centered the vision of the world upon matter instead of God or Spirit. "Blessed are the pure for they can see Spirit." The Church has not *seen*, it has taught fables for fact; it has smothered the Earth and the human intellect in supernaturalism. It has trodden reason to the ground until God has stepped down from His Throne and thundered: "Enough! Adjust your creeds to the discoveries of science." And the Church has never failed to obey this voice of God; the Church stands to-day a monument of the materialism of the Nineteenth Century.

The idolater is he who substitutes the material object for the spiritual truth. "For the Spirit quickeneth, the object killeth." This the Church has done invariably, matter for Spirit; that which is manifested for that which manifests. And so it has centered our vision upon Mary the Mother of Jesus, and upon Jesus the manifested; and has given us no true ideal of Mary, the Madonna, the divine *man;* or of Christ, the divine man in every man and in every woman.

Mary and Jesus are the outer symbols of the Madonna and the Christ. The Church has made no distinction between Mary and the Madonna; no distinction between Jesus and the Christ, because it has had no power to see the inner *and* the outer; no power to distinguish between the particular and the universal; no power to distinguish between the law and what the law does.

Theology has had but one thought in regard to Mary and Jesus; the determination to compel belief in a miraculous immaculate conception, though it had no idea *what* an immaculate conception was.

Mary, the Mother of Jesus, is the particular; the Madonna the universal; Mary the outer symbol; the Madonna the inner Spirit; Mary the manifested; The Madonna that which manifests; Mary the particular fact; the Madonna the universal Truth; Mary the symbol of human Motherhood; the Madonna the symbol of Spiritual Motherhood; Mary the Mother of Jesus; the Madonna the Mother of Christ; Mary the divine human; the Madonna the divine feminine. Every man and every woman is the Madonna, as they give birth to Christ. "I travail in pain * * * till Christ be born in you," said Paul.

The Marys of the Bible are all symbols of the divine nature. The Madonna in every man and woman, out of which comes Christ the God man. Each soul is journeying from Eden to Patmos. It is your Eden and your Patmos. The divine nature ever symbolized by the woman; the time is now. You can not be Mary unless you have been Eve. "Mary came when Eve was born." Eve becomes Mary. Eve is the symbol of the divine nature in its first awakening consciousness. Eve is not born till the divine self is recognized and declared.

You *can not* be Mary the Mother of Jesus, you can be more, you can be the Madonna, the Mother of Christ, you can be Christ, you can be God.

The Madonna ceases when Christ is born. The Madonna has become Christ. The Madonna consciousness becomes the Christ consciousness. The Christ consciousness becomes the God consciousness. The divine nature unfolds in manifestation. Mary the Mother of Jesus is virgin no longer after Jesus' birth; She is the Madonna no more; She becomes the Mother of Joseph's children. Symbolic of the truth I have stated: The Madonna ceases when Christ is born. The Madonna *becomes* "The soul is ever becoming." So Jesus disappears. Through his life and the suffering of the cross Jesus becomes Christ; and in the triumph of the resurrection the Christ becomes the God or *the law.*

The man has become the law (God).

God was made flesh in his birth. In his life and death and resurrection flesh became God.

He became one with the law, and death died.

"One with the Father Eternal in the Heavens."

ON HYPNOTISM.

The Church has hypnotized the world. The Hypnotist suspends sense consciousness; suspends normal brain action. How? By suggestion? *No*—it is not suggestion which hypnotizes—it is *monotony* of suggestion. This fact has been known to theology since the days of the Druid worshipers. They monotoned their services, as the Catholic Church of to-day. Priests know the full power of monotony of suggestion. Normal brain action is suspended. Men lose the power of continued thought under the spell of the monotone. Why? What is its effect? It reduces the number of sensations carried to the brain; without sensation there is no consciousness. Concentration is the fixing of the attention on as simple a sensation as possible. The sensations must be alike and you are told to gaze at a single object. Monotony of sensation long continued cuts the connection, and the brain is hypnotized; the trance ensues. Suggestion will never produce hypnotism. Monotony of suggestion will. Monotony of sensation compels. (The man ignorant of the law.) The dirge, the chant, the monotone, reduces the number of sensations, while dance music multiplies sensation. You do not use it to lull the mind to inaction. Sarah Bernhardt knows the hypnotic power of the monotone. She is mistress of the priestly weapon; you are *bound* by the spell; her voice is an opiate.

Monotony of suggestion compels. The discovery of the *law* of suggestion logically buries the Episcopal prayer book, but it still lives. Man's reasoning powers are under the hypnotic spell of *monotony of suggestion,* and he dare not free himself. Civilization has produced exactly the race of human beings the Church for ages has *suggested.* A man with no conception of his own divinity. A worm, a sinner. A man is a God. To achieve his Godhood he must break the spell cast upon his consciousness by the damning suggestions of the Church. This, science, Religion, God, commands. He has heard. He is hastening to obey. He is whispering, God is Spirit. I am spirit. Spirit is eternal. Spirit is power. Spirit is love. Spirit is God. Spirit is me. "I am the resurrection and the life." He is entering the secret place of the Most High. No evil comes nigh his dwelling. God is wiping the tears from his eyes, and there is no more night.

For thousands of years the Church has suggested: "Thou shalt not kill. Thou shalt not bear false witness. Thou shalt not commit adultery." But we *have* killed; we have borne false witness; we have committed adultery. Science, in telling us all about the law of suggestion, bids us remember this: A command *not* to do a thing is a suggestion to *do* that thing. The intelligent mother and teacher no longer says: "Thou shalt *not.*" The "Shalt nots" of the Bible, the translator now tells us, are not commands, but affirmations. Not "Thou shalt not," but "Thou wilt not." Oh the difference! But we slumber on. We still think it no crime to send our little children where the seeds of adultery, theft and falsehood are sown by suggestion. Will women never awake and break the power of the Church—O, those who sleep in our cradles to-day, will they not for *you*—for you?

ON RELIGION.

Processes of natural law are discovered by science in that plane of nature known as the Soul or Spiritual Plane. The thoughts, words and deeds of men are manifestations of natural law. Then there is a science of the soul. Religion has to do with the life of the soul. Then Religion is the science of the soul. And a grave is dug. Religion will place within that grave religions. Spiritual man and natural man are under the government of the same law. A man can not make religion, whether his father be God or man. The *followers* of Jesus, Buddhi, Zoroaster, made religions. Jesus and Buddhi declared, and revealed—A law of Being—That which makes religion is a law of Being, not a man. Existence is not Being. Existence is manifestation of Being. Being makes existence possible. Man wants knowledge of the law of Being. Being is eternal; existence mutable and mortal. Existence is, that man may know Being. Religion sees Being; Theology only existence. Science reveals Being. Religion has naught to do with religions. Religion has to do with science alone. Religion is co-existent with time. 'Twas writ in nature before God said let there be light. Religion is not to be accepted or rejected. One does not accept or reject the Solar system. One takes the hand of science and learns *about* the Solar system. There can not be two *kinds* of Religion. Religion *is,* as God is—as Being is. Religion is that which manifests, not that which is manifested.

"In the name of Religion, I protest against religions," said Voltaire. Religion is writ in nature if law is manifest in the realm of the soul. Science alone can reveal law. Science alone can reveal religion. Religions change; Religion is changeless. Religion rests upon and outflows from the perfect. The absolute.

That which changes is not perfect. Not absolute.

What is perfect?

That which changes not.

What in all nature changes not?

Law! "The law of God is perfect."

"There can be no greater glory for men than this: To praise forever the universal law."

Sung Epictetus.

Man is diving, searching, searching through all manifestation for the law. He *eats* the law, as it were, as the Angel commanded John on Patmos to eat the book. Eating, eating, searching—why? Because the law is forever changing its plane of manifestation, and to lose sight of the law is to lose God. To lose the law is to lose religion.

Why does man want knowledge of the Law?

Because man is to become the law.

Why does man eat the law?

Because man is hungry—and the law is the bread of life.

Boston, January 17, 1902.

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