

SPIRITICITY December 1943

Beloved of God, greeting:

"Thou wilt light my candle; the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness."
"The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord."

A lighted candle represents spiritual light or intelligence. Blessed are ye when your candle is lighted and you know the Spirit within you. When your light burns brightly, you are the enlightened, the illumined; you walk, and stumble not.

Blessed are ye when you can meet with compassion the gnashings and lashings of the many who work in the dark. Your light will burn more and more brightly unto the perfect day.

Blessed are ye when there seems to be nothing left to contemplate but God and the manifestation of God. Blessed are ye when the purpose in your mind and heart conforms to that which you have seen and heard in secret. This is the light that never fails to reveal the actual purpose and plan of Him who hath created.

Blessed are ye when you know how to be abased and how to abound; when neither is greater nor lesser. This candle, when lighted, is priceless. This is the candle for which the spiritual man who has the most of everything is willing to sell all to possess.

Blessed are ye when you find yourself standing firm upon your inner integrity. Another candle has been lighted. Blessed are ye when a problem is presented and you choose to let it be solved by the way of the Light and it becomes a shining example of the Principle of Good.

Blessed are ye when you actually see that all this is not a fleeting fancy, not a temporary inspiring experience, but an eternal, a permanent experience that is now, and will be forever. That is the way and the Light of Life.

Sincerely yours,
A. J. Truesdell

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Why Santa Claus Laughs

Maybe some saints smile discreetly but only one is truly a laughing saint. This one, of course, is Saint Nicholas, or Santa Claus. Never has there been such an infectious laugh as his; no laugh so persistent, so deep, so spontaneous.

No one has ever seen Santa Claus when he was not laughing. Wise men have tried to explain the cause and some believe the phenomenon to be the result of his habitual practice of giving things away. No giver laughs like Santa Claus.

Santa's laugh precedes the act of giving as though the gift itself were the effect of his mirth, much like thunder is the effect of a flash of lightning.

Everybody knows how good it is to be on the giving hand. Too, everybody understands the several degrees of giving that are in general practice in the world. One type of giving can be illustrated by the system incorporated in a public library. Any book given out must be returned on a certain date or a penalty is exacted. This kind of giving and the kind practiced by Santa are quite different. His gifts have no return date stamped upon them. His giving makes for joy, laughter, and freedom from responsibility or obligation.

Expressed joy is the motivating power identified with the Christmas spirit of giving. Just as Santa's merriment is infectious, the Christmas spirit is effective in every mind and heart. Its germs of joy are felt by all in the annual epidemic of good cheer, and there is no serum potent enough to retard or subdue such gleeful agents from accomplishing their mission of mirth. They must work fast and efficiently for their time is the holiday season, a comparatively brief period in the calendar year.

Even though the popular and powerful element of pessimism filters into humanity's heart, it undergoes such a transformation that it too joins in singing songs of joy in the reflected cadences of Christmas carols and the ever popular melody of Jingle Bells.

The Christmas spirit is impartial. From it there is no immunity. It is neither subject to nor dependent upon propaganda. The Christmas spirit is habit forming. Its addicts never escape its tenacious toils. Take a firm stand, make a strong determination to resist its effects, and desire to participate in the spirit of the season is augmented. The unrestrained mirth of its portly patron is incurable and irresistible.

Try to taper off, and the longing to give, to spend, to sing, wells up with such a surging from within as to overflow and flood out any weak compromise. Try to be indifferent, and every sense becomes awake to the dominant presence of this unquenchable spirit.

Put off Christmas shopping until the last moment, hoping for some miracle of immunity, and find yourself dismayed and ashamed of the fruits of having joined in a belated sales scrimmage. Petty gifts camouflaged by ornate wrappings accuse the laggard of insufficient cooperation and lack of foresight.

There is no escape from the intoxication of the spirit of Christmas. Santa's mark is in each bosom and there is no choice but to make friends with him quickly and join his campaign of spreading joy with voluntary spontaneity. He comes but once a year. His stay is brief. But while he is with us he causes a revolution of rejoicing. He is a surging spirit who knows no ethics regarding the sanctity of man's heart or hearth. He comes in where angels fear to tread; yea, where angels would never think of going, even to habitations where angels themselves would be unwelcome. Santa has laughed his way into and out of situations even arch-angels would find difficult to cope with; but then, arch-angels do not laugh.

Like a jolly country doctor joking his patients into convalescence, Santa leaves healing of spirit, mind, and body in his wake, for he himself is evidence of the health-giving qualities of deep-welling joy.

To Santa Claus, Life itself is not a joke. Life is something that shows response to certain fundamental qualities, chief ingredients of which are joy and laughter. Santa knows man to be a son of God, the express image of his creating Father. If there is a joke, it is that man believes otherwise, thinking of himself as a worm of the dust, and unworthy son.

When we ourselves see and express the spirit of Santa Claus here in this earth, we too shall laugh, rejoice, and celebrate Christmas in a big way with him.

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And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. -- Luke 2:9-11

"I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness." -- Jesus

There is a Light in each person to which he can turn at any time for guidance, relief, fulfillment, or blessing. This Light, the real essence within, touches every department of being but itself remains untouched by experience, circumstance, or condition in mind, body, or affairs.

At the center of man's being, "the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world," is a well-spring of vitality; death-less, abiding, instantly available for use in the course of daily living. It is called into action by willingness to look within. When this Light is touched by the attention of the mind, its spark floods the mental machinery, (including the senses,) with such radiance that every faculty and function is quickened into a perfect coordinate whole. Accomplishing powers hitherto unsuspected come alive and the results of their actions are called miracles of demonstration.

Man, in trying to touch the true Light within, usually rests the attention of his mind on certain phases of it. What he then sees is illusion, darkness, or a diluted degree of the true Light. Since he either does not know how to strike back far enough toward the center of his being, or refuses to do so, being content to abide in semi-darkness, man oft-times dwells in a region subject to powers of evil and powers of good. Sometimes he experiences the effects of the good, but more often his life-experience is affected by the evil and he is all too familiar with what he calls life's bitterness.

All that we deal with in the realm of values, all that we know, that we possess, is the result of what we understand. We have whatever we understand. Dwelling in semi-light, our vision is warped, being either contracted or over-expanded for correct perspective, and we seem to understand weird aspects of life.

Dark shadows cut deeply into the fabric of existence giving the effect of sorrow, grief, trial, loss, and a sense of separation from whatever we love and cherish. In this semi-light men hate each other, binding all in the limitations of their faulty vision. The more attention man gives to shadows the more do

they take on a substantial quality furnished only by his earnest gaze toward them.

Thus the land, where the light is as darkness, becomes the habitual dwelling place of the majority of mankind. In this land a person wants to be let alone so that he may contemplate at leisure his favorite shadow (death) for in it he believes he will find liberation from the trials and tribulations of the world.

In the eerie dwelling place into which man casts the attention of his mind, he longs for light but beholds obscurity. He stumbles at noonday through desolate places. He declares lies against his Lord. Out of his heart he utters false words, speaking of oppression, revolt, sin, transgressions, and iniquities. In the semi-light of hallucinatory perception man declares that all he apprehends is the reality and whatever cannot be discerned through his senses is unreal.

The reverse is true. The senses, gathering their information from the world of form, make false reports. There is a Light beyond the seen that burns ever bright. Though it be dimmed to the point of extinction, it cannot be put out. Man may put off his day of attention toward it a thousand-thousand years, but it will remain ready to flare forth in all its effulgent glory the moment it is heeded.

The strength and power of the Light that lies at the core of man's being was demonstrated in the world through the advent of Jesus Christ. His inner eye ever beheld the true Light. In that Light he healed the sick, cast out demons, and raise the dead. He declared himself to be the Light of the world, and promised that all who followed him should not walk in darkness but should have the Light of Life.

His promise is not vain. Any time we choose we may turn the attention of our mind toward the Light within and be taught by it. It will tell us that we came forth from God, that Christ is our Light, that we may choose to live and walk through this world in that Light even as Jesus did.

Jesus Christ is our Savior in this wise that through him we are introduced to and become acquainted with the Light of Life.

Dear Friend,

At this happy Christmas Season the ministry of the CHRIST TRUTH LEAGUE, of Fort Worth, Texas, extends to you and your loved ones blessings of goodness, contentment, gladness, serenity, and security, in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Lovingly yours,
Nell Truesdell

Alphabet of
DAILY MEDITATIONS
for every week day of the month

December 1943

1. Thou, O Lord, ART a God full of compassion.
2. Mercy and truth shall go BEFORE thy face.
3. For this CAUSE I bow my knees unto the Father.
4. Christ may DWELL in your hearts by faith.
*
6. Thy Kingdom is an EVERLASTING Kingdom.
7. We should be FELLOWHEIRS ... in Christ.
8. The Lord is GRACIOUS.
9. Now shall mine HEAD be lifted up.
10. Why do thoughts arise IN your hearts?
11. He will JOY over thee with singing.
*
13. KNOW the love of Christ, which passeth KNOWLEDGE.
14. I will put my LAWS into their mind.
15. MAKE known ... His MIGHTY acts.
16. As cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good NEWS.
17. As we have OPPORTUNITY, let us do good.
18. The Lord PRESERVETH all them that love Him.
*
20. Take heed, and be QUIET; fear not.
21. He shall set me upon a ROCK.
22. Thou hast been a SHELTER to me, and a STRONG tower.
23. I press TOWARD the mark.
24. Preach ... the UNSEARCHABLE riches of Christ.
25. Add to your faith VIRTUE.
*
27. The WORDS of the Lord are pure WORDS.
28. Take my YOKE upon you, and learn of me.
29. He was ZEALOUS for his God.
30. The Father loveth the Son.
31. God is our refuge and strength.

Lift the attention of your mind toward the Most High God and see the glories that have been prepared for you from the beginning. We take God's blessings by recognition. DAILY MEDITATION is a practice which enables us to handle our thought-processes in an orderly manner. of only one at a given time, according to the objective that attracts and holds the attention of our mind.