

JESUS CHRIST IS GOD

By Robert Applegate

JESUS CHRIST was God and is God. This is the basis of Christianity and yet today few seem to believe this. Even those who profess to believe it seem rarely to consider seriously what it means. Several denominations deny the Divinity of Jesus Christ; and many ministers and theologians assert that Jesus was simply a man like any one of us - a good man, but nevertheless just a mortal human being. Yet the essence of Christianity has always been "In the beginning was the Word, . . . and the Word was God. . . . And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us."

The proposition that Jesus was a man, and a fallible man, claims to be modern and scientific; but the doctrine is well over a thousand years old. It has been asserted and refuted time and again during the course of Christian history, but most notably during the Fourth Century A.D., when the purist Arius converted many to this teaching. A writer of that time summed up the teaching of Arius in these words:

"God was not always Father, but there was a time when God was not Father. The Word of God has not always existed, but came into being from a state of not-being. . . . There was a time when It was not. For the Son is a creature, a made thing. He is not of the same Substance as the Father. He is not the true Word of the Father or His true Wisdom, but is one of His creations."

That Jesus Christ was God in a human form - that, as He said, "He who has seen Me has seen the Father" - is so stark, so incredible that it is little wonder that men have been loath to accept it. Yet if we are Christians, this is the position we are committed to.

What is the basis of this proposition? and what does it mean to us? Does it really make much difference what we believe about Jesus Christ? After all, are not all these theological arguments far divorced from our practical, everyday life? First of all, it makes all the difference in the world what we believe, because what we truly believe determines what we are and what we do. I will return to this, but first what is the basis of our belief?

The basis is the teaching of Jesus Christ, supported by His works; and the best evidence for that teaching is the Gospel and the First Letter of the disciple John. John was the man who was the closest to Jesus Christ and who had the clearest understanding of what He was and what He taught. And John leaves no doubt that Jesus taught that He was the Embodiment of God and that this is the essence of His teaching. John says:

"Who is the liar, but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? No one who denies the Son has the Father. He who confesses the Son has the Father also."
(I Jn. 2:23)

Read the First Letter of John. It is short and it sums up the Christian teaching.

(To be Continued)

SPIRITICITY, February 1966

REMEMBER

By H. B. Jeffery

HOLY COMMUNION is a communion of remembrance. "Remember Jesus Christ risen from the dead," Paul wrote to Timothy. It was remembrance that brought back to the disciples the words Jesus had spoken unto them, and those words were filled with life. "Heaven and earth shall pass away," He said: "But My words shall not pass away."

In the remembrance of His words His Nature is revealed. By your remembrance and acceptance of His words will your own Christhood be revealed. Acknowledging the Christ brings the Christ to us.

To remember is to return, to be full of the thought of God. Remember, remember, remember! Some people think it is difficult to remain in the One Presence. It is not if you will always remember. Always bring to remembrance who and what you are.

When you realize you are a son of God, a new life, a new activity will move in you. All things will be made new; there will be a new environment, new friends. You will be full of the action of serving others. Whatever you do in business, the arts, or a profession - you will do it in the knowledge of service to the universe. "Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all." Unto the servant the mysteries of the Kingdom of God are revealed. He is born again; he is able to open the Book of Life; he opens the door that no man can shut.

We are truly not Christians until we have realized the Christ within ourselves. Some religions teach that Jesus was a man just like ourselves, but this is not so. He was the Son of God and we are sons of God. By believing on Him and His words will we be able to do the things He did. Not by denying, but by acceptance and belief.

Many people are searching for prosperity. They cry out that they have bills to pay and they need money. That is not true. You are a son of God. "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof. . . . The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, saith the Lord." You are a son of God, heir to all this plenty, for all the Father has is yours. No one owns anything in this earth. You came with nothing and you can take nothing away. It is all of God and it is here for your use. You are a son of the Most High. Act like it.

To cite an example: Some years ago a man came to me for help; he said he was bankrupt. He had just been to the bank; they had heard rumors of his incapacity to pay his debts, and so they told him he would have to bring in money the next morning to pay his loan or they would close him out. He was a man of integrity and forthrightness, and had had a good reputation.

He said: "I will not give the bank the satisfaction of putting me in bankruptcy - I will do it myself. I am going to my lawyer now to have him put me through bankruptcy. My back is against the wall. You are my friend and I trust your judgment; so I shall make you a receiver of my business.

I said: "I do not want to do that. I do not want the business and I have no time for it. Besides, this is not true; you are not bankrupt."

The man said, "What do you mean?"

I said, "Have you ever heard you are a son of God?"

"O yes, in Sunday School; but that is a lot of foolishness."

"Well, you are nevertheless a son of God and no son of God can ever be bankrupt. All the riches of the Universe are at your command. Furthermore you are doing the bank a service by borrowing money from them, for that is how they make their profit. Put yourself on the positive end instead of the negative for a while. The bank does not own the money. The money is God's and it is for your use.

He asked me to repeat this, and I did; but he still could not believe it was possible.

He said: "No, it is no use; I have to go there tomorrow morning and take it on the chin."

I said: "O.K., take it on the chin; but you do not have to, if you will go to sleep tonight knowing these three things:

- 1) You are a son of God and heir to His riches;
- 2) The bank does not own the money; God owns the money; they are the servants of God;
- 3) You are doing the bank a favor by borrowing their money from them; so you shall receive their cooperation and help."

The next morning the man went to the bank. He was told he could not see the president, as he was in conference.

He said, "But I had an appointment."

"Oh, in that case, I shall take your card in and see about it."

The messenger came back to say, "Go right in; they are having a board meeting and they want to see you."

As he entered the room he stood against the wall, and before he could say a word the bank president arose and said:

"We are extremely sorry and wish to apologize for the conduct of Mr. S. . . last evening; for we find you are not bankrupt at all. We sent out runners and we find it is only the small persons who are clamoring for their payment and have been spreading the rumors of your insolvency. The big fellows tell us they are perfectly confident in you and will carry you along. So we shall be very glad to help you with more money. In the logging industry, when the logs get jammed, someone goes out and releases them so they start moving again; and that is what we feel you need - more money to get things going again. How much would you like to have?"

The man was so overcome that he said he would have fainted if he had not been so tight against the wall that he knocked his head against it as he sagged. Since he was so stunned he could not answer.

They repeated again, "How much do you want?"

Still he could not answer.

"Well, would so much money be sufficient for you?"

Then he got his breath and said, "Yes, it is enough."

"Are you sure it is enough? for we will be glad to give you whatever you need."

David was a poor boy; yet he sang, "Send now prosperity." David gives us the key. He was a poor shepherd, doing tasks he did not particularly like to do; but he gazed up at the stars at night and praised the Spirit behind them. He praised the beauty that he saw everywhere. He was sought out by the king and eventually he became king. When he was anointed as ruler, the country was on the verge of extinction. He saved it and lifted it to a position of wealth and power.

Praise with a bounteous eye; see God in everything; know that you are never out of his Presence. You will find the key to prosperity.

Harriman was a poor boy, yet he became a millionaire. I spoke to him about it one time when he had been invited to join the Millionaire's Club.

He said: "I am not a millionaire. I handle billions of dollars, yes. And I have the integrity to know what to do with money, so I am made a steward of it. But I do not own anything."

There is no power in the dollar. It is a pretty symbol. But all the power belongs to God and is given to you through your hands to move and prosper everything.

You are "complete in Him." When you realize you are complete, you will not strive for anything or try to develop yourself. It is all there now - you will see it as being present. All you want is there now; only you do not yet see it. Everything will be at hand at the right time - not beforehand and not too late, but at the right time.

You are always perfect and the Father sees you as perfect. Do not struggle to change yourself. You cannot change. God's Presence is all there is. There are no problems. Praise will reveal the Presence of Oneness. God is above the pairs of opposites. He is All-Good; He sees no evil.

Don't psychologize, don't philosophize; just keep knowing the Truth: THOU ONLY, THOU ONLY, THOU ONLY!

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SPIRITICITY, February 1966

THE ONE WILL

By Alden Truesdell

MAN is looking for a solution to life with its complex problems and he has not found it in any of the popular theories presented up to the present time.

The materialist knows little of matter; the psychologist knows little of mind; the average spiritual instructor knows even less about Spirit. Yet we find each one making it his mission to convert others to his beliefs.

Many people who ask for healing need only to be set free from the domination of another's will. Families are often found to be ruled by one will. Nations and multitudes of religious adherents are often subject to the will of a dominant mortal. In every area of life there is a conflict of wills. It is not wise for anyone to subject his personal will to a stronger will until he has investigated the nature and purpose of that will. Anyone too eager to let loose of his own opinions and purposes may find that instead of doing the Will of God, he is simply carrying out the desires of some dominant mortal. He may find someone is making free use of his free will.

It would be a sorry life if we were dependent on one mortal will to free us from the domination of another (as is assumed in popular mental practice). But such is not the case. The one thing tougher than the mortal will is the Will of God. Sincere invocation of the ever-present Will never fails to free us from other powers.

If any healer attempts mental practice, he becomes continually entangled in a battle of wills. This is tiresome and unprofitable. There is no value in any decree that does not conform to God's "Let there be." The true healer practices entering into agreement with the Will of the Most High. He takes advantage of the Purpose of that Will to heal, bless, protect, and support. The position of such a practitioner is that of a witness. His reports of what he sees to be true of the Divine Nature establish that perfection in the consciousness of the patient.

God wills, and all lesser wills wilt. The healer witnesses the dissolution of the mortal will under the remitting action of the word of Truth. Further experience in practice releases him from the necessity of dealing with any but the One Will; then even words of Truth become unnecessary.

The occupations of spiritual healer and teacher are the most exacting, the most difficult, and the most valuable service a man or woman can engage in. One cannot be weak or timid and remain in them. But the paradox is that the weak and the timid find themselves moving into strength and courage when their weakness and timidity are prostrated before the Will of God.

God's Grace is sufficient for us, for His Strength is made perfect (revealed) in our weakness.

SPIRITICITY, February 1966

MEDITATIONS

By Nell Truesdell

RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION (Proverbs 14:34)

GEORGE WASHINGTON wrote: "Without a humble imitation of the Divine Authority of our . . . religion we can never hope to be a happy nation."

Religion is more than a practice of sacred rites and observances. It is a quest for the ideal life that is set forth in the teachings of Jesus Christ. Religion is an attitude of obedience to a controlling Power and Presence we call God. Our Savior Jesus Christ exhibited on earth the results of obedience in His Resurrection.

To submit ourselves to God means that we willingly assume the responsibility of our trust in Him. The Authority of God does not cancel out personal freedom; rather we who are taken captive by His Will have the chance to recover from the snare of our former belief in separation from God. Jesus Christ drew man back into God's orbit, and revealed to man that he is a son of God.

Knowledge of worldly things must be sacrificed if one would know spiritual things. Paul explained this in his letters to the Corinthians: "The things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God." (I Cor. 2:11)

"The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." (II Cor. 10:4-5)

HE THAT IS FAITHFUL IN THAT WHICH IS LEAST, IS FAITHFUL ALSO IN MUCH
(Luke 16:10)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN (born Feb. 12, 1809) wrote in a letter to the editor of Sangamo Journal, New Salem, Illinois (June 13: 1835): "I go for all sharing the privileges of the government who assist in bearing its burden."

Today, many factions strive to get government benefits without sharing the responsibility that enables our government to function for the welfare of all its citizens. This attitude does not belong exclusively to people who grasp after worldly advantages. Through the ages men have violated the rights of others to further their own positions in religious organizations. Jesus Christ admonished His disciples to beware of such personal ambitions. He said, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. . . . They bind heavy burdens, and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. But all their works they do to be seen of men." (Mt. 23; 2-5)

Some persons think we have been slow to organize a church-school. We ask: How much have you contributed? In your practice, be careful to fulfill your obligation when you write to us for spiritual instruction and ministry. We work without salary. If you support this work from which you expect to receive spiritual comfort, your heart and mind will open to receive greater blessings. "Give, and it shall be given unto you."

HOW SHALL THEY BELIEVE IN HIM OF WHOM THEY HAVE NOT HEARD? (Romans 10:14)

"I will not again be the person I was two years ago!" a woman exclaimed. The telephone crackled with the vehemence of her statement. But she had no word of gratitude for the instruction that had released her from delusions. No influence other than spiritual ministry could have saved her from the effects of her frequent outbursts against everybody around her. Now that her affairs were well adjusted and her health improved, this woman had no word of thanks for her deliverance.

How often we refuse to express gratitude to a teacher who has patiently heard us out or who has written us a long letter of instruction that has turned our attention in a new direction. If we cannot value help from a teacher whom we know, how can we value God's help?

Never be timid in admitting the new understanding you have received through spiritual ministry. Nor be slack about giving an offering for the ministry you want. Your capacity to express appreciation in every way guarantees your steady advance into a fuller understanding of the Truth of Jesus Christ. He is the Teacher of all teachers. His Spirit imparts perception to a teacher so that through his understanding prayer a student's problems become examples of a Spiritual Principle at work. Acknowledgment imparts stamina and enlightenment so that problems actually serve to open doors into new understanding of Christ Truth.

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART: AND LEAN NOT TO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING (Proverbs 3:5)

A skeptic once said to me, "When God does something for me then I will believe in God." I asked him how he knew that his parents were really his father and mother. When he did not answer, I said that we must believe in God in the same way that we believe in our parents.

We begin our understanding of any subject by accepting what someone says about it. First, we learn what teachers and books have to say; then, we may go on to discover new principles for ourselves, if we are so inclined.

A very sick man who had a relapse said that he was so weak that he could not even pray. All he could say was, "Lord Jesus, I am so tired." An inner response came: "Be silent to the Lord." As he let himself be enfolded in deep silence, he felt God's Peace and overbrooding Love pour through his body. Soon, he was fully recovered from the long illness.

To trust God with all our heart we must let Him encircle us with His love. We must be silent in God's Presence. We must believe in God.

Repeat the following statement often:

I AM ENFOLDED IN THE HEALING PRESENCE OF GOD, AND I AM FILLED WITH THE REDEEMING LOVE OF MY HEAVENLY FATHER. I AM FREE, PRAISE GOD, I AM FREE.

Alphabet of
DAILY MEDITATIONS
For all week days in the month

FEBRUARY, 1966

1. Find out ACCEPTABLE words . . . even words of Truth.
2. My soul shall make her BOAST in the Lord.
3. Praise is COMELY for the upright.
4. Be pleased, Lord, to DELIVER me.
5. Thine EYES are EVER toward the Lord.
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7. He shall pluck my FEET (understanding) out of the net.
8. He shall GIVE His angels charge over thee.
9. O Lord, make HASTE to HELP me.
10. Let INTEGRITY and uprightness preserve me.
11. He shall JUDGE the world with righteousness.
12. The Lord KNOWETH the days of the upright.
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14. Unto Thee, O God, do I LIFT up my soul.
15. The Lord be MAGNIFIED.
16. He hath put a NEW song in my mouth.
17. Bring an OFFERING, and come into His courts.
18. Rest in the Lord, and wait PATIENTLY for Him.
19. QUICKEN me, O Lord, for Thy Name's sake.
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21. The Lord REDEEMETH the soul of His servants.
22. The SECRET of the Lord is with them that fear (revere) Him.
23. We have TRUSTED in His Holy Name.
24. The Lord UPHOLDETH the righteous (wise in heart).
25. VERILY, Thou shalt be fed.
26. The WORD of the Lord is right.
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28. The earth shall YIELD her increase.

"When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly."

As electricity is the working power of the electrical principle,
So Spiriticity is the working Power of the Spiritual Principle.

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