

SPIRITICITY, January 1964

CHRIST TRUTH

By Alden Truesdell

JESUS CHRIST is the means to the end of limitation. He brings the New Dispensation.

Jesus Christ is the safe pathway through the all-restoring Crucifixion and Resurrection to the Regeneration into ever-present and everlasting Life. He is the Lion of Judah, who is able to open and read the Book of Life. "The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals." Life is an open book to Jesus Christ, who sends down into the consciousness of man His Holy Spirit, to teach all things and to bring to man's remembrance the words Jesus spoke during His personal sojourn with humanity.

Spiritual work cannot be done in convention or committee, but must be accomplished through complete, unhindered, dedicated cooperation with the Spirit. Such dedication is unpopular with the perversity in the race which gnashes against it with its teeth. It tries to read it out of consideration altogether. But opposition to sincere spiritual action is futile.

Modern physics is becoming more and more like metaphysics all the time, with the nature of the universe being exposed as light and energy. But physicists fear their own discoveries because of the destructive uses for which they have been earmarked. To protest such use, physicists picket the government employing them. Metaphysicians have always stood in awe of spiritual, or even mental, powers; but have been more prone to see the constructive motive in the Maker of light and energy.

Purely mental consideration of the findings of modern physics is frightening, unless the Nature back of the great power is understood. This is why man is urged to assess his own origin and its Benevolent Motivator. Before we attempt to harness natural laws, we should know the purpose of the Owner of the Universal Machinery.

There is always something distinctive about a ministry or an individual who has found Christ Truth. This ministry is perhaps an example. Early in our study we learned the need for a dependable influence in a work such as this; we found it in Jesus Christ.

Sometimes we are asked about the almost casual Christ spirit that is noticed in the Christ Truth fellowship. We could say, for one thing, that the impersonal, spiritual Identity called Christ is the motivating Authority of this work. We could say too that the work is not encumbered with much organization. Most Christian establishments are unwieldy - or so well organized as to be bureaucratic. The Christ Truth League is just what it proclaims itself to be: a league of those who seek and practice Christ Truth. A Christ Truth ministry does not insist that certain things be done. But it does so quicken the one receiving ministry that he finds himself doing things he had not done before, and doing those things well. And he sees how such practice could be carried to the ultimate, as by Paul who said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

While strong characters are required to develop vital movements the characters themselves are able to stand only because they are dedicated to Christ Truth. This is not the Truesdell Truth League, and it may be noted as being somewhat distinctive among metaphysical movements in that the name Christ is incorporated in its title.

By such acknowledgment we magnify the Christ Authority in the Christ Truth League. And Christ, who is in authority, must be the last word in authority. He must be above all established institutions, all nationalities. He must be the unction above religion, the amity above gregariousness. He must be the Divine Order above science - even the science bearing His Name. His Overcoming must be far above all mental or spiritual achievement of any occult system. His Originality must be above all claiming to be new in thought or practice. His Resurrection must be above all proclaimed benefits of reincarnation.

The Christ who is in all, over all, and through all is the acceptable Authority of the Christ Truth League.

This ministry is dedicated to the Finished Work of that One who overcame the world, to take His place "at the right hand of the Father," to receive all power "in heaven and in earth." We do not subscribe to a reed shaken in the wind, but to a proved and capable Son of God, who is the same yesterday and today and forever, who "is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."

Whatever we could say of this Wonderful One would be an understatement; for Christ is all that is true of any of us.

Christ is the All-knowing; for knowledge is power, and all power is given unto Christ. So Christ is Absolute Knowing; while man is learning and growing.

And Jesus Christ is the One who solved the problem of mortality by transmuting humanity into Divinity. This transformation was climaxed by the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. Had Jesus refused to take this final cup, He would have been just another good teacher (such as Buddha, Lao Tze, or Zoroaster). But because of the Resurrection, He became the permanent Savior of all mankind.

One Christ Truth teacher said that as Christians we have a tremendous, transforming message to proclaim. He went on to say, "We are not Christians until we have experienced the Resurrection."

Jesus Christ and His work are the Truth to which this Christ Truth League is dedicated, as it goes about its business of fulfilling its own assignment in His Name.

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DISCRIMINATION

By Robert Applegate, Jr.

IF WE ARE serious in seeking God we need spiritual guidance. Some persons think they can get along without it, but they are wrong.

St. Antony is usually considered to be the model of those who have sought and found God by themselves, since he spent close to seventy years in nearly complete solitude - when men would leave him alone and were not after him for healing and for teaching. Yet Antony said that the most necessary thing for a seeker for God is discrimination, which requires holding fast to the teaching and the example of those who have traveled the road before.

The story is told in Cassian's Conferences. (John Cassian about the year A.D-420 wrote in Latin an account of conversations with the Desert Fathers. The second Conference, from which I have translated, deals with discrimination.) A group of men had been talking all night about what is most necessary to bring one to God. One mentioned compassionate ministry, since Jesus Christ had said, "In that you have done it unto one of the least of these My brothers, you have done it unto Me." Another held out for solitude which enabled one to talk quietly with God. Still another held out for despising this world's goods, since the Kingdom of Heaven is promised to the "poor in spirit." Finally Antony said:

"All these things that you have mentioned are necessary and useful for those who thirst for God and desire to come to Him. But the experiences of many men do not allow us to call any of these the greatest gift. For we see many suddenly diverted-men who have fasted and watched with the greatest diligence, who have so spurned all riches that they did not allow themselves any food or money above what was necessary for the day, who were zealously compassionate with total devotion. But their progress was cut short by an incongruous ending. They sullied their fervent devotion, their praiseworthy dedication, by finishing miserably. And so we can see what is most necessary to bring us to God. For in all these men who excelled in the works of virtue, discrimination alone was missing. Without it they could not endure unto the end. No other cause for their fall can be found except that, being insufficiently taught by their elders, they were unable to attain discrimination, which teaches the seeker to avoid the extremes of severity or of laxity and to travel by the royal road."

Cassian gives (from Scripture and from his own time) examples of men who had been diligent and dedicated but ended ignominiously when they strayed from the path. The most famous example of course is King Saul, who had everything given to him, but ended his life as a suicide because he would not listen to the instruction of the prophet Samuel. We too have known those who have suffered similar relapses, although they have not ended so dramatically. The most obvious fact in the history of men's search for God is that many have started well, but few have ended well. As Paul said to the Galatians, "You did run well. Who stopped you from believing the Truth?"

Cassian insists that discrimination depends on following the teaching and the example of the masters; it is lost when one depends on his own judgment. So he writes:

"The arts and studies that have been discovered by the ingenuity of men are profitable only for this temporary life, since they belong in the realm of the things that can be seen and handled; yet they cannot be mastered by anyone without instruction. But the art of seeking God is hidden and invisible; it can be seen only by the purest heart. How silly it is to believe that it alone does not need a teacher! - especially since a mistake in it does not produce a momentary damage that is easily repaired, but causes the loss of a consciousness."

The teachers whom Cassian was recommending were the "seniors": that is: those who had put in thirty or forty years in seeking God. The catch is of course that, then as now, not all who had put in a long time were qualified to teach or to guide other seekers. The value of a spiritual guide depends not on his age (much less on his position or prestige), but on his devotion and the spiritual work that he has put in. "For the riches of the seniors does not consist in their gray hairs, but in the industry of their youth - the reward of their former labors. Therefore we are not to follow the path and the teaching of all seniors, but only of those whose lives we find praiseworthy for integrity."

Throughout Scripture the call rings to listen to true teaching. "The first and great commandment is, Hear, O Israel. ... Hear, and your soul shall live. ... A wise man will hear and accumulate instruction. ... Wisdom cries out in the streets. ... He that hears me will live in hope and will be fearlessly free from all evil. Fools despise instruction."

We need this instruction. The Way that leads to Life is narrow. It gets narrower the further we go. And the penalties for getting off of it become greater. We need true discrimination. As Cassian said: "With it the seeker can with much less labor reach the high path of his goal; without it many labor harder, but can never attain the height of perfection. Discrimination is the mother, the preserver, the ruler, of all the virtues."

The title by which Jesus Christ was most often addressed during His earthly sojourn was Teacher. (The King James Version obscures this by translating the title as Master.) He is the Only Teacher. So if we have found any who have been so dedicated to Him as to become channels for His teaching, we had better cling to them and do our best to follow their instruction and their example. The rewards for success and the penalties for failure are too great for us to be able to afford to do otherwise.

SPIRITICITY, January 1964

DIVINE INSTRUCTION

By H. B. Jeffery

WE ARE so constituted that we become like that on which our gaze is fixed. And so if we keep our mind's eye turned to the Divine and fix it steadfastly upon the Eternal, we will find that there is a releasing, a letting go, of formulations that our own imagination has made.

We find that down over the track of our uplifted gaze there descends the divine alkahest, the dissolvent that dissolves all unlikenesses to God. It was called by the ancient Hebrews the Grace of God, His free Grace. It asks no questions of anybody - whether he is good or bad, bond or free. Whoever will, may look up and, by keeping the mind upon the Divine, find that there comes down over the track of his vision instruction from On High. "I, the Lord, will do these things," says the Divine. "Turn unto Me, and I will turn unto you. ... I am the Lord that healeth thee."

Turn away from those things that your own powers have made and return to the Almighty. Then you shall be set on high. The false formulations of the human imagination will dissolve under the action of That of which you will become conscious.

There is only one thing you have to do, and that is to be obedient to the high call. It is with the eye of the mind that we look toward the Presence of God, the One Spirit of the Universe. The glory and the radiance of the Divine is all roundabout us.

If we keep our attention fixed on the Eternal, we find our ears are more and more open to hear the music of the spheres. We find that in the Presence of the One is the Principle of hearing. If we keep our eye single, we shall find our ears open to hear. We shall find that the Eternal is constantly whispering to us words of wisdom, giving us instruction.

If we keep our mind's eye upon the Divine, we shall find our faculties being quickened. The powers of the mind will be enlivened and deepened. We shall find that in the Presence, in this place we look to, there is all wisdom and all knowledge. We tap that reservoir of understanding and knowledge. We experience that which St. Augustine prayed for when he cried out, "Give me that knowledge which cometh not by learning."

There is a knowledge which comes to us not by learning, a knowledge that comes through a level of consciousness transcending reason. In our work as metaphysicians we see evidence of this constantly. We see children with retarded intellects suddenly moving out of their state of confinement; for they are imprisoned - they are asleep.

The knowledge is there. There is no absence of knowledge anywhere. God is the Principle of Knowing and God is omnipresent. So there is no lack of knowing anywhere; there is no absence of knowledge. When we can realize that and know that, when we can keep our eye fixed upon the Author of all wisdom, we shall find that those who are sitting in darkness become inquisitive. We find the chambers of darkness opening to let in the light. Veils that are before the eyes of the mind fall away. The children see and behold and understand. I have

seen the so-called imbeciles and the feeble-minded lifted by the simple fact of my knowing that God, the Author and Intelligence of the Universe, is that Presence near at hand. God is closer to us than breathing, nearer than hands and feet. The Intelligence indwelling in man is raised and stirred as the vision is hurried Godward. So we find the foolishness and ignorance of men being dissolved and dropping away.

Some years ago I knew a teacher who had charge of a school for children of lower intelligence, who could not hold their own with the other students. I directed her attention toward the Author of all wisdom and knowledge. She learned that she walked in the Presence of that One and that there is no separation from It. When she went back to school, her pupils began to show intelligence. New light came into their eyes. They became more responsive. They were quickened mentally and they moved into higher brackets of study. The result was that soon the school was almost emptied. The pupils were distributed in schools in the districts where they lived and took their places among the normal students. Some outstripped all others and became the heads of their classes.

When we are undivided in our attention and always remember that we walk in the Presence, that we are looking into the face of the Divine, we find that there is always taking place something of a remitting action: a dissolving of something false within us - some discord, some inharmony, some false imagination. Walking in the light of the Spirit, we walk very lightly. There is a lightness in the heart. Everywhere we turn we behold the Goodness of God - it's all waiting in readiness to serve man. Seeing the action of the Divine, we are inclined to keep our eyes fixed on the One and not to lower our vision.

If we do keep true to the high watch, then we find the faculties within us awakening. We find the power to do things that we never thought of doing. We find that the so-called problems that have puzzled the mind have all become unraveled. We see through them because we are beholding the God that knows no problems, the Infinite Wisdom that created the heavens and the earth. And as we behold that One, we find that what others are striving to know unfolds easily into their mind. The Divine Instructor is waiting.

As we turn to the Divine we find that we do not have to put forth effort. "I, the Lord, will do these things." We find the Father working in us to will and to do of His good pleasure. We find ourselves doing the things that are in harmony with the Eternal.

SPIRITICITY, January 1964

TRIALS ARE DISGUISED BLESSINGS

By Nell Truesdell

OUR TRIALS are our greatest blessings, but we seldom look at them that way. We have tried to avoid trials because we have believed that only in times of joy, health, and prosperity are we blessed. We do not know that such benefits are the fruits of the way that we handled ourselves and our problems when we were swamped in adversity.

We think that if life were a bed of roses we would never complain again. This is not so. Recall how dissatisfied you were when suddenly some vague wish was fulfilled. Instead of ecstatically expressing gratitude you talked about how the manifestation could have been better or might have come at a better time. Criticism and resentment poured from your heart though inwardly you knew that you ought to be grateful.

"In the day of prosperity be joyful." This is more difficult to do than we think. Happiness is often threatened when prosperity strikes. We either grow avaricious or we abandon ourselves to a pretentious display.

Through the years I have seen persons who always meet adversity with complaint and sorrow; but I have also seen them meet prosperity and health the same way. Deep down in their hearts they are unappreciative. To them whatever happens gives them a point from which to voice negation. Of course, they always have something to grumble about. I recall an elderly lady who refused to "change her mind" after her practitioner told her that her attitudes were at the bottom of her physical disability. The lady said, "You change your mind; that's what I'm paying you for."

In a free translation of a statement made by Paul we read: "Live sanely and justly in your present environment." Where else can we live? Our present environment was formulated by our own notions about things. If the environment shows forth lack, ill health, a joyless state, it is we only who have the power to change it. And we have to start at our Source. In the "within" we make our peace with God. We begin to acknowledge that God is good to us. (Consider what would have happened long since if this were not so.) When negative motives rear their heads we refuse to be led back into despair or resentment. Immediately, we remember God; we go so far as to "tell" God how wonderful He is. Our words of praise fall back upon us and heal us in marvelous ways.

Our difficulties stem from our not being at peace within ourselves. To be satisfied, we must be at peace; to be at peace, we must be contented. Peace is a gift of God that we may have for the taking. In any adversity we may turn to God and ask for the peace that passes understanding. In all of His experiences Jesus Christ aligned His attention with God's Attention toward Him. He tells us that we too may do this.

Alphabet of
DAILY MEDITATIONS
For Every Week Day of the Month

JANUARY, 1964

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 for the prize of the high calling of God.
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 (said Jesus).
29. He was ZEALOUS for his God.
30. The Father loveth the Son.
31. God is our refuge and strength.

"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."

SPIRITICITY is the Working Power of the Spiritual Principle
as electricity is the working power of the electrical principle.

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