

NEWNESS OF IDEAS AND PURPOSE

By Alden Truesdell

THOSE who have been filled with the Gospel of Jesus Christ have always reported newness of ideas - newness too of purpose. For the nature of the Gospel expands the investigator out of the confines of the material and personal into a more expansive, impersonal way of life.

Only that person who directs every other person to his own Christ within can say, "This is the Way."

To the religious leaders who had tried to silence them, Peter and John said: "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

The wisdom of the decision made by these, who were chosen as the proclaimers of the Christ Gospel, was proved by their works, including their miraculous release from prison. Such decision, such integrity, always begets angelic ministry, which liberates from all the machinations of men.

Today many fear that mankind has developed only to liquidate itself. Many do not know where to turn. For scientists are the new aristocracy; and if scientists are unable to save mankind, where will mankind turn? If those who should be saving mankind are devising weapons to destroy it, this is a critical state.

Luke gives us the answer: "When ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified. . . . These shall be . . . distress of nations, with perplexity; . . . men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. . . . When these things begin to come to pass, then look up and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

We are not advised to anticipate these things or be morbid about them; we are not to make a virtue of viewing them with alarm; but we are to look up. We are to know that destruction destroys itself, but does not affect Indestructible Spirit. We are to believe in an all-protective defense, set up by a Wiser Scientist than the greatest among our great men of this scientific age.

Jesus used a higher intelligence than any other man of record. The works that He did were constructive rather than destructive. The Science of Life that He used was a benevolent activity that always healed the sick, raised the dead, cast out demons, and fed the hungry.

It also taught the Gospel, which was a better way of life for all who subscribed to it.

It is my belief that if anyone will get a Red-letter New Testament and read the words of Jesus Christ over and over, he will be changed, and that change will be for the better. Seeds planted in consciousness will bring forth fruit thirty-, sixty-, and an hundredfold. These words of Jesus Christ considered and cultivated in consciousness will yield a good harvest - in fact

the best, because these words are Spirit and they are Truth. They will accomplish the purpose for which they were originally expressed.

This is one matter to which I can bear witness; for early in my time of aspiration, a little book came to me, titled The Sayings of Jesus. It contained all the words of Jesus Christ from the four Gospels, and nothing else. I ate this book. Being the prodigal who had investigated the places of self-indulgence, where the living was at times riotous, I had need of indoctrination and study. And this book seemed the most logical manual for this indoctrination. It proved all of this, and more. Sometimes hours of reading these words of Jesus Christ were needed before I had enough confidence to speak from a pulpit. Even today I feel fortified after reading some of the words of Jesus Christ.

Just recently this little book came to hand as I was cleaning my desk. The cover was gone, the pages loose and not in sequence; but the words seemed even more vital than when I had first read them as a protective measure when I was running scared. What was new at that time has now become a way of life, in place of the old way of doing to be seen of men and of doing as other men do.

Sometimes, going in the Way of Truth may seem to be the lonely way, and indeed it is if one is dependent upon any person for his contentment. But if anyone loves the Lord, his Good, with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength, he will not be dependent upon any person and will not lack for companionship. For he will, as Jesus said, have the Father: the most friendly and most companionable of friends.

Once, in an upsurge of gratitude for such friendship, I broke out with the words: "I thank You, my Friendly Father, for this fabulous fortune, fully formed for my fond favor."

Until we find the major purpose of our lives, we may sometimes envy those who seem to have found theirs. Nowhere more than in the Scripture do we find examples of those men who have found complete satisfaction with their goal: men like Abraham, Moses, and Paul, who were willing to give up all possessions and securities for inner spiritual urge which often took them into foreign countries among strange and even hostile people.

Man's true goal is to find That which caused him to be, and the purpose for which he was caused to be. Men spend whole lifetimes seeking security, satisfaction, contentment. But if anyone could only realize that his one goal is to find his Spiritual Self, to be his Spiritual Self, and thereby to bear witness to his Spiritual Self, he would then find what the Psalmist found when he said, "I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with Thy Likeness"; and what Jesus expressed when He said, "For this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify Thy Name."

SPIRITICITY, January 1967

YOUR WORD OF POWER

By H. B. Jeffery

"IN QUIETNESS and in confidence shall be your strength." In the quietness of the Presence of the Divine, giving our attention to Him, we are renewed in strength of mind and body. He that returns to the Almighty shall be built up.

The All-wise, All-knowing One has a purpose for each one. You came into the world under some great declaration of Truth. Perhaps you have never known what it is, but there is a secret text - your word of Truth - that came with you. It is the working principle in your life. It is your secret doctrine. If you do not know it, turn back in memory to the first statement of Truth that you saw in the Scripture - or anywhere - that affected you, that stirred you more than any other. If you abide in that and act according to it, you will work back to your own text - the word that brought you into being and that you personify.

Have a word that you hold secret and sacred, the word of Truth that came to you way back, and stirred you. Hold it; the time will come when it will hold you and will act automatically without any volition on your part. It will go out into the world and it will affect the whole world of mankind.

We are all "members one of another"; when one moves, all move. Everything is subject to the activity of man; so if man realizes the Truth of Being, he will find that the outer is stirred by him and that it is always stirred into righteousness, into health.

But sometimes before that healing there has to be a breaking-up of the old formulations of the mind, the beliefs we have accepted, the old-wives' tales that have come down to us and have been accepted automatically. These have taken such firm root in us that when the word of Truth acts, it causes agitation and sometimes great fear. But there is nothing to fear. Turn within; be of a firm mind. "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." Here is a test, a challenge to you. Abide in the word. "Stand fast in the faith." If you do you will have the joy of seeing a new light come into the eye. So fear not when you see disturbances in yourself or in another after the word of Truth has been spoken silently or audibly. Rejoice, stand fast, do not doubt, but keep your vision steadfast on the One.

Most people need shaking; so the Spirit shakes them. It shakes them out of the old order and wakes them out of sleep. As it says: "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead"; "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee."

Paul had a word that carried him; "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." It carried him through stress and strain and out into victory. He did wonderful healings under the power of this word. He carried a shipload of people through a great storm and saved the lives of all of them. He then healed many sick and ailing on the Island of Melita. They "came, and were healed."

If you will hark back to the first great truth that dawned upon your consciousness, if you will abide in it and hold it silently, returning to it often, you will find that it will become a working power. It will act within you and within all your affairs; it will give a certain tone to all your actions; it will become a harmonizing power wherever you are. If you return to it when you meet a condition of discord and inharmony, you will find that it will still the jangling chords and bring harmony roundabout you. But sometimes you will find that it first causes people to become disturbed. "I am for peace," the Psalmist said: "but when I speak, they are for war."

You remember that the Apostle Paul was accused of being a disturber of the peace, although he was a peaceful man. His sense of peace disturbed those who were not at peace within themselves; it uncovered their condition; it shook them.

Often your silent word of Truth will shake somebody and he will not feel very well. You may wonder why he is disturbed; but when you meet a condition of this kind that has been brought about by no apparent reason, you may know that there is a working of the Holy Spirit and that it is waking up some old formulation in the mind and body. Here is the time for you to stand fast to your text - whatever it may be. If you do stand fast and unwavering, you will find that this disturbance is the breaking-up of some false condition. In the old metaphysics we called it "chemicalization," for the very chemical structure of the body is changed. It is a painful experience sometimes, but you need not fear it. You can rejoice and be glad; for out of the chemicalization will come harmony and order and peace - a new condition of life, a new purpose in the heart. So do not be afraid.

Daniel was shaken when the angel Gabriel spoke to him. He said, "I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business." He rose up a new being, a new character; he entered a new order of life and brought forth the purpose for which he came into the world. So it has been with others - they have felt a chill, a shaking.

If you feel a chill come over you for no apparent reason, you may - if you will look up - behold the Angel of the Presence. There is a high message close at hand for you. If you will look up instead of looking down, you will catch that message and you will find that it is a life-giving, inspiring, energizing message. It has directions for new action. If you look down, you will find yourself going downward.

Never be afraid when you are shaken after you have given your attention to the things of the Spirit and walked consciously with God; for He sends the Angel of His Presence to uphold you and to quicken you. You may fall down first because of your fear, but you will rise again; and when you rise, you will rise in newness of life, with a new strength, a new light upon your path. You will have new courage and confidence.

You take no credit for anything that is done by the Spirit - the Father does all the work. As you abide in the Truth, you find that your word becomes more and more potent. You keep away from personality and you take no credit for what is done, for you know that you do nothing. God, having all power and all intelligence, is the Only Doer. He is the Only One who can do anything; so we of ourselves cannot even think. The Father uses the consciousness to spread His Ideas and impart His Truth to His children. The less we are of ourselves and in the consciousness of ourselves, the more powerful will be our presence.

Everywhere we walk, something will be done. We may pass someone who is in pain and that pain will leave. We may pass someone who is bound by some false conviction, and that will be shaken. He may turn around to look at us and may wonder what has happened. Then he will go on and will feel better because something has been shaken off of him. So everywhere we go, something is done. But it is done by the Father, not by us. It is done because we are in Truth and have stood firm in our word; we have let the word abide in us. Every word of Truth is powerful; it is eternal; it will not cease in its action; it will go on and on.

We realize more and more that we live in Eternity, that man is an immortal being, that he was born of the Spirit before the worlds were formed. We are one with the Christ and the Christ is one with us. As Paul said, "I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me."

Be true to the word of Truth that you feel stirring in you; abide in it. You remember that Paul said to his protégé: "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." Be true to the "doctrine": the word of Truth that has come to you, that has stirred you to the depths of your being, that has meant more to you than any other statement you have heard. Hold fast to it; it will become an automatic working power. It will sometimes cause human discord, but that is the breaking-up of some false condition. After that breaking-up, there will be a reintegration, a harmonizing and balancing of the forces. You will experience a regeneration.

The Divine is ever speaking to the soul of man. He that hearkens will hear him and will be given eternal words: words of power and of healing. So learn to hearken. Be still in the Presence of the Eternal One.

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SPIRITICITY, January 1967

I PETER: TRANSLATION AND NOTES

By Robert Applegate

(Continued from last month)

TEXT: I PETER 2:4-10

2:4) You have come to Christ, as to a Living Stone, spurned by men, but

5) to God chosen and precious. So do you - as living stones - be built up into God's Spiritual Temple - into a dedicated priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices, which are well pleasing to God, through

6) Christ Jesus. (Psm. 50:23: "The sacrifice of praise shall glorify Me." - Rom. 12:2: "Offer yourselves to God, a living sacrifice: . . . your logical worship." - Phil. 4:18: "I have received your offering: a sacrifice well pleasing to God.") For it is written: "I am placing in the Within a chosen, valuable Cornerstone; he who trusts in It will have no cause for shame." (Isa. 28:16)

7) To you who believe, Christ is the valuable price of your ransom; but for those who do not believe, "The Stone that the builders have spurned - this has become the Cornerstone." (Psm. 118:22)

8) But also "a stone to trip over, a rock, to fall over." (Isa. 8:14) They trip who do not believe the Gospel; they were destined for this.

9) But you are "a chosen clan, a kingly priesthood, a dedicated people, God's own subjects. (Peter, Paul, and James say the same things in the same order. There was evidently a common form of teaching accepted by all of them. Roughly, it was as follows:

1] You who accept the Truth of Jesus Christ are a holy "temple": the Body of Christ. But know that by your very acceptance of this fact, you will be tested, as gold is tested in a furnace. Rejoice in your testing.

2] You have been born again - you are new men and women - by your hearing the Truth of Christ.

3] Therefore, put off all hypocrisy, pretense, and meanness; be willing for a while to become as little children in your desire to know the Truth. This will bring you to a pure worship of God.

4] Be docile before God; honor your teachers who represent God. They are truly your father and mother, for they have caused you to be born again.

5] Watch and pray always, "that you do not succumb in the testing."

6] Persevere. "We must run with endurance the race lying before us, looking to Jesus, the Originator and Finisher of our faith.")

You are chosen to show forth the powers of Him who has called you out of darkness into His amazing Light.

10 You formerly were no one's subjects; now you are God's subjects. You once had not received compassion; now you have received compassion.

(To be continued)

SPIRITICITY, January 1967

AS I SEE IT

By Nell Truesdell

When you are aware that something in you is displeasing to God, you are in hell. To get out, be willing to go through any trial that will purify your heart and put you at ease in the Presence of God.

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To receive instruction on any point, closet yourself with God. Wait on God until you are certain that all doubts are removed. Pure Knowing will then reward you.

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The useful things of life cleanse us of useless things. The useful dissolves the useless by revealing its nothingness.

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Water is the natural abode of fish. Not until greed causes a fish to swallow the bait dangling before its eyes does it perish, either by being pulled from the water or by drowning in its natural element.

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"There is a great difference between being occupied with God who gives contentment, and being busied with the contentment which God gives us." -- St. Francis de Sales

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Salvation is rushing toward you, and you say that it is damnation.

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There is a way of knowing God deep inside the heart that has nothing to do with emotions or thoughts. I cannot explain it; to me it is a transcendent knowing.

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The flesh body suffers and dies when the emotions are allowed to run rampant.

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All knowledge is negative because it is gained by effort of learning what has already been discovered. Understanding is positive because it stems effortlessly from the Source of All knowing.

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Love for human beings demands a return. Love for God demands no return, for such love is its own reward.

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Our inner conflicts prompt us to accuse family or acquaintances of being the cause of our unhappiness.

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Shed the shackles of personality.

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Praise God before sickness or lack envelops you. Repair your roof while the weather is good.

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You carry the increase of what you describe, either to God or to others.

Alphabet of
DAILY MEDITATION
For every week day of the month

JANUARY, 1967

2. The New AGREETH not with the Old.
3. He gave them BREAD to eat.
4. Be partakers of the Heavenly CALLING.
5. Wisdom is a DEFENSE.
6. EVERY man . . . should ENJOY the good of his labour.
7. He FILLETH the hungry soul with goodness.

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9. It is GOD that GIRDETH me with strength.
10. All men should HONOUR the Son.
11. The Lord shall INCREASE you more and more.
12. Let us make a JOYFUL noise unto the Lord.
13. We KNOW that the Son of God has come.
14. In all LABOUR there is profit.

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16. God giveth not the Spirit by MEASURE.
17. Ask of the Father in My NAME, said Jesus.
18. A good man OBTAINETH favour of the Lord.
19. Watch with PERSEVERANCE
20. Make me of QUICK understanding.
21. REJOICE, and do good in this life.

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23. SHOW me the path of life.
24. I bring you good TIDINGS of great joy.
25. How UNSEARCHABLE are His Judgments.
26. His Word runneth VERY swiftly.
27. WHOSO WALKETH WISELY, he shall be delivered.
28. You shall be My witness.

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30. YOURS is the Kingdom of God.
31. Be glad, then, ye children of ZION (Peace).

"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.

CHRIST TRUTH LEAGUE, 2400 Canton Drive, Fort Worth, Texas, 76112