

## MOTHERS' DAY MESSAGE

By A. J. Truesdell

The Soul element so evident in creation is a potent factor in any undertaking: particularly, in the genesis and conduct of a ministry. The Soul is usually referred to in spiritual symbology as the Woman, and in the presentation of doctrine, as "Mother."

Mary, the mother of Jesus, became the Mother of Christianity. Who knows but that in this time some woman might have the opportunity to give birth to a new dispensation. Some one who has pondered the truths of Being in her heart so as to conceive within herself the operation and fulfillment of spiritual laws could bring forth a new world teacher who would be Christ incarnate.

The actual processes required in generation probably would not be involved in such an advent for it would be designed to correct a slow process adopted by a race dedicated to the things of flesh. The projection of a New Idea into the consciousness of the race would not involve conception and childbirth as we understand it. Many of the ways of the world are nullified when anyone becomes aligned with the Source of Being. However, before the world can see another Savior such as Jesus Christ there will be tremendous activity in the Soul of humanity.

Numerous women have mothered the many progressive movements and conceived countless ideals which have made for general improvement in various standards of our world. Probably no field offers fuller opportunity to women than does the field of metaphysics. When the history of modern metaphysics is written, many women will receive homage, among whom will be named teachers like Emma Curtis Hopkins, the mother of Higher Mysticism, Mary Baker Eddy, founder of Christian Science, Myrtle Fillmore, founder of Unity, Annie Rix Militz, founder of The Home of Truth, Elizabeth Towne, founder of the New Thought movement, and others who sustained less prominent activities in the world. And who can foretell the rise somewhere in this epic of spiritual labor of some woman who is at present totally unknown.

When crowds see teachers such as these mentioned, many are inspired to go and do likewise. But the percentage of those who attain acclaim is infinitesimal because the labor pains are too great. The majority lower their standard and depart from their ideal because they find themselves on a long, very long, and lonesome road.

Their friends, neighbors, and relatives mean too much to them, and so act as magnets who pull and rend the Soul forces, and the ensuing Soul-struggle within the would-be leaders proves to be greater than had been anticipated. When they relinquish their place of spiritual dominion they find themselves again in a man's world, in competition with men. Here they strive to be independent and successful, and they manage to gain a measure of recognition. But they, and any who observe them realize they have sold their spiritual birthright for a mess of political or professional pottage.

The hand that rocks the cradle and rules the world is often deceived by man's poker-playing propensity at bluff. All who witness the activities of man in his own peculiar realm are under the impression he is having a good time. Women, with a little inner quickening, have felt they could duplicate man's

performance and enjoy what they thought he enjoyed. But a man is a man, and a woman is a woman; and, each is designed for a certain purpose.

A woman's place of power stems from the spiritual or inner nature. And her complete happiness is contingent upon her ability to function in her ordained capacity. Truly woman stoops to conquer when she ceases to ponder the things of joy, beauty, truth, and reality in her rich and prolific Soul-nature, her heart-of-hearts.

Much of the joy of living is not in achievement at all, but lies in the anticipation of something higher, finer, greater, and better in process of coming forth or developing.

Mary's simple assumption of Divinity's capacity to reproduce itself was a greater measure of joyousness than the bitter disappointment she was to experience as a mother witnessing her Son discredited and nailed to a cross.

The Book of Proverbs gives an account of the model Hebrew woman in her domestic and social relations. The position of the Hebrew woman of ancient times compares favorable with that enjoyed by women of the East among the Mohammedans today. She cared for the household, did the spinning, and made the clothes. She took part in the social festivities and even held public positions.

The term "woman" implied tenderness and courtesy. The word "mother" was employed by the Hebrews in a wider sense than is usual with us. It was used for a grand-mother, and even used in reference to any ancestress. The designation was also symbolically applied to the true church; to the kingdom of Judah; to the capital city of a tribe, or country; to the earth; to any female superior in age, gifts, or grace; or, to one who dealt tenderly with people.

God can do wondrous things with women and does not hesitate to use them for his purpose. Nor does he choose them for physical perfection or pulchritude. Sarah, at the age of ninety was no glamor-girl. Even Abraham thought the Lord was joking when he promised that Sarah would bear a son. But the promise was fulfilled, and Sarah became the "mother of nations," and the ancestress of a long line of Hebrew kings.

The truly great men of history have always honored their parents. Moses' preservation and preparation for his great work was the result of the foresight of his mother, and his childhood care of his foster mother. In his great contribution of Hebrew Law and Ethics, parental honor was prominent, as shown by his fifth commandment. This was, in turn, confirmed by Jesus Christ, when he referred to the Law on several occasions.

Sometimes we speak of the Motherhood of God by which we refer to the love quality in the divine constitution. It is a compliment to motherhood to be representative of this compassionate quality, even though the quality transcends the symbol.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, did not hurry to and fro in an attempt to describe the indescribable. Mary, the woman history has honored above all others, has been sanctified and cannonized because she exercised a woman's prerogative of remaining in her area of quietness and pondering in her heart the great majesty and mystery of Being.

All mothers have access to the things Mary pondered in her heart. The compassion of God, which mothers (and women on the whole) symbolize, reveals to them the nature of the conception which takes place in them, and they know that conception is spiritual and that it is immaculate.

While we have considered the regard and esteem great men have held for the mother-principle, we should not overlook the attitude of men of the world -- those who, in Scripture, and designated as publicans and sinners -- whose regard for women amounts to little less than religious worship. To them, an expression of faith, hope, love, kindness, goodness, or gentleness, turns them back in memory to their most realistic symbol of these divine qualities, their mother. Even atheists value the maternal qualities so that the mother easily can be describe as a goddess to the Godless. For those who profess the non-existence of God find the idealistic Soul-quality, as exemplified by mothers, a very stubborn fact.

The Queen of Heaven, the Mother of God, is an exaltation all men, who call themselves Christian, have in common, and in some phases of Christianity she easily has become a rival of the jealous God of old, and of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Savior of mankind.

Mother's Day is designed to honor and glorify the potentially perfect mother, and of course, Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ, is the supreme example.

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SPIRITICITY May 1948

PURITY

By R. A. Applegate, Jr.

Purity is a word that is apt to arouse our antagonism and suspicion as it often seems to carry the connotation of self-righteousness or even hypocrisy. Especially do the words puritan and puritantal seem to convey this impression. True purity, nevertheless, always attracts us. Solomon express this when he said, "He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend."

Purity has been defined as "freedom from mixture or contact with that which weakens, impairs, or pollutes; containing no foreign or vitiating material." It is thus that we speak of pure food, pure gold, and sometimes refer to a statement, or some unreality, as a pure lie. That which contains nothing foreign to itself is "pure". Music which is free from harsh quality or tone is pure music. We call water pure when it is bright, clear, and refreshing. Similarly, a pure heart is one that is free from self-seeking, from double-mindedness, from belief in evil; in short, free from looking after those things that pass and are not.

Purity is freedom. Not only is it freedom from what would vitiate or pollute, but it also confers freedom in a larger sense. Only the pure in heart are truly free. All others, while imagining that they are exercising free will are in bondage to their false beliefs and are no better than automations. By trying to assert their independence from God, they have lost the freedom which they had in him and which they can regain only by returning to him.

Purity is beauty, always refreshing and stimulating. The sculpture and architecture of the ancient Greeks is perhaps the most beautiful that has ever been created, so that after 2000 years it still excites our awe; yet its most outstanding characteristic is its simplicity and purity, its freedom from

unnecessary and "foreign" ornamentation. By these qualities it has attracted men in such a way that they never tire of looking at it or taking pictures of it. Similarly, some men find delight in pure mathematics, while others seek refreshment in the cleanness of woods after a rain, or in the prospect of a clear mountain lake or stream.

Purity is the heart confers the beauty of holiness, which is true loveliness. Such beauty is always lovable and always arouses our admiration, awe, and affection. The outer package in which it is presented does not affect our attitude toward it. Socrates and Abraham Lincoln are examples of men whose external features were ugly, but who truly were beautiful (and accordingly beloved by many) because of the purity of their characters, the guilelessness and sincerity of their motives, actions, and words. Jesus Christ, the bloom in the garden of man, was the purest and most beautiful who ever trod this planet. He alone could say, The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

Not only is purity beauty and freedom, but it is also the way to the Father's house; for it is the pure in heart, and they only, who shall see God. Thus it is that the first step in the upward way is always purgation or purification. John said, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear which we shall be: but we know that when he shall appear (in consciousness) we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." Here we are told not only the goal but also the way to it; for the hope is not only the reason for our undertaking purification, but it is also in itself a purifying power. Jesus Christ, moreover, gave further instruction, "Now are ye clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me." "If thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light." "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself."

Our denials are our first step in the way of purification. By them we erase the false beliefs that have encrusted upon our mind, so that we may ascend to the realization that we are now pure as God is pure, beautiful as God is beautiful, and free as God is free. Our next step is the recognition of the work which Jesus Christ did, the abiding in him, the affirmation that we are clean through the word which he has spoken and because of his atonement, "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous in all good works." In all this we are striving to keep our eye single and we keep trying until we are able to walk through the world without being of it, without being touched by it.

Socrates realized the need for purification and said that a man should fly from all but the necessary use of the eyes and ears in order that the consciousness gathered into itself by itself alone might come to know Truth and Beauty. This is the true denial and affirmation: the withdrawal of the attention from the external and the giving of it to God. This the way and there is none other. All other steps we may take are but helps in the attaining of this.

Perhaps the most powerful purifying agent, at least for the beginner, is the words of Jesus Christ. Those words which are Truth and Life and which "shall not pass away," if read either silently or aloud, will cut to the heart of whatever negation has been admitted into the consciousness and will cut it out, leaving a sense of freedom, joy, and peace. If we abide in these words, our hearts and minds will be opened to receive those things which we cannot now bear. Then we shall be free and beautiful with the light of Spirit. We shall discover that "Unto the pure all things are pure." We shall enter into the

purity and the glory and the majesty of our Sonship, after which we shall bring forth fruit that will bless the nations.

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SPIRITICITY May 1948  
GOD SUPPLIES YOUR NEED  
By Nell Truesdell

One interpretation for the word need is "any requirement of an organism, native or acquired, which prompts to action." This action, in man, is experienced as a desire for something which seems to be lacking.

Whenever there is activity, there is hope of fulfillment. Any condition which prompts action offers an opportunity for growth and expansion, and this is good. For the law of life is growth; and, the law of growth is an outpouring and an infilling.

If an individual responds favorably in any exigency, the very heavens open to help him have unstinted abundance of whatever is necessary for his immediate satisfaction. Whether the demand is for some form of good in mind, body, emotions, or material affairs matters little. The direction and degree of response does.

We have heard the teaching that there is always an abundant supply awaiting every demand; that the supply and the demand are equal; we cannot have one without the other. Why then, does so much want appear in the world? Why does not the abundant supply fill up all the ceaseless demands made for it?

The answer can be found in one word -- SEPARATION! Man feels he is separated from the things he believes he needs. He does not know how to bridge the great void which stands between his sense of need and the full satisfaction of that need. I should say one reason why this remains a fixed state so far as man is concerned is because he has little sense of appreciation.

Any man possesses what he appreciates, whether it be from one extreme of lack, to the other of super-abundance (of anything, be it health, wealth, peace, wisdom, and so forth). A man will always give undivided attention to what he appreciates. So all our instruction telescopes into this simple fact, a man draws to himself exactly that to which he give his attention. If he cannot attend to anything but lack, need, want, unsatisfied longing, he continues to have or experience increased unfulfillment.

On the other hand, if a requirement is felt which tends to activate or move a person toward attainment, the great void shrivels or dissolves as a mist before the sun. His sense of need should prompt the recognition that the need is but an indication of some form of good right at hand ready to become manifest. It is the good pressing in upon the consciousness that is interpreted negatively and, instead of receiving "the good," the sense of not-having is quickened and the demonstration is forestalled.

God has his own way of dropping into our life and environment whatever prosperity, plenty, opulence -- any good at all -- he has first prompted us to claim. Generally our attitude to the good crowding in upon us is one of negation. NO! is our response. And that response is a clear indication of the degree of gratitude, appreciation, thankfulness, we possess in consciousness.

We have the promise that God will supply all our need, not according to the need, but "according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." This is so tremendous we hardly know how to take it. However, we should be simple enough to say in our hearts, "According to his riches means a lot more than I myself am able to conceive, so I shall take him at his word."

"Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee." "If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up."

The quickest way to return to God is to look toward him and be grateful. One glance upward gives assurance. We could, if we dared, so school ourselves that any need that arose in any phase of our living would prompt us instantly to look God-ward and respond, "Thank You, Father." The intensity of response toward God would act as a measure of our appreciation for his goodness revealing its nearness and ready demonstration through our conscious need.

Let the response always be God-ward, never toward the need. And "trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not to thine own understanding." As we acknowledge him, we shall find that he directs our paths and we shall be filled with plenty.

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SPIRITICITY May 1948  
EXCERPTS FROM LETTER TO MR. TRUESDELL  
By A. H. H. Shaffer

Wit is a shining piece of capricious glass cut by the diamond wheel of intellectuality and glitters in the light of reality. It is sharp and its crystal cleverness can wound.

Humor is a gem that is cut and polished with its own substance; it radiates wisdom, sympathetic kindness, and vibrates inspiration.

Wit take liberties; humor liberates.

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I find in my knowledge about God: Life, Love, Intelligence, Substance, - that nobody knows when IT happened, why IT is here, where IT is going, or what IT is for - but that IT IS now, and nothing else matters; and, there is no cause for reason.

I see the pattern of events around me, and the shape of things as they seem to be, and I know I am a part of it now -- so there is nothing for me to think about, for it is all working out all right.

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There is a time in every man's education when he arrives at the conviction that envy is ignorance; that imitation is suicide; that he must take himself for better for worse as his portion; that though the wide universe is full of good, no kernel of nourishing corn can come to him but through his toil bestowed on that plot of ground which is given to him to till.

-- Emerson, Self-Reliance

Alphabet of  
DAILY MEDITATIONS  
For Every Week Day of the Month

May 1948

1. I will give you ASSURED peace.  
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  3. He which soweth BOUNTIFULLY shall reap.
  4. CONSIDER the work of God.
  5. DISCRETION shall preserve thee.
  6. EXECUTE judgment in the morning.
  7. Ye are My FRIENDS.
  8. GLORY ye in His holy Name.  
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  10. Rejoice in all ye put your HAND to.
  11. IN all things I am INSTRUCTED.
  12. My JUDGMENT is JUST.
  13. Thou hast searched me, and KNOWN me.
  14. In all LABOR there is profit.
  15. Herein is a MARVELOUS thing.  
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  17. Be ye partakers of the divine NATURE.
  18. As we have OPPORTUNITY, let us do good.
  19. Let us go on to PERFECTION.
  20. QUICKEN me according to Thy word.
  21. Hear my REASONING and hearken.
  22. Thy house SHALL be SAVED.  
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  24. TAKE the water of life.
  25. Look UPWARD.
  26. I saw the VISION of God.
  27. WASH me, and I shall be WHITER than snow.
  28. Rest YOURSELVES.
  29. Where is thy ZEAL?  
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  31. I rejoiced in the Lord.  
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- Please join us in DAILY MEDITATION.