

SPRITICITY September 1944

Beloved of God, greeting:

All that man is or has is God. Man is a pensioner, dependent upon the inspiration of the Almighty for his every breath. When man comes to himself, he sees God as a beneficent presence which conceives, creates, sustains, overbroods, and perfects him. He also sees that his meat is to do the will of the Father.

He sees the folly of trying to build according to any pattern other than the pattern on the Mount. Other foundation can no man lay. When he does this, his kingship is revealed, his manhood is established.

No matter how beautiful you are, or what great and magnificent things you have accomplished, looking at God is more important than looking at yourself or what you have done.

The only work that is being done is the work God is doing. God works in truth.

You have nothing to give to God but your attention. Give your attention to God until you find God's intention for you. Then you will know how to be a partaker and a distributor of that intention.

The highest use for all faculties in man, the highest, more pleasant and profitable work of man, is to see his own activity as God working in and through him. Whatever man wants done is already accomplished in God. Man is to acknowledge this, to delight himself in this fact.

God is working you and me into the completed work of the Christ, just as surely as yeast works in bread-dough. While at times we may seem to be only partly leavened and half-baked, the processes of God working go serenely on.

Sincerely yours,

A. J. Truesdell

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DENIAL

Denial is as old as man. With his first grunt of negation man emphatically pushed from him whatever it was he did not want. Through the ages we have become so proficient in warding off any and everything approaching us that we appear to have lost the faculty of discriminating when we should or should not say NO!

We repudiate our talents, our abilities, our opportunities. To anybody and anything that impels us to exercise our prerogatives we wail NO! This negation, so glibly practiced, actually nullifies our efforts to achieve satisfaction. And we wonder why our way through life is so difficult when we have tried so hard to be successful.

The grave faults in practice of denial to and within ourselves we also attribute to God. Mingled with our petitions to him is an assured attitude that he won't give us what we ask. And right here we are guilty of withholding from ourselves the very blessings we are entitled to enjoy by the simple right of being able to ask for them at all. For our request indicates fulfillment, though we see no manifestation as yet. We can never ask for what we cannot receive, or are unable to bear.

We want to learn the proper practice of denial so that we may enjoy its privileges and benefits, and do no further damage to others and to ourselves. When we turn to our dictionary, we find at least two definitions for the word DENY:

- (1) To declare not to be true; contradict.
- (2) To refuse to grant; to withhold; to refuse to gratify or yield to;
as, to deny a request, an inclination.

In our general practice of denial the second explanation of the word is the more familiar. In social relationships we discover our first reaction to others invariably is that of refusal. No matter what suggestion is made, or what thing proffered, our first tendency is to say NO! because we fear we are inferior, or that others will laugh. So the gentle grace engulfing and filling us is rejected. We are so hardened by narrow concepts and limited views that it rolls off into nothingness and we are left baffled and defeated.

We must never use denial to keep our good from us. We should never betray our nature in the foolish idea of appearing unselfish or magnanimous before others through abnegation and non-acceptance of what is presented. We should learn to prepare ourselves to stand firm, ever-ready to yield to and benefit by the good so generously presenting itself to us.

The key to the constructive and mysterious power of denial is to know when and where to direct it. Remember, in one sense it means non-acceptance, non-response to your good pressing in upon you; in another, repudiation of what appears to be true but is not true.

We learn the secret that opens the floodgates to the very Kingdom itself through understanding how to declare not to be true that which appears so. We cease to judge according to the appearance. We go direct to the heart of the matter and work from there.

If someone should insist that the road upon which you are driving narrowed at the farthest visible point, you would say NO! The road ahead is just as wide as where you are and you know it. You contradict, if necessary, any other insistence. You turn away from the mis-statement. You surrender, not to the appearance, but to what is true.

All true denial is surrender to, or of, something. For example; we surrender to the influx of knowledge and ignorance disappears. If there is no wish to give up ignorance, it is retained and left to flourish, though it is nothing. But if the opposite - knowledge - is sought, then non-knowledge, the nothing that appears to be something which blocks and prevents reception, must be relinquished; and that which is surrendered to takes its place.

To grasp the better fruits of life we must let loose of what is already within our hold. We must be as willing to unlearn as to learn.

To make any progress, steadfastness of purpose and determination to forge ahead must be secured. There must be no arguing for or against; no whys and wherefores.

The simplest denial is NO! It must be spoken to the appearance, to the sum total of human or finite experience as contrasted with the reality of the absolute. This is quite a different practice from the general act of refusing our good.

A well-aimed NO! reverberating through the corridors of consciousness is charged with a force so dynamic that all that is unreal disintegrates and topples into the sea of nothingness whence it came. Only Reality can stand the onslaughts of a well - directed NO! Whatever in you remains undisturbed after you have spoken this denial is real. All else is naught, and the quicker you let go of it, the better off you will be.

Take a day off to say NO! to everything and everybody. This can, and should be, practiced quietly. If you understand it, you will find this instruction is not in contradiction of what has gone before. The two methods of practice are different.

To everything that appears say NO! To whatever you think say NO! To all that you feel or react to say NO! To whatever your senses report say NO! Let your NO! be resounding, yet quiet, assured. This clean-cut simple declaration will cut away in wide swaths all that is baneful, malignant, blighting, dismal, gloomy, and death-dealing.

The word, backed by purpose, used wisely, and spoken softly, will do wonders in redeeming consciousness.

We suggest speaking softly, for denial is apt to cause great disturbance among thoughts and feelings. Much like hitting a nest of hornets with a well-aimed pebble brings the inmates out to battle. Or, striking aimlessly with a dry cloth at dust on a table-top serves only to scatter, not eradicate it.

Coat your word NO! with love, compassion, understanding; like you would pour oil on a dust cloth and then mop up.

After you have received this baptism of the NO! that makes straight the path of the Lord, actively engage in giving the attention of your mind to God only. Breathe softly, THOU ONLY. Or, the Name, JESUS CHRIST, lovingly.

We may turn to him at any time and discover principles. Jesus' experiences prior to active ministry, according to the first three gospels, were primarily acts of denial. In his transition, he said NO! to an old way of life. As he moved toward the new, he meekly submitted to water baptism by John the Baptist.

Water is a cleansing agent and symbolizes a relinquishing attitude of mind by which a great mass of thoughts, the fruit of experience in a limited material, mental, and spiritual environment, are broken up and floated or washed away. The first step in building a consciousness of truth about God is to let go the already built-up consciousness of error, based on human experience. The process is facilitated by wise use of denial.

His next major experience was in the wilderness where he rejected the world, the flesh, and the devil, revealed through the symbolic story of his temptation.

After any dynamic rejection of what has been known and relied upon as true, (always followed by an assurance of favor with God - - This is My Son,) a man finds himself in a wilderness, or waste place in consciousness. In this uncultivated and undisciplined region, all sorts of schemes for personal advancement present themselves in glowing tones and colors. Treasured personal ambitions tempt him to utilize his God-given, the as yet untried and unproved spiritual powers to exercise rule over persons and regions in the world.

The first temptation: This is a hungry country, feed it; a sure way to popularity. But Jesus answered, Man does not live by bread alone. He realized that materiality can never satisfy the soul ever hungry for the courts of the Lord. "My heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God."

The second temptation: Sensationalism, even if achieved through wrong methods, will draw crowds. But Jesus already knew the flesh profited nothing. Lusts and passions agitating the mentals and emotions (physical and social) are not conducive to a state of spirituality. They tempt, while promising immunity and protection; though pleasant to the senses, destruction follows in their wake. This man, wrestling with his indwelling Lordship, realized how unsafe it would be to display spiritual powers to the glazed gaze of uncomprehending mortals.

The third temptation: Be a great power among men; be willing to pay the price for world-rulership; satisfy all personal ambitions. But his third masterly decision was to refuse to use his spiritual prerogatives to elevate himself as a world-leader and appease this craving to exhibit satanic self-power, as the power originated in himself. Worship God rather than self, he settled with unquestioning determination to serve the only Ruling Power there is.

From these first four major movements in Jesus' life we may formulate four denials that will aid us in our on-going.

1. The past offers no life to sustain me.
2. There is no nourishment in materiality.
3. There is no gratification in desire.
4. There is no attainment in personal ambition.

In turning away from all that pulls him into the choppy seas of mutation, man experiences remission, redemption, forgiveness. For what he turns from he lends no support to and it ceases to exist for him.

Denial is not a shifting of one set of thoughts to displace another. It is a complete turning away from things that come to pass so that things eternal may engross the attention. The Master did this successfully, and he commanded, FOLLOW ME!

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SPRITICITY September 1944

Dear Friend:

The CHRIST TRUTH LEAGUE stands steadfast in the realization that God is Good and God is All. Our prayers and blessings go out to you daily. In this way we serve him who loves all.

About the best gift we can offer our fellow man is freedom. And next best, perhaps, is loving service in Christ.

Blessings and benedictions, in His Name.

Lovingly yours,

Nell Truesdell

Alphabet Of
DAILY MEDITATIONS
For Every Week-Day Of The Month

SEPTEMBER 1944

1. My word ... shall ACCOMPLISH that which I please.
2. I am He that BLOTTETH out thy transgressions.
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4. CONSIDER the work of God.
5. DECLARE His glory.
6. Seek that ye may EXCEL.
7. The Lord make His FACE shine upon thee.
8. and be GRACIOUS unto thee.
9. Make me to HEAR joy and gladness.
*
11. The INTEGRITY of the upright shall guide them.
12. JUDGE ye not what is right?
13. KNOCK, and it shall be opened unto you.
14. I have LOVED thee.
15. Look unto ME.
16. Behold, I will do a NEW thing.
*
18. Instruction ... shall be an ORNAMENT OF grace unto thy head.
19. Be PARTAKERS of the divine nature.
20. He QUIETH the earth.
21. Put me in REMEMBRANCE.
22. SEEK and ye SHALL find.
23. I shall TEACH THEE wisdom.
*
25. UNDERSTAND that I am He.
26. O VISIT me with thy salvation.
27. Ye are my WITNESSES, sayeth the Lord.
28. YOUR'S is the Kingdom of God.
29. The ZEAL of the Lord of hosts will perform.
30. In the days of prosperity be joyful.

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DAILY MEDITATION is good practice. A constructive thought in mind bears good fruit and pleasant experiences witness the initial impetus. You are cordially invited to join with us in keeping each statement. Our blessings go out to you in His Name.

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