

THE
BROKEN
BARRIER

BY
CHARLES E. HEDGES

The Broken Barrier

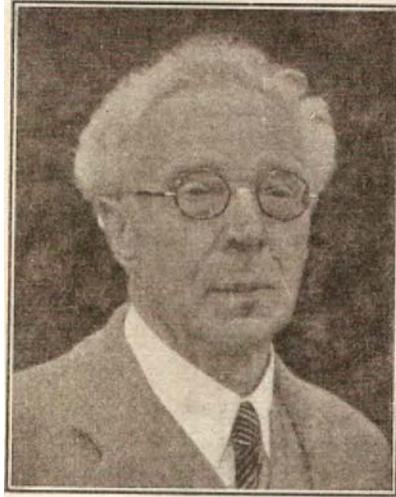
*A personal testimony to the Truth of Spirit Return
and Spirit Communion*

By
CHAS. E. HEDGES

THE SPIRITUAL ADVENTURE

*"He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness,
but shall have the light of life."*

*To all my inspirers upon earth and in the
Spirit World, this work is lovingly dedicated.*



MR. CHARLES HEDGES, G.W. Dipl.

Wherefore life's voyage? Whither are we bound?
What great eternal purpose do we serve?
And why these inner yearnings of the Soul,
E'er striving after truth; e'er seeking God?

GEORGE CALVER.
("The Golden Thread")

The only barriers that exist between the two worlds
are those created by the mind of man.

ZODIAC.

PREFACE

In the following pages, the reader will find the testimony of those who have discovered the magnitude and reality of life after death.

In the new life they apprehend the joy and wonder of the Creative Purpose. It will comfort those that mourn and renew faith where there has been doubt, for all speak of God's love and of the beauty of the conditions in a world of opportunity for spiritual advancement.

There is a great need for the Truth concerning survival, for the mind of man has been obscured by opinions which have no foundation in reality. Surely it is wise to obtain the experiences of those in the Higher Realms of spirit life, who confirm the Revelation and Teaching of Jesus Christ, who said: "Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you." (Matthew 7:7.)

What is written herein is but a brief account of the many activities in the life after death. All must pass from the earth to life in the spiritual world, and wise are they who seek to prepare themselves for the change. That change can bring a joyous awakening in a world of peace and harmony with the Divine Will.

To abandon the Truth for a material conception of life and, with selfish desires, is to pass from light to darkness.

Those who desire further information on the subject of survival are recommended to get in touch with the "Greater World" organization regarding books and other literature dealing with survival, at their headquarters, 3 Lansdowne Road, Holland Park, London, W.11. The organization was founded by Miss Winifred Moyes as a Christ Mission. She was the instrument, or Medium, of a Heavenly Messenger who adopted the name of Zodiac. He is a wonderful exponent of the Christ Teachings and his revelations of life in the world of Spirit are of the utmost importance to all who desire the Truth concerning life after death. Some particulars of his Mission will be found at the end of this book.

I wish to express my gratitude to Mr. W. H. Stephenson, Editor of the Children's Greater World, for helpful suggestions.

CHAS. E. HEDGES.

St. Helier,
Jersey, C.I.

IN QUEST OF TRUTH

We are living in very perplexing times; religion has waned and many have lost faith. The rapid advance of science with its materialistic conception of life and the fear of a nuclear war have had a disturbing effect upon all serious minded people. There have been far reaching changes in religious thought; conflicting ideas and various interpretations of the Christian faith have caused many to feel that religion has no relation to life. This has led to a negation of spiritual values and so the true destiny of mankind is lost sight of.

To the seeker after Truth and to all who desire a renewal of faith and evidence of spiritual realities, the writer seeks to share his experience, with the prayerful desire that it may help others in the quest for Truth.

The welter of life may for a time obscure the Divine Purpose, but the earnest seeker will make discovery that there is more in life than living, more in death than dying.

“IN THE DIVINE IMAGE WAS MAN MADE”

A very elderly friend who had recently lost his beloved wife through death, wondered if he would meet her again; he was not certain whether or not life continued after death. He wrote asking my opinion about the many problems that worried him. During his long life there had been many trials and frustrations, and he asked, “What is the purpose of it all? Why the constant conflict between good and evil?”

In my reply I was able, from my knowledge and spiritual experience, to give him the assurance that death

was *not* the end of all, but the door to a larger and fuller life.

He certainly would meet his loved one, for God has made wonderful provision for His children: and there is, in the Creative Purpose, a Plan which requires for its fulfilment the love and co-operation of all who have responded to the call of Christ.

The answer to our many questions and to man's quest for Truth can only be explained by the assumption that he is a spiritual being, ever seeking freedom from that which hinders the evolution of the Soul.

Hence the conflict and the test, and in accordance with the Divine Purpose the spirit within becomes free. In seeking we shall discover a way out of the problems that beset us, and also that the treasures of the spirit are bestowed by a loving Father.

Survival after death opens the door to a spiritual interpretation of life, and beyond the threshold we catch a glimpse of the glory of the Kingdom where pain and suffering shall be no more.

The testimony given by those in the spirit world concerning life after death is of the utmost value. We get a clearer picture of the destiny of man in his upward climb. There is an awakening to the larger and deeper issues of life with its individual responsibilities, and love's redeeming power is witnessed in all its fullness to bless and to save.

Man must have knowledge of his destined path and such knowledge, wisely used, will give mankind that which the heart desires - joy of life, peace and fellowship in the Christ Way.

Surely it is a blessing to know that loved ones who have passed on are living a happy life, where every opportunity is given for spiritual advancement.

CONTACT WITH THE SPIRIT WORLD

Some time before I had my first evidential psychic experience, I had written in a paper on "Progress" these words – "There is no progress for the individual unless there is immortality."

I was then a student in a class studying biology. The tutor was indignant and criticised me severely for daring to write such a statement. To show how absurd the idea was, the teacher asked the class how many agreed with me, and they, without exception, voted against me.

Yet I felt I was right, although I could not prove my contention. I had been thinking of the inequalities of life, the handicaps from birth - mental and physical - of a great number of people. There was a conflict within the soul of man for spiritual expression. Why the struggle? Why the test? The experiences of life are futile for the individual if there be no survival - no continuing life.

Later, I sought the opinion of a director of studies. He seemed rather surprised, but said after a while: "I feel you are right."

Faith and feeling are the directive power to achievement. - But I desired knowledge; it was given.

A VISIT FROM A MINISTERING SPIRIT

One Sunday morning there appeared before me a visitor from the spirit world. Out of a flame of light, glorious in his spiritual power the form shone clear, revealing a vital personality in whose presence one felt the nearness of the Kingdom of God. The door was closed and his coming was silent.

Such was the peace he radiated that I had no fear, but a feeling of wonder filled my soul as he drew nigh

unto me. I stood in quiet expectancy as his eyes seemed to read my inmost thoughts. I noted his radiant vitality and the beautiful colouring of his robe, the intense yet loving look.

It was a moment of joy as well as of peace as the realization came that I had made contact with spiritual reality. No word was spoken, but impressed upon - my mind was the conviction - "Now you know!" Had the words been spoken they could not have had a greater or a deeper impression.

The vision faded and I was alone again, but for many days I felt an ecstasy of soul which no earthly joy could give. By the grace of God, in that moment of revelation I felt a joy in the knowledge that had been impinged upon my consciousness.

"There is more in life than living - more in death than dying."

Several days passed before I received another message. Then a voice said: "Reveal unto others what a loving God has revealed unto you."

Since those early days it has been my privilege to make contact with many who have passed into the Spirit world. They have given much information concerning their reception on arrival, their way of life, and their efforts for progression; of their joy in the work of bringing back to God those who have fallen by the way; of the reality of their activities in their spiritual conditions. They spoke with sorrow of the difficulty of their efforts to convince a very sceptical earth world of survival after death, and of man's responsibility in the Creative Purpose.

A BAND OF MISSIONARY SPIRITS

In recent years it has been a joy as well as a privilege

to make contact with a saintly band of missionary workers in the spirit world, united in a bond of love to extend the Kingdom of God. (It is usual in the spirit world to work in bands.) Every Tuesday evening, over a period of three years, I and some friends had happy times together as we listened to their testimony and to news of their work and life in the conditions existing beyond the Veil.

The spirit band spoke of their missionary work, how they were united in their efforts for the Christ Mission in the spirit world, and of their endeavour to convince those upon earth of the truth of survival. Many of them gave a review of their life and work upon earth, making comparison with life after death, where they live in a world of beauty and loving fellowship, with every opportunity given for spiritual progression.

The majority had much to rectify; others, because of their good work in the earth life and prayerful desires to help humanity, made early discovery of a fellowship where love and service in the Christ Way gave every satisfaction to the desires of the heart.

In listening to these workers in God's Kingdom as they told of their spiritual life and of their efforts to bring back to God those who were in need of help, one felt the convincing proof that God's Plan was perfect for the evolution of the Soul. No one expressed a desire to live upon earth again, but all stressed the Divine urge to rise to greater heights of glory. One Friend said: "Life is like a ladder, it goes on and on." Their fellowship brought a happiness that far exceeded the fleeting joys of life upon earth.

They spoke of special occasions when they were privileged to see manifestations of the Christ in His Glory.

The Band appeared to be drawn from many sections

of society, and spoke in English, a few with foreign accent. It was a joy to listen to their talks of God's Love and His Purpose for humanity. Always there was a deep reverence for spiritual realities, and in their prayers one sensed the nearness of the Christ, and felt the eternal verities that transcend the limitations of the five senses.

The Kingdom of God becomes a reality as we cast off the fettering influence of worldly desires.

SPIRIT CHILDREN HAVE THEIR PLACE AND DUTIES

With a few exceptions names were not given, but one called Brother John appeared to be the leader of the Band. The name of Sister Antoinette was often heard because she is in charge of many children, who were delighted to make themselves known to the circle.

The first child, Sally, was eager to tell us of the love and care of the "lovely Sister and the happy times she had in her new home and the beautiful country surrounding the home with its flowers, trees and lawns." As the months went by she grew out of her childish ways and helped the younger children in the home. Evidently she told other children of her experiences in speaking to someone upon earth and because of this we made contact with Robert, Cicely and the little "Cuddly girl".

The boy Robert was very different from Sally in his approach to the new conditions, which differed so much from his earthy life, where he had acquired a pugnacious attitude resulting from his environment. He had lived in a rough neighbourhood and found it difficult to adapt himself to conditions where kindness and peace prevailed. He was very amusing with his quaint sayings, and was the first to use the words "Up and Down" when trying to explain the difference between the two worlds. When

first taken to his new home after passing, which, he said, was lovely, it was evident his thoughts centred around his importance for he said: "I wanted to fight but no one would fight me." He certainly improved in his outlook as he grew older, and readily responded to the love and care of Sister Antoinette.

Cicely was very charming and very happy in her new home. She appeared delighted to talk with us, but could not understand why her parents could not see or hear her when she was taken to them by the spirit helpers, but could get no response to her presence. Cicely also told us of her visits to the animals who, to her, were very tame and quite friendly.

The "Cuddly girl" was very young and caused a great deal of laughter by her childish talk and ways. She was called the cuddly girl by the other children, with whom she was a favourite, because she was so small and fat.

These children gave a wonderful impression of the homes in spirit life where they are trained, of the love and care that is bestowed upon them and the beauty of the conditions under which they grow and develop into the character that leads to perfection.

OTHER SPIRIT VISITORS TO OUR CIRCLE

A CROFTER'S WIFE

The reward for doing one's duty

A crofter's wife who had passed to the spirit world after a life of toil, told us of her life and the hard times she had endured while upon earth, contrasting it with the peace and love she discovered after death. Her life upon earth had been one long struggle for existence, and poor accommodation had made life more difficult still. The care of her man and children had taken all her time. She

believed in God, but could not attend any Church because her time was fully occupied.

After death she was met by a very beautiful lady who took her to what she described as a dream house. The beautiful lady said it was given her as a reward for doing her duty to her husband and children under very trying circumstances during her earth life. Describing her new home and the gathering together of relatives and friends who passed before her, she expressed her thankfulness to a loving God for the unexpected kindness she had received and the wonderful gift of a dream house.

It was a moving testimony to the Father's care of His children and the working out of the Law of compensation.

A MINISTER WHO RETURNED TO TESTIFY

The Need for Unity with God's Messengers

One control gave his views upon the splendour of life in the spirit world. He had been a Minister when upon the earth, and now was anxious to reveal God's love and the glory of the Kingdom of God.

His desire was to extend his ministry to those upon earth, by revealing the fact of survival and man's spiritual evolution. He stressed the fact of individual responsibility, because God had given man free will.

He told us of how those in spirit life were making a great effort to reveal the truth concerning life after death, but it was difficult because of the fears of so many upon earth to make contact with the spirit world. He stated there was a great need for unity and co-operation with those in spirit life so that the Kingdom of God should be fully understood. He stressed the fact that "God is Love" - not a God of vengeance. As evidence of this

need he said that, on the lower planes, there are clergy who still preach as mistakenly as they did upon earth.

WORK UPON EARTH A PREPARATION FOR FURTHER SERVICE

One lady gave a short account of her difficulties as a child. As a child she heard about God and the devil and asked many questions. Her mother told her God was a man who lived up above the sky, and the devil was a man who had a big fire and that if she was good she would one day live with God, but if she was naughty the devil would put her in his fire.

As she grew up and attended Church regularly she often heard the words, "God is Love," but could not understand why, if this were true, He had to be feared. Later in life she decided to dedicate her life to God, so entered a Convent, where she still retained her own thoughts. She had to wear uncomfortable clothing, to be always praying and to do much penance. She could not understand why, so, one day, she boldly went to the Head and put her views forward, saying that if God was love, how could He wish for all this misery and unhappiness in His children. She was told that she was very wicked and made to do severe penance for daring to put forward her own ideas.

It seemed to her that only people with money could hope to go to Heaven and this she could not understand. The time came when she passed into spirit life, and to her amazement she found herself admitted without payment and with many friends to greet her. She discovered that love was the dynamic and that God certainly forgives error or sin - God forgives, but those forgiven must rectify all wrongs committed. She found, too, that no man can forgive sin.

Continuing, this sister explained that her time in the nunnery was fully occupied by her religious duties and giving attention to the sick. There were times when she was very tired, but prayer time brought a great blessing, a renewal of spiritual power and restored physical strength, “as though a cloak had been taken from my shoulders. God blessed me.” She continued in the Order until she died, after living to a great age.

In the spirit world, she was greeted by many of the Order and received a loving welcome. It was with a feeling of joy and thankfulness to God that she found herself in such beautiful conditions, a lovely country with trees, flowers and grass. After arrival there was a period of rest, before her real work commenced; she expressed it as “Working for God.”

She gave a brief account of her endeavours to reclaim those who had put God aside while upon the earth and who were now in the lower spheres. Companions by a Glorious Spirit they descended to the lower planes. In descending she noticed that the trees were bare, the grass dry and everything looking very poor. Lower down there were no trees, no grass; also, it was very cold and very little light penetrated the darkness. There they found a gathering of people who were like minded, having discarded God and His Love. Their life upon earth had been selfish and cruel and now their bodies were distorted by their evil thoughts. They crawled along in their misery, having sunk to the lowest depths. The Sister spoke to them kindly and with entreaty, asking them to make an effort to respond to the Father’s Love and to ask for His forgiveness. “Only a few responded - so many crawled away in the mire.”

She told us it was very difficult to help these souls

as they had sunk so low, but the effort to help is continued because it is God's Will that those who had fallen shall be saved; but they must come to God of their own free will.

A MANIFESTATION OF JESUS THE CHRIST

It has been recorded that some of the Band were privileged on special occasions to see the Christ in His Glory. They gave their experiences with humility and reverence.

Conducted by guides, with joyful anticipation they travelled to their destination, meeting others on the way who had also been invited. There was a feeling of joyous expectancy on every side. The glory of the scene with its harmony of colour and the peaceful atmosphere gave each one spiritual contentment. They were a happy, joyous throng in spiritual affinity - a reunion of souls who had responded to the love of the Master. No words could express the ecstasy of the soul as they made visual contact with Him who had given so much for humanity.

He appeared to them in His Glory as Lord of Heaven and Earth, and bestowed His Blessing upon each one of the vast assembled company. His personality and inspiration gave renewal and increase of spiritual power and a greater desire to continue the work of saving those who had fallen by the way.

GOD'S HEALING POWER AND FORGIVENESS

At various times the Band brought a number of individuals who had passed into spirit life and required healing; and others who found it difficult to adjust themselves to the new conditions. Some, through the power of thought, still felt the pain and disabilities of the earth body. Most pathetic of all were those who, because of

their follies upon the earth and denial of spiritual values, now, with sorrow, realized their errors and pleaded for prayers and the assurance that God does forgive the sinner.

It was a joy to witness to the love of Christ made manifest in accordance with the Divine Will. Healing power restored the sick and there was a renewal of faith in a Loving God, and all were helped to adjust themselves to the new life.

This co-operation with the Heavenly Ministry is one of the great joys of Spirit Communion.

SPIRITUAL HEALING

Jesus said to His disciples, “Heal the sick and say: ‘The Kingdom of God is come nigh unto you’.”

When Jesus gave to His disciples this command to “heal the sick” He was speaking not only to them, but to His disciples of all ages that were to follow in just the same universal way as Christians have interpreted His command to “love one another”; and God our Father, Who is ever consistent, continues to bestow healing power on many of His children on earth, that they may minister to their fellow men.

In fulfilment of the Divine Will, many who become conscious of this healing power dedicate their gifts to His service and seek, through prayer, to become cleansed channels, that His healing rays may flow through them for the comfort and healing of those who seek their ministrations.

The Divine instruction being to “preach the Gospel of the Kingdom and heal the sick” requires that a service of spiritual healing shall be an essential part of all missionary work for Christ. Such a healing ministry is no encroachment upon the work of the medical profession, without whose sacrificial work and skill in research and in practice, humanity would have little or no alleviation for their sufferings from disease. It is a laudable work to care for, or to alleviate by medical and surgical treatment, disease of the mind and body, and it is fairly common knowledge that there are many of the profession who, by prayer, link up with spiritual powers and seek Divine inspiration before undertaking a difficult operation, or

when confronted with serious problems in their general practice. All healing work is by the power of God, whether it works through the love of a nursing mother, or by the use of the most scientific development by the medical profession; and the time will come when medical men and ministers of the Gospel will co-operate prayerfully with the Heavenly Healing ministry, and so fulfil Divine Law for the benefit of all God's children.

In the meantime, there are many cases that do not respond to medical treatment, and there are diseases for which there is, as yet, no known or sure cure. Such sufferers often turn in their distress to seek aid from those through whom Divinely bestowed power flows, and where there is faith and prayerful attunement to God's healing power, only good can result. The number of sick in mind and body who have been restored or benefited through spiritual healing grows as the service expands.

An increasing number of Ministers of the Gospel are practising or studying spiritual healing, and they are re-discovering that spiritual influences are able to reach the source of the trouble whether it be of the mind or body. So many physical distresses have their origin in the mind, and to bring harmony and peace in such cases is true missionary work which has the Divine blessing.

Many physicians and surgeons, great and humble, continue their work after they have passed through the Veil. Using their experience gained upon earth, augmented by the greater knowledge and wisdom acquired in their new sphere of activity, they return in spirit to minister through Healing Mediums, both in diagnosis and treatment.

Blessed are the spiritual healers who feel the guidance of God's Angelic ministry, whose healing work breaks the boundaries of normal practice.

For many years the writer has conducted a healing service. It has been the means of restoring many who were sore distressed and has renewed their faith in a loving God. In the spiritual atmosphere created by earnest prayer and compassion for the suffering, the spiritual healers fulfil their God given task.

Spiritual counsel is allied to healing treatment, for surely to heal and to save those who have fallen by the way, is the fundamental work of the Christ Mission.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES OF SPIRITUAL HEALING

To most of us there come times of stress and sickness of the mind and body, when one's soul is racked with tormenting fears in making important and far-reaching decisions. Such a trying experience was once mine and I could not sleep because of the anxiety of the conflict.

The room was dark and I tossed restlessly, my mind in a ferment. Suddenly, I was startled by a penetrating yet soft light which illumined the room and, to my astonishment, I saw that the light was radiating from a hand; the arm and the figure were in darkness. Then I became aware of the hand being slowly passed over my head, bestowing a blessing with healing power.

The effect was instantaneous - I was restored in mind and body. Who can describe the joy of that blessing with its wonderful healing. Peace filled my being, dissolving my fears and anxieties; a peace which transcended all previous experience. In the presence of that saintly being I felt I was vibrating to holy, eternal truths; and, as the storm of my mind was stilled by that majestic and loving touch, I had a foretaste of that peace which passeth understanding.

At another time I suffered a severe attack of Sciatica.

As morning dawned the pain in my back and leg grew excruciating. I could not move and was quite helpless. I lived alone in my cottage and knew it would be a long while, perhaps a day or so, before any neighbour would discover my plight.

In my pain and helplessness my thoughts centred upon the Crucifixion of our Master. I meditated upon His physical agony and the distress of mind which He suffered before His death upon the Cross. As I meditated I became aware of beautifully coloured clouds drifting towards me. They beat upon me in rhythmic waves and I felt the caressing influence of healing power. After a time I felt the clouds completely enveloping my bed in a spiritual atmosphere, relieving and healing, for the physical pains gradually subsided and I felt an exquisite relief. It was an astonishing experience.

Worn with pain and comforted by the relief, I passed into a deep, refreshing sleep. Towards evening I awoke, sufficiently recovered to do my usual work.

THE DESTINED PATH

Life continues after death. Death is but a re-birth to a fuller life; a major event in the cycle of the evolution of the soul; an awakening to eternal realities and the individual's responsibilities in the Divine Plan.

To make progress spiritually many of the prevailing ideas acquired upon earth must be surrendered to a nobler conception of life; crude ideas and opinions fade in the light of revelation, and self-judgment brings an earnest desire to rectify sin and errors.

No one is saved by an unconditional act of Divine mercy - all wrongs must be rectified by love and service to all in need.

Think of death as a gateway to Life Eternal with its glorious vistas of deepening consciousness in which the Divinely-bestowed powers of the soul are developed, not for self-interest, but to the glory of the Creative Purpose in the Spirit's upward climb.

From earthly clay we speed our way
To fairer worlds of love and light;
The jewel within, bright with Heaven's ray
Must strive to mount the Christ-lit height.

As the rising of the morning sun dispels the darkness of the night, so the knowledge of Survival brings light to the mind, and joy to the day of earthly life.

LOVE'S REDEEMING POWER

The Band of whom I have spoken made many references to the Love of God, and the redemptive power of love. In their new life they witness the fulfilment of the life and teaching of the Master when He was upon the earth, and know the power of love to heal and to restore.

The beautiful conditions under which they live, enhanced by the fellowship of spiritual affinity, give a vivid picture of the Will of the Father in His Creative Purpose. On every side they see and experience joy of life in all its fullness. Awareness of God's care and forgiveness stirs the soul to ceaseless effort in its journey towards perfection.

The harmony of their team work is augmented by the power and Blessing of the Christ, for all give of their individual gifts to the upliftment of humanity. Sacrifice is entailed, but love is the impelling power behind all their efforts.

Their contact with Christ, that lovable aspect of God Who gave to the uttermost to heal and give sight to the spiritually blind, adds greater zeal to their efforts and power to achieve.

God's servants are seen in the glory of their light and in the beauty of their appearance, lesser only in degree than He Who is the Light of the World. For in Christ is the Glory and Majesty of God, and Love and Light in all its perfection.

THE LAW OF COMPENSATION

"A bruised reed shall he not break and the smoking flax shall he not quench; he shall bring forth judgment unto truth." - Isaiah 42: 3.

I have but touched upon the wonders of God's love and His provision for all who have striven to live in accordance with the Divine Purpose.

There are many varied conditions upon earth and multitudes have not had an opportunity for spiritual development, but according to the effort made to do their best with the opportunities life presents, they will discover in the new life that their efforts have not been in vain. In that new life fresh opportunities will be given where the spirit of brotherhood is supreme.

Suitable provision is made according to the needs of the individual - healing restores the sick, a friendly welcome breaks down the barriers of race and colour. The Law of compensation provides redress to every soul for the trials and sufferings upon earth.

Every provision is made for the individual to adapt himself to the new conditions and the earnest soul slowly

makes progress; all must rectify past errors, as I have said elsewhere.

This does mean sacrifice, and endeavour to think not of self, but of others, for, in the mystery of sacrifice and the freeing of the soul from self-interest does the spirit find freedom.

To help others who are weak gives spiritual strength to the aspiring soul, and the efforts made add great power in the soul's evolution.

RETRIBUTION

In the lower astral regions are multitudes who are in dire distress. Their condition is the result of a wanton life and cruelty to their fellow men upon earth. The effect of such a life begets squalor and darkness of an intense degree after death, for no one can escape the consequence of a life that has been so contrary to the Divine Law.

We have said elsewhere that compensation is in accordance with Divine Law; so also is Retribution. "The Wages of Sin is Death" - death to all that is of real value in life, in love and in fellowship.

A spiritual life develops in beauty of appearance and in the radiating of light in beautiful colours.

The effect of sin is darkness and, in bad cases, distortion of the etheric body. The habitation reflects the thoughts of its inhabitants. They have denied the Light that illumines the Way. Jesus said, "I am come a Light into the world; that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness." (John 12: 46.) This statement of Jesus is the simple Truth - that a spiritual life is light-giving, and that the negation of spiritual values leads to dark conditions after physical death.

When those who have wandered far from the path that God provided for them desire to break the fettering influence that controls them, and offer a prayer for forgiveness, the messengers of God are able to help the sufferers out of the morass that engulfs them. God forgives the repentant, but it takes a long time to rectify wrongs committed in the past.

The parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11) and his return to his father, as told by Jesus, is a vivid picture of the soul's awakening to the realities of life and its return to the Father.

MAN'S SPIRITUAL LIFE

I have stated very briefly certain facts concerning life after death, and have recorded the evidence and experiences of some who have passed into the Higher Life. The information has been gathered, in co-operation with many spirit friends, over long years of contact with earthly friends who themselves are now ministering in the Spirit World.

We can learn much from these friends, but only by Divine revelation can we know the Creator's Plan for the evolution of the soul. There have been periods in the history of the human race when there was no open vision to link the earth life with the life of the Spirit World; today, barriers are being broken down, revealing a continuation of life that is real and tangible and full of activity. This new experience is essential for man's spiritual progress. "Seek and ye shall find, knock and the door shall be opened unto you," said Jesus.

A material conception of life cannot touch the higher reaches of the soul for there is no lasting satisfaction in the lesser things that touch not reality. We are evolving

souls created in the Divine Image with wonderful spiritual powers, and the destined path is towards perfection. Neglect of this fundamental truth obscures the true meaning of life and leaves us in a morass of doubts and fears.

There is a spiritual interpretation of life, and as the soul responds to the Will of the Father so there will be peace and joy of life: the path leads onwards and upwards towards the Glory of the Kingdom, and the summit of the soul's achievement is in the sacrificial spirit to love and serve, that the Father's Will may be speedily accomplished. So, unless the individual has this consciousness of the Divine, there can be no spiritual progression. If one cannot find God in one's own soul, one will look for Him in vain among the many discordant voices that endeavour to thwart the seeker.

There must be an awareness of the deeper issues of life. To be basically self-centred prisons the Spirit within and the soul is limited to a worldly outlook. Self-centredness is like building around the house a high wall which shuts out the light and makes of it a home of shadows. One becomes a prisoner in a dark cell of misunderstanding.

SURVIVAL - BIBLICAL EVIDENCE

During a conversation about survival after physical death a clerical friend said, "It is all in the Bible." He was right, as Bible students know. It is a book of revelation, illuminating the deeper issues of life and giving a wealth of information about life after death.

The Hebrews of the Old Testament were a religious people convinced that they had been chosen by God, yet, so often, they failed in the trust that had been bestowed upon them. Their prophets and seers were inspired by

messengers from Spirit Life to warn the nation of its many failures and to exhort them to respond to divine guidance; but the people were not always obedient to the Voice that urged them to keep their feet on the path of righteousness, and one notes the pathos of the appeals of God's messengers in their endeavours to save the nation.

The New Testament continues the story.

In every age there have been pioneers who have been inspired to help humanity in the upward climb, but none can excel or even equal the Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, complete in all its perfection. He sought to reveal the Father's love for His Creation, to give sight to the inly blind and to set free the prisoners of darkness. He offered unconditional love compelling in its powers to save, and to overcome the fettering influences that cause so much suffering.

The love and compassion of Jesus for the sinner, His healing work and His Divine claims touch the eternal verities. His spirit of love and compassion lifts humanity out of the valley way into the Glory of the Kingdom; and His example and sacrifice stir the soul to activity - to awaken and face the real issues of life.

His appeal is made not with the command of authority or in the prerogative of might, but with humility and the prayerful desire that the wayward would apprehend God's love and forgiveness and the way of deliverance.

JOHN 12. Jesus said "I am the light of the world, he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Such is the objective of our Lord, and the work of all who respond to the love of God.

God still speaks through chosen servants, but His Voice is drowned in the clamour of worldly interests, and

man sees not the glory of his Divine origin and heritage. God's servants are always ready to inspire and to give support where there is need. Such work is the foundation of all progression.

SPIRIT COMMUNION IS THE CHRIST WAY

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

(Psalm 19: 7 .)

The Christ mission continues in the Spirit World, for there are multitudes who pass unprepared for the life that is before them, they need healing in every respect. The burden of life has pressed heavily upon them, they need the assurance of God's love and forgiveness and that loving service which will direct them to life in all its glory. "God's Law is perfect in its operation."

The saving of the fallen is an important factor in forming the spiritual life. It is a giving of oneself, and to give is to receive in greater measure God's bountiful gifts. Thus progress is achieved by the sacrificial spirit of Love and Service so fully demonstrated by Jesus Christ; and in unity of purpose the ministering spirits serve to the Glory of God and the extension of His Kingdom.

When the limitations of the earth are past the soul has freedom to fulfil the spirit's desire to create, in obedience to the Divine Purpose, conditions that give joy and sweet content. Also, in harmony with the Divine will, opportunity to save the fallen and heal the sick, that all may find peace and joy of life. As one gives, the soul gains in spiritual power and strength, and by the efforts made the eyes are opened to the glories that await the aspiring soul.

Faith is justified, there is a purpose and a plan that requires the love and co-operation of God's children for its fulfilment. The life of the Spirit never dies, being sustained by the Eternal Flame of Creative Love. It is obscured by sin, dimmed by error, but intensified by love. Through experience and change it gathers power and rises to the glory light of the Divine Purpose.

CONCLUSION

On one occasion the B.B.C. gave a series of talks upon "The Theory of Evolution," and one of the questions put forward was, "Will man still evolve?" The materialistic theory of the evolution of man does not consider that man is a spiritual being and that he was created in the Divine Image. Every seed flowers after its kind. So the soul of man must evolve in accordance with the character of his spiritual birth. The physical life upon earth is but a short span in the evolution of the soul; man needs more experience than the short earth life permits for his spiritual development, and this experience is gained within the numerous spheres through which he passes after death. He evolves and develops his latent powers which are his Divine inheritance, as the evidence contained in this book plainly shows.

Death - so called - is but a re-birth into a fuller life, where every opportunity is available to develop those latent powers which were bestowed upon man at his creation. St. Paul says, "There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body." Although the spiritual body is of finer texture, it is real and tangible, and suited to the environment in which it exists, strong in every sense of the word and thus suited to a life of activity. It is a body nearer to the ideal which God intended, with something of the grace of man's Divine inheritance. Through the barrier of the two worlds the hand of fellowship is extended to all who cast aside their fears and prejudice. The knowledge thus gained through communication with those who live and experience the new life is of the utmost value, and will give a new incentive to the individual who

requires positive proof regarding survival after death, and man's responsibilities in the Divine Purpose.

The sincere thinker desires knowledge concerning the Divine urge that is within every soul, but many long for positive evidence before they are convinced and, through communication with God's messengers, will discover the Truth regarding the origin and destiny of man.

There are many pathways to God, yet only by the way that Jesus taught, by love and service, can the spiritual objective be reached. Conscious unity with God's servants will bring wisdom, power and conviction in the battle for righteousness.

Thou hast revealed Truth Divine,
We pass to life for we are Thine;
Thro' Arches of the Spheres we press,
Thy Hand sustains, Thy Will is best.

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