

MYSTIC LIGHT

The Truth Within

“But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause. But when the Comforter is come whom I shall send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father, he shall testify of me, and ye also shall bear witness, because you have been with me from the Beginning.”—John 15:25-27



Oil on canvas, Frederic Shields

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EVER SINCE THE TIME that mankind lost conscious connection with their spiritual leaders and began to roam this planet for eons on their own initiative, truth has been searched for. Once we fell into the paralyzing grip of the selfish expression of our human egos, our thoughts, words, actions, and feelings were used to distort our gift of life into the horrendous mutations of war, poverty, disease, violence, and death.

Everybody wants to know the truth. Some think they have it, others believe they will find it, but most people are still searching for truth, many wondering if it even exists.

Truth is conceived and viewed by people from different vantages and at different levels of consciousness. We do not all experience incidents in the same way, and we do not all remember them in the same way. We may say and do things that we believe are true, but yet in actual fact they may be far removed from the truth.

When we look at the life of Paul, an apostle of

“Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.”

Paul, inspired by the Spirit, addresses King Agrippa (standing), who turns away from his advisor. Festus, procurator of Judea, and Bernice, listen raptly.

Christ Jesus, we see that initially Paul persecuted the followers of Christ. He did it with all his heart because he thought that it was the right thing to do.

While he was journeying to Damascus Paul saw a light from heaven brighter than the sun shining around him. He was so frightened that he fell to the ground. Then he heard the voice of Christ Jesus saying to him: “Saul, why do you persecute me?”

That day when Paul met Christ his whole life changed. He then realized that he had been wrong. He was not acting from inner knowledge of the truth. Christ Jesus then appointed Paul to bear witness to Himself in the history of the Israelite people and to His future manifestations. Paul, now convinced of the truth within him, was able to distinguish between the real truth and the “truth” he believed in before he met Christ Jesus. There are times we also believe in a “truth” that we ourselves fashion to justify our personal thoughts, actions and words.

Later, Paul appeared before King Festus and told him what had happened to him on his way to Damascus—how he was blinded by the light and was without sight for three days until a disciple, Ananias, put his hands on Paul's eyes and restored his vision. He told the King how he was then led out of the darkness into the light, not only because his sight was restored, but because now he could see the difference between living a life in darkness and living life in the light. The King said to Paul, "Paul, you are mad." But Paul said, "no, I am not mad, I am talking the sober truth." It was the truth within that Paul was referring to.

Once blind and then enlightened, Paul began to proclaim a different truth. The truth he received from Christ Jesus, which is also the truth within each one of us. When, like Paul, we become open to the Truth, when we walk in the light as God is in the light, we cannot help but willingly and consciously change our words, thoughts, and behavior patterns.

The moment we shift from a consciousness of separation to a consciousness of Oneness, we will know and understand that we have no choice but to assist each other and learn to live together in Peace and Harmony. The family of Humanity is totally and completely interdependent, interconnected and interrelated. What affects one person affects us all. We cannot harm another human being or another part of life without harming ourselves. When that truth sinks into our awareness, then war, hatred, prejudice, corruption, selfishness, greed, and every other destructive human behavior becomes ludicrous—self-destructive and obviously insane. But, if we do not have a personal relationship with Christ Jesus, we will not be able to accept and see this truth.

We see that in John 14:6 Christ said, "I am the truth, the way, and the life." There will never be another truth, way, or life besides the Truth, Way, and Life in Christ Jesus.

Many people have asked the question What is truth? Plato with mystic intuition said "God is truth and light is his shadow."

John said "God is Light," and as he was closer to the Master than the other disciples, he undoubtedly received teachings from Christ that were higher than those which the other Disciples were capable

of receiving or understanding. Therefore he had a truer, deeper understanding of light. Those of us who can see the beauty of the numerous shades of color and light are indeed very fortunate. But then there are those who have eyes, and yet do not perceive the world of color around them, and they go through life without experiencing or appreciating the beauty of it, because they never take the time to look at it. So is it with truth. Truth is everywhere and can always be found if we are capable of perceiving it. If we walk closely with Christ Jesus, we will be able to receive it, to listen to His voice in our Hearts, instead of listening to our own explanations of truth and our own righteousness in our wrong thoughts and actions

John writes mystically when he says, "In the beginning was God, and God was the word and in that was Life and the life became the light of men." In the human body there is that light shining from the beginning unto this day, the light that shines in darkness, the light that is hidden by the veil of Isis—unless, through the window of the soul, the Glory of God and the Universe are revealed. Only then can we perceive God as Light and everything good as radiant with Light, and all that is evil enshrouded in darkness.

Max Heindel has written that a lie in the Desire World is both murder and suicide. Do we realize that by changing the truth to fit our own thoughts and desires or to justify our own actions is a form of spiritual self-destruction?

When we alter the truth we can negatively influence and harm other people. We can even strengthen in them thoughts of suicide or murder that they may hide within themselves.

So we see that lies are the opposite of truth. Lies are in darkness, truth is therefore in the light. What is darkness and evil then?

We are taught in the Western Wisdom Teachings that there is no evil in God's world. There is the one Power of God, and that is good. We use it in the way we want to, and we cannot deny that there are people who use this power for evil, either consciously or unconsciously. The only way that we can make sure that we are not being used by evil influences is to constantly walk the path of Truth in a very close relationship with our Lord: To be

humble, to serve, to love, and to make sure that we do not harm each other; to keep the golden rule—do unto others as you want them to do unto you.

We must always ask ourselves this question: If we are about to spread rumors or to hurt someone's feelings, is Christ in this that I want to do, is this the way He would want me to act? And then we will get this answer, through His word: Love God your Father with your whole heart, and your neighbor as yourself.

The exercises for soul growth contained in the Rosicrucian Teachings give us a wonderful opportunity to come in touch with truth. As we review our actions and thoughts each day, if we are true and honest with ourselves, we shall immediately know when we do wrong. We will then walk in the Light from day to day. And we will know the truth.

Knowing the truth does not mean that we must always agree with and accept what others do. We have a duty not to agree with other people when they are doing things that we know are wrong. Christ Jesus set the example for us in Matthew 21:12 where it is narrated that Jesus entered the Temple of God and drove out all who sold and bought in the Temple. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. Christ Jesus, the Son of God, who died on the cross for the sins of the world, did not tolerate wrongdoing. While condemned the deed, he always loved the doer.

To know the Truth within also means that we will have to take a stand in our daily lives for what is wrong and for what is right. By doing that we will only demonstrate that we know the difference between what is in the darkness and what is in the light. We must always distance ourselves from dark motives and dark practices. If we cannot do that, or if we cannot see what is of the dark, then we cannot be in touch with the Truth within.

Light is not of one color. There are seven Spirits before the throne of God, each one being a light bearer for a certain Ray. Each one of us can better



Oil on canvas, Carl Bloch (1834-1890), Chapel at Fredericksborg Castle, Denmark

Jesus Clears the Temple

Taking a public stand for truth has its esoteric counterpart: Here, the human body, a temple for the living God, must be kept clean and holy.

respond to one of these Rays. We are gradually moving towards the same source, which is God. We will at different times have different opinions and different points of views about events and people. But we should learn to live together in harmony.

We have all trod different paths in different lives under the influence of the Mars Ray. We have been aggressive, passionate, violent, often not caring who suffered or the effect of our actions on others.

In other lives we have come under the lighter Ray of Venus and expressed ourselves in more amiable, harmonious ways, creating beauty and cultivating the arts.

Still later we have responded to the deep blue or Saturn Ray, learning hard lessons which promoted soul growth. The path of the lighter blue or Jupiter Ray brought us a measure of wisdom, abundance, and joy. Ultimately, we all look forward to the

higher perception which comes from the yellow Uranian Ray. At present, most of us are not capable of receiving it, but must be content with the lower deeper yellow of the Mercury Ray.

We are all evolving to vibrate in unison with sun's white light, which is the unity of all color. Though we may feel far from our goal, we must never forget that we all have an essence of God within ourselves which will teach us the truth and make divinity manifest.

Please allow me to share with you a personal experience. When I was first introduced to the teachings, they immediately appealed to me. All my life I used to ask questions, and most of them were never answered. But through studying the Teachings many of my questions were answered. Still busy with the Preliminary Lessons, I came across the concept of reincarnation.

Being brought up by a conservative Afrikaans-speaking family, reincarnation was not accepted. But I was raised by loving and caring parents, and my mother who was a wonderful person, laid the foundation for my faith in God. For that I will always be thankful to her. I always loved God, ever since I can remember, and I would not want to do anything that is wrong in the eyes of God. Coming across reincarnation in the studies bothered me. I was not sure I wanted to accept it. I was a single parent raising my six children and I was very protective of them. I loved and always wanted only the best for those closest to my heart. The idea of my children being born again to another women, who perhaps might neglect them, hurt them, or even abuse them, was just too much for me to think about.

So I wrote a letter to Headquarters telling them just that. I said that I liked most of the teachings, but that I did not like reincarnation. And I explained my reasons.

After a while I received new lessons and a few Bible scriptures, which I studied. But still I was not happy with the idea, so I stopped my studies. At that point in my life it was easier not to accept reincarnation, because I refused to see the truth, I was more comfortable with my own ideas about life, and what happens to us after passing over.

Then, a few years later on my way to work one morning, I passed a tree in the garden. It looked so

dead, and I thought to myself, I must ask my son to cut it down. But as I was passing this tree, my eye noticed a tiny little fragile baby leaf, shining brightly and so full of life. I stood still to look at it closer and that morning I could hear the voice of my Master so clearly in my heart: "Life goes on. After Winter there will always be Spring again. After death, Life. There is no death, only changes." In the World of God there is no standstill. It will forever progress and evolve, because GOD IS LIGHT AND LOVE AND LIFE. I do not know how we can ever thank God for His Love. I did not know at that time what was still in the future waiting for me, but God knew, and that day He shared with me also the truth of Life after Death. That truth made it possible for me to survive the greatest shock of my life: when, shortly after, three of my children which I loved so dearly passed over to the spiritual world.

Needless to say, I searched for my lessons that night, wrote a letter to Headquarters and asked for permission to go on with my studies. That day I realized that we can have all the knowledge in the world, but it is God who will convince us of real truth, that part of God within each one of us which is the Truth Within.

Perhaps the following also happens to many of you. People will walk up to me and ask me questions. I always quickly pray in my thoughts that God will help me to answer their questions well.

But there are times when, after I have answered their questions, I look into their eyes and see confusion and emptiness. I will then ask myself this question: Did I say too much or perhaps not enough? But being at peace with myself in this I never dwell on it for very long.

And so many times the same person I talked to will come back to me with these words, "Do you remember the day when you explained reincarnation to me, and how we are supposed to take responsibilities for our own actions? Well, that day it did not make a good impression on me, but suddenly, this morning, I saw the light. I understood it all, and now I know that it is the truth." What happened then to these people? I shared my knowledge with them, but God from within convinced them of the Truth, the Truth that is within each one

of us.

Unfortunately for many people it is still easier to blame God for their own failures and unhappiness. But those who know the truth also know that all our failures and unhappiness come from our own wrong thoughts and actions. We know that God never punishes but only teaches us in love the lessons which are necessary for us to learn so that we can experience soul growth. How can we feel compassion for a person who loses a child if we have not ourselves experienced the shock, the sorrow, and longing in our own hearts? How can we feel with people who have been left alone in their love if we ourselves have not experienced that emptiness?

But then again, how can we praise God if we do not allow Him to show us the truth and the way, and allow Him to work wonders in our lives? How can we enjoy spiritual experiences if we do not have the truth in ourselves? That truth which Christ Jesus promised shall set us free and will allow us to see the Light. Then we will also see the

difference between what is in the light and what is in the darkness.

Please always be aware that you have special gifts bestowed upon you by our Creator. These gifts are your own special unique talents and qualities that make you wonderful, You must develop your gifts to acknowledge the goodness and the greatness that is within you, that is needing to come forth and be expressed in this world.

I would like to close with this thought:

*I am a being of violet fire,
I am the purity God desires,
That blazes in violet flames,
That freedom desires.
Strive for forgiveness.
Rejoice to give joy.*

May the light, the love, and the grace of our heavenly Father guide us and lead us to the truth within. □

Martie C. Purchase

THE ROSICRUCIAN COSMO-CONCEPTION

By Max Heindel

This book gives a complete outline of the Western Wisdom Teachings as far as it may be made public at the present time. It contains a comprehensive outline of the evolutionary processes of man and the universe, correlating science with religion. The author received this Teaching personally from the Rosicrucian Brotherhood.

This is the textbook used in the Rosicrucian Philosophy Correspondence Course.

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