
WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

Learning to Walk with Love

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. Matthew 5:48.

Till we all come in the unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of Christ. Ephesians 4:13.

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

Herein is our love made perfect.—I John 4:16,17 .



The perfection mentioned above is not an idle dream, but a living, developing condition toward which we are all striving. Since humanity first became aware of the great breach between the omnipotence of the Creator and the weakness of its own powers, as related in the first few chapters of Genesis, when Adam and Eve took their faltering first steps alone in "eating of the fruit of the tree of knowledge," man has gradually learned to walk upright and some few have even consciously walked with God.

It is interesting to note that Max Heindel avoided the use of the word *karma* in his books, preferring the word *destiny* or the phrase *Law of Consequence*. Too often this word *karma* has come to carry with it the connotation of punishment for a past offense. This is a perversion of its meaning, for this law is as impersonal and universal as the law of gravity in its application. It is outside and above the moral law of good and evil; the moral laws, based on the Ten Commandments were given

to man to aid in his relationship with other men.

The universal laws, such as that of Consequence or Cause and Effect, and Harmony (the finite mind has cataloged seven universal laws) are laws that operate on the higher levels. Since the material world is only a reflection of the spiritual it follows that when the spiritual side of man comes into harmony with these divine laws then the material working out is abrogated. By this we mean that when a man truly repents for a wilful disobedience of moral laws and comes again into harmony with the higher laws the effects of his wrong act are forgiven him. Max Heindel writes, "even though we are not able to make restitution for a wrong, the sincerity of our regret will suffice. Nature does not aim to "get even," or to take revenge. Recompence may be given to our victim in other ways."

The Law of Consequence may be summed up in the verse from Galatians: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." As we have stumbled in our weakness, or over-extended ourselves in our exuberance, or overstepped the law in ignorance, are we brought up short and learn what and where are our limitations. Thus do we gain wisdom through experience. Every sorrow or trouble that comes to us demonstrates some lack of soul-quality which only such an experience as this can teach, and so brings us closer to the "perfect man."

Earthly experiences, distilled into wisdom between incarnations, is the only

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NOTES FOR THE ASPIRANT

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and fretting, as well as all assumption of dignity and piety.

We take ourselves and *our* affairs too seriously; we must rid our thoughts of everything rigid, puritanical, and artificial. Cultivate *joyous* consciousness that you may have harmony, peace, and health. It is possible for all of us to bring forth happiness in our lives if we live in harmony with divine laws.

Living in harmony with divine laws liberates us from the shackles of fear, doubt, worry, and discouragement, and lifts us into the joy of the Lord, which is our strength.

The first requirement of divine law is that *man's thought forces shall accord with principles.*

Man must think *constructively.*

If you have been trying by thought force to bend someone to your will or to your particular ideas, *stop it!*

Know that *all* change will—yes, *must*—start *within* yourself. Unless you come to a realization of that immutable fact, you are but wasting your energy.

All good has its induction first within yourself.

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way we have of learning to walk consciously with God. An intelligent acceptance of these limiting factors is the first step toward completing this particular lesson. When our mind has accepted it then we can analyze and incorporate it into our way of life much as a child learning to walk learns to dodge obstacles or to remove them from his path.

It is this picture of the infant learning to walk, guided and helped and loved by his parents that makes the best comparison of learning to live in perfect

harmony with God's universal laws. If we can read the Old Testament with this analogy in mind we can see beneath the fumbings of the old chroniclers, and trace the loving parental hand of God as He guided reluctant humanity. How well they learned to walk is to be measured by the great multitudes who recognized the higher ideals of the new teachings of man's perfectability as explained in the New Testament in Christ's work.

DAILY THOUGHT AND GUIDE

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for our fellowman is always in order, "and the Lord loveth a cheerful giver."

THURSDAY — OCTOBER 29

This will be an active day on all planes, but let us be sure that the spiritual things are uppermost and that the glory will be God's.

FRIDAY — OCTOBER 30

If we follow the Christ who is our Wayshower, we will take to heart his saying: "As my Father has loved me, so have I loved you; continue ye in my love."

SATURDAY — OCTOBER 31

As the month of October departs we will find much help for many good works. We raise our voices in thanks to God from whom all blessings flow.

READINGS FOR SUBSCRIBERS' CHILDREN.

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This child, too, will be capable of rendering valuable service, and thus of making much spiritual progress in this life. He will probably do best in the publishing or educational field, capable of writing, editing, and teaching.