

MYSTIC LIGHT

As We Sow

YES, I SEE that fear is a great factor, but there are many other things which influence us in our acts. Maturity unfolds the passions, the appetites, and I see the most abnormal indulgences are countenanced by the world. Are these natural or unnatural?

Most of them are abnormal. Conservation of the life forces is absolutely essential to a Christian life. Man has been spending his competency in riotous living and this means more than spending dollars. He wastes his substance out of which harmonious conditions within the body and in his environments are made, and then wonders why he is poverty-stricken. There is no inharmony anywhere for which man is not responsible. The soul of man is too finely organized to dwell in harmony in a body reeking with fumes of liquor. The body of man is too delicate a mechanism to be filled with the rubbish which is dumped into it, simply to satisfy a gluttonous appetite. As a result, disease rather than Spirit controls it. Thinkest thou that man can slay and torture defenseless animals without giving an account for his acts? Do you think for a moment that one who wears the skin of an animal which has been tortured in a trap and fairly skinned before it was dead, escapes from feeling in a measure the misery and suffering of the animal whose life was so ruthlessly taken? Does a woman who wears a beautiful aigrette torn from the head of a live bird, which is left to die, and the young of which, now motherless, starve in their nests, does she wear the plume in pleasure and go unscathed? Do you think that one who devours a beefsteak cut from the side of an innocent animal which has been shunted in box cars to packed pens, poisoned with fear of its brutal death, goaded with prods to the slaughtering pens, and there sledge-hammered in the head, its throat slit, dipped in tanks of scalding scalding, and its hide removed before it is dead—I say do you think the partaking of such fears and agonies have no effect upon man mentally, morally and physically?

You ask me to explain what the matter is that humanity so suffers, and I say it is reaping what it sows and is

careless of the sowing. It is sowing discord and expects a harvest of harmony. When it grows 'a crop' of discord, from the seed of discord which it has sown it complains that it lives in an unjust world.

There are many things which control conditions or influence them in life; many rules and many exceptions to rules. When man awakens to a realization that Life is a science and must be lived scientifically to attain harmonious results, he will so live that he will escape from much of the trouble which haphazard living and thinking have caused. This does not mean that the man who lives scientifically is less free, nor that he must carry about with him a sanctimonious face. When man lives scientifically and lovingly he will be free and his life will be harmonious. The Without shall become as the Within. And this means that his Spirit, soul and body will be harmonious; that his home life will be harmonious; that his business relations will be harmonious; and his social relations shall be what he wishes them to be. The millennium will come when man ceases to slay—by thought, word, and deed. The animals will follow the example set by man and will cease to devour each other, and then the lion and lamb will actually lie down together.

You ask, But how shall man learn to live scientifically? Listen! If you were to build a beautiful home for yourself, you would plan it carefully and would see that each stone, each brick, and all of the wood which was to become a part of your home, were carefully selected and that they were placed securely in position, according to the plan. Yet, in building our lives, what do we do toward selecting our thoughts, which correspond to the stones, brick, wood, and other material for our homes? We take our thoughts and carelessly scatter them in a haphazard manner, as though they had no value. We accept "any old thought" that happens to come our way, allowing it to take possession of us and to become a part of us instead of selecting our thoughts carefully and rejecting any that are not first class or which would mar the beauty and symmetry of the perfect life which we would build. □

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