

THE MOTHER PRINCIPLE

By Alden Truesdell

MOTHERS AND womankind are noted for having intuition, which word as defined means inner instruction or teaching. One definition of intuition is "quick perception of truth without conscious attention or reasoning."

Intuition is that which caused Mary to ponder the things of God in her heart. It caused Pharoah's daughter to adopt and care for Moses. Reason would debate the advisability of any such behavior; motherly intuition acts with an assurance that amazes the wise and prudent. Men look back upon a mother-directed childhood with astonishment, marveling at the many wise decisions and understanding activities they recall.

When we enter a home, it is the mother-influence of the woman, which is the soul of that particular sanctuary, that is felt. So do communities have souls - also cities, states, and nations.

Without seeking to do so, I have seen the soul of the Orient, represented by a woman, being submerged in water, evidently of a great depth. But we have closer soul unfoldments to consider. The very soul of this country has let down its standards. So this is the time to look up; this is the time to lift up this mothering influence, even though one might seem, like Mary, to be the only one in a given area who is willing to lift the inner eye to the Giver of all good and perfect gifts and to ponder the things of Christ Truth in the heart.

In spiritual symbology, woman represents the soul qualities, the inner emotional, affectional nature. This feminine principle reproduces whatever is given to it. Love does not reason. Everything is pure to love, until reason puts the stamp of judgment on certain acts and things. Wherever this affectional or feminine nature is directed, that department will be transformed.

The Virgin Mary represents this affectional nature trained toward the heights, conceiving only that which is true: Pure Life - the Everliving, the Eternally Alive. The triumph of the Resurrection was conceived in Mary before it consummated in Jesus.

That mothers have been held in high regard in this country is indicative of the aspiring soul of a great nation in the building. The standards, the spiritual and soul aspirations and inspirations that have sustained this nation in its ongoing, must not now be lowered. If Eve causes disintegration by lowered vision, then Eve must turn and give an equal opportunity for integration by a raised vision and a wholesome consideration of the All-competent Original.

Women have power through spiritual channels to retain or reject paradise, to influence the rise and fall of nations. Why should they settle for less?

SPIRITICITY May 1960

LET GOD DO THE WORKS

By Nell Truesdell

"I CAN do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me," wrote Paul, the greatest exponent of Christian doctrine. Paul had learned through painful experience to let the Activity of God (which is Christ) use him as Its instrument. His strength of purpose enabled him to let miracles of healing, provision, and protection appear in the lives of the people to whom he ministered. His purpose gave him sufficient physical stamina to travel extensively under grueling trials; to surmount criticism, punishment, and imprisonment, so that through his sufferings he was not diverted, but confirmed in his awareness of God's Presence as Christ Jesus with him; to write letters under harassing conditions - letters that still impart inspiration to readers and that bear deathless witness to the power and glory of Christ, the Savior of mankind.

Christ is the Activity of God in man that makes man a living being. As you go about the daily chores think this over: "Christ is the Activity of God in me." This practice, if continued, will give you a new understanding of Being. Activity suggests motion; an expressing of energy, physical, mental, emotional, spiritual.

Christ is the Living Energy, the Deific Essence in man that enables him to do things: to walk across a room, to get out of difficulties, to be spiritually awake to his true Being. This Divine Activity (Christ) permits man to use It in any way that he wills, for It is will-less. Man's great privilege (and responsibility) is to learn to let the God-Activity be Itself in him. Since It will take Its cue from man, man should never be tempted to use the Holy Activity for his own purposes. Jesus Christ said again and again: "I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the WILL of Him that sent me."

Every person born into the world is given the opportunity to let God's WILL have Its way through him - through his human will.

I have said that the God-WILL is will-less. I repeat that. But it is within man's power to say: "Thy Will be done." And it shall be done according to man's decree.

No man, of himself, can do anything. This statement shocks the uninformed person who believes in himself. But what man, in all history, has done anything of lasting value except he who (unwittingly, perhaps) has allowed himself to be a channel for the God-Activity? The great ones in all lines of human endeavor have declared that of themselves they did nothing. They may not have said that God did the work through them; but their works attest to the fact.

In my small way I shall attempt to tell something of the God Activity that has worked through Mr. Truesdell and me and that has enabled us to surmount our human limitations so that we were (and are) able to minister to others who have needed the added support of the Christ Truth realized. As we have let the God-Activity (Christ) flow freely through our consciousness by our knowing Its presence with us, miracles of demonstration have appeared and blessed those who asked for help.

A man lay dying. His sister requested prayer; and in a matter of one hour, the man arose from his bed, dressed, and went out for a walk. He lived for many years after this experience.

A woman without funds (with exactly \$.05 in her purse) was miraculously cared for, though the only aid we were able to give to her was in Spirit and in Truth.

A couple was led to move to another city. While we prayed, they waited in a railway station with all their baggage around them. Miraculously, a friend dashed up minutes before train time, and pressed a gift of money into grateful hands. With believing hearts, this same couple experienced added miracles of provision in their new location, where they were strangers, but known to the All-providing Father.

In all school grades, from elementary through university, students that feared failure in examinations have been enlightened through our effective prayer of understanding; all passed with surprisingly high marks.

Diseased conditions in the bodies of those who appealed for healing have been dissolved. Broken bones have mended so quickly that doctors have wondered. Riches were restored to a woman who was about to lose her fortune through the machinations of dishonest relatives. Both men and women in the business world have prospered far beyond their native talents for success because they have asked for the only success-giving help within the reach of mankind; the Help that God gives through his devotees. Somebody must believe in the love of God for His children; honesty and integrity must be upheld.

A few Biblical excerpts are worthy of note:

Eccl. 9:10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might, for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

John 9:4 (Jesus said:) I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

Col. 3:2, 17, 23-24 Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth. . . . And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him. . . . And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Let God do His WILL through you.

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SPIRITICITY May 1960
SOME WORDS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT
By Robert Applegate, Jr.

When Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build My church," He could not have meant, nor could His hearers have understood, what the words are now taken to mean. The Greek word that He used (or the word that Matthew used to translate the Aramaic word that Jesus used, if He spoke in Aramaic) is ecclesia.

Ecclesia was a common word that meant a body of persons called together for some purpose. In civil life it was used to designate the assembly of all the citizens of a city when they were called together to decide upon some political issue. The word was used also to designate any group that was summoned for religious purposes. So in the Greek translation of the Old Testament we are told that Moses delivered the Ten Commandments to the ecclesia, or assembly, of the Israelites at Mt. Sinai. The word was even used, later, to refer to the Hebrew army when it was gathered to fight the Philistines.

In the New Testament the word ecclesia is used in two senses. Primarily it is used to designate a local group, composed of all in one locality who had accepted the Resurrection and the Teaching of Jesus Christ. This group would meet together for instruction and worship, frequently in someone's house. Then the word is used to designate all men who believe in Christ. They are the ecclesia (in the broad sense): the "body of Christ"; Christ alone is their head. As Rudolf Sohm writes in his Outline of Church History:

"In primitive times it was called the ecclesia, that is to say, the people of God.

. . . To this people of God has been promised the presence of Christ, and therefore of God, in the midst of it. In the ecclesia every individual Christian enjoys perfect communion with God through Christ. . . . There is no need of any human priesthood. God's people, the ecclesia is to be ruled, not by man's word, but by the Word of God proclaimed by the divinely gifted teacher; and the ecclesia obeys the word of the teacher only if, and so far as, it recognizes therein the Word of God."

So it was in the Apostolic Age: the organization came later, because men demand organization. It came when the primitive ecclesia lost its vitality. It came because men were then (as they are now) too lazy-minded to apply themselves directly to Christ and to depend entirely upon Him.

Originally the word ecclesia did not mean an institution; it meant people. The synonym for it was "saints" (which has an unhappy connotation today) or "those who are called to be saints." The Greek word is hagioi; it meant "dedicated." The "church," or ecclesia was those dedicated to God through Christ Jesus, or because of the revelation of God in Christ Jesus. This is brought out in Paul's salutation to the ecclesia at Corinth: "Paul, called to be a messenger of Christ Jesus through the Will of God, . . . to the ecclesia (assembly, community) of God that is in Corinth; that is, those who are consecrated (or purified) in Christ Jesus, those who are called to be dedicated." These three terms - ecclesia, those purified in Christ, those called to be dedicated - are synonymous expressions for the same thing: the local community of those who had accepted the Good News of Jesus Christ and had given themselves (with different degrees of wholeheartedness) to understanding it.

In the early communities of believers, someone had to be in charge of the meetings for worship and teaching, and someone had to do the leg work. So we read of "bishops," "elders," and "deacons." These were all common words that were used in everyday, material life.

In Acts, Luke tells us that, when Paul made his first missionary journey through Galatia, he "appointed elders in every community": that is (in accordance with both the Jewish and the Greek customs of the time), older men who would be in charge of the meetings for worship and whatever modicum of administration was necessary. The governing by "elders" (perhaps the nearest modern equivalent is the silly euphemism "senior citizens") was a common practice of the day both in civic affairs and in the Jewish synagogues. The practice has come down to us today in our "senates" (from the Latin senatus - a governing body of older men).

Since the elders (presbiteroi - from which we get "presbyter") supervised the local assemblies, they were sometimes known as "bishops" (i.e., overseers). Or

sometimes there would be only one person in a community who had a general supervision and was accordingly known as the "bishop."

"Bishop" is derived from the Greek episcopos, which, again, was a common word; it meant an overseer. It was a combination of the two words epi, meaning "over," and scopeo, meaning to "watch." (The Latin equivalent is supervisor; the Anglo-Saxon, overseer.) Before the Advent of Jesus Christ both pagans and Jews used the word to designate a person who watched over, or supervised, any project. In the Greek Old Testament, it is even used to refer to Moses' military leaders, whom we would hardly call "bishops."

"Deacon" is a transliteration of the Greek diaconos, which meant a helper of any sort - whether a servant or a friend. Paul used the word frequently to refer to the young men who helped him in his ministry and did his errands for him. And the word was used generally for those who helped in the worship and instruction of the local meetings.

The same man could be referred to as an "elder," a "bishop," or a "deacon," depending on how you looked at him. Thus when Paul was speaking to the "elders" from Ephesus, he said to them: "Look out for yourselves and for the whole flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you bishops (i.e. overseers)." And in writing to Timothy he said (after outlining the requirements of a "bishop"): "If you command these things to the brothers, you will be a good deacon (servant) of Jesus Christ."

It was only in the second century, when the spontaneity and enthusiasm of the early believers in Christ had started to solidify into institutionalism, that these general terms became hardened into specific titles designating particular ranks in an organization. And that is the tragedy of all spiritual movements. Some organization becomes necessary in time, and the organization soon becomes rigid, ultra-conservative, and sterile. It was not so in the beginning. Jesus Christ had no intention of founding the institution of the Christian Church. The true "Church" of Christ is all those (whoever and wherever they are) who accept the Truth of Him and worship Him in simple sincerity. "Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them."

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SPIRITICITY May 1960

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Continued from last month)

Anonymous

DELIVER US FROM EVIL

JESUS CHRIST SAID: "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

It is obvious, then, that is this cycle of necessity through which man finds himself passing on his way back to his Father's House, he will meet with conditions and circumstances that are foreign to his native habitat in the Heavenly Mansions.

Remembering Heaven - the Eternal Abode, the Completeness, in which all souls find their true Being - man becomes bewildered here on the earth, where he is faced with strange oppositions which he has labeled as "evil." He is not always aware that these strange and often unwelcome situations are the result of his own creation. In the denseness of his surroundings, the focus of the divine

Mind of God has become obscure; and man is cut off, as it were, and unable to see true. Confused, he gropes his way in ignorance, beholding duality on every hand and not understanding it. Jesus Christ assures man at every step: "Be of good cheer; I have overcome."

In unbelievable numbers men are today awakening to the Truth that sets them free. They are turning away from the husks of illusion; and as they turn to retrace their steps, they are hailed and welcomed as "overcomers." The Christ says: "I have overcome. . . . Follow Me. . . . I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me."

When mankind as a whole is ready to turn its attention Godward and to resurrect its nature by lifting it up to the Glory of God, then we shall see the fulfillment of the Kingdom on earth. As disheartening as it may sound, there must be the crossing out of the personal man, that the energy and attention may be focused in the higher aspirations, to glorify and exalt the heavenly man. In this manner, the imprisoned I Am is acknowledged and released, and Christ is all in all. Then indeed is man delivered from the appearance of evil, from the life divided, into the united Life in Christ. "I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord," said Paul: ". . . and I do count them but dung, that I may win Christ."

All through the ages, the prophets, the seers, the men of wisdom and knowledge, have exhausted endless effort to reveal to man the Truth of his very mysterious nature. "Man, know thyself." Turn away from these artificial and worthless treasures that have deceived, and know the true and unchanging inheritance that endures unto the end. From crucifixion comes resurrection; and only in resurrection can man enter into full realization of Christhood, his powers lifted up like the eagle, which symbolizes for us the resurrected life of regeneration.

"He that believeth on Me," Jesus Christ said, "the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do, because I go unto the Father." Every man is destined eventually to put on the armor of Christ and become a master, a conqueror - even a christ.

Is it not time we lifted our eyes unto the Hills of Heaven and swore allegiance to the King of Kings?

"Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever."

This is the oath of allegiance that every heart must take before the Almighty Lord of his Being. Every heart must offer up his sword, the symbol of his resurrected life, before the High Priest, which is Jesus Christ.

"Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee!"

THE END

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Alphabet of
DAILY MEDITATIONS
For Every Week Day of the Month

May 1960

2. Be . . . APT to teach, patient.
3. BLESSED is the man whose strength is in the Lord.
4. Thou, O Lord, art a God full of COMPASSION.
5. The Spirit searcheth . . . the DEEP things of God.
6. EVEN as Christ forgave you, so do ye.
7. Come FORTH and serve.

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9. He GIVETH power to the faint.
10. Let thine HEART keep My commandments.
11. Open your heart unto Him IMMEDIATELY.
12. It is JOY to the JUST to do JUSTICE.
13. He that KEEPETH thy soul, doth not he KNOW it?
14. I have LOVED thee with an everlasting LOVE.

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16. The MEEK shall increase their joy in the Lord.
17. NOW will I arise, saith the Lord.
18. ONE day is with the Lord as a thousand years.
19. Ye shall . . . be led forth with PEACE.
20. It is the Spirit that QUICKENETH.
21. Let the word of Christ dwell in you RICHLY.

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23. He will SAVE.
24. Let not . . . TRUTH forsake thee.
25. I UNDERSTOOD as a child.
26. Thy VISITATION hath preserved my spirit.
27. The WORK of righteousness shall be peace.
28. Let not YOUR hands be weak.

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30. Have a ZEAL for God.
31. Praise ye the Lord.

"When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly."

SPIRITICITY is the Working Power of the Spiritual Principle
as electricity is the working power of the electrical principle.