

Daily Astorian.

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THE TRUTH AS IT IS.

When He is the spirit of truth is come, He will guide you unto all truth, for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak, and He shall show you things to come. He shall glorify me, for I shall receive of Mine and shall show it unto you.—St. John, 16, 14, 15.

The truth contained in the text refutes the mistaken notion that the writers of the new testament had certain ideas of their own to communicate to the world. As a matter of fact their writings were all executed in obedience to the law of revelation. Their knowledge of God, as revealed through His Son Jesus Christ, was to them the center of all revelation, to which all Old Testament revelation looked forward and all future revelation should look backward. Jesus was himself the full and perfect revelation of God the Father, in the flesh. The question, "Show us the Father," was answered once for all in the words, "Have I not been so long with you, and ye have not known Me; but that hath seen me hath seen the Father." All theories of inspiration, all doubts as to the accuracy of the proverbial "Jot and tittle," all surmises as to the date and authenticity of certain words and passages, have no bearing at all upon the question in point, namely, that the writers of the New Testament did not have private theories of their own to exploit; that they did not write and teach doctrines of their own, but they told one and the same story, agreeing in fundamentals in perfect harmony with one another, although one differed from another in character, disposition, taste and education. This is the most significant proof that the writers of the New Testament regarded Jesus as the visible manifestation of God in a form to be known of humanity, and that He, in His own person, contained all the revelations of God which it was possible for men to see. The New Testament writers therefore simply interpret Him, Every argument made by that master of logic, St. Paul, was the argument of God made man, crucified, dead, buried, risen, ascended, reigning, coming again to judge. Every outline of every sermon preached by St. Peter, St. John, St. Paul and the others breathes the faith in the one name through which alone salvation may be found. The organization of the visible church set up on the earth is laid upon lines given by Christ himself. His disciples disclaimed all credit for their miraculous cures and their sundry gifts, ascribing to Christ Jesus the power and the glory. Of course their lives were not always in accord with their profession. Had it been so we might well doubt the truth of the records, knowing human nature as we do. But however this may be, we contend that the writers of the New Testament preached Jesus Christ, and Him crucified; Jesus and the resurrection; the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, as He gave them commandment, and that they did not write what their own fancy dictated or their own inclination suggested.

The text shows the harmony existing between the dispensation of Christ and the dispensation of the Spirit. "When He the Spirit of Truth shall come He will guide you into all truth, for He shall receive of Mine and shall show it unto you." Our Lord in these words tells us what the province of that mysterious "Spirit" of whom He had so often spoken should be. He should "guide into all truth." "I am the truth," said Christ. "He shall not speak of Himself; but He shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you." What then is the "truth" which was and is in Jesus? God's revelation clearly points back to Him as the only revelation of Himself to man. We must go back to him for the expression of God. In Him we see the figure of a man, the man representative of a perfect humanity. He belongs to no race, no age, no country, no language. He is representative man. Man in the ideal state in which he was created. Man exalted in great power and majesty to the right hand of God the Father. Man and yet God. The direct and personal revelation of God to His creatures in the person of Jesus, and by the name of

Love—Jesus, for "He shall save His people from their sins."

What then is the truth as it is in Jesus? We look for the truth in natural and physical science to one who has that truth as his peculiar possession. If we are ill we consult a specialist. If we want technical knowledge we go to the expert. If we want information on any subject we go to one who is specially conversant on that subject.

What then should we expect to learn from Jesus? What truth has He to impart which is His peculiar possession? Evidently not science, natural or physical. God has given to others the truths of science. Evidently not surgery or medicines. God has given to others medical and surgical knowledge. Evidently not the technical knowledge of law or jurisprudence, God has given to others legal and logical minds. But if none of these, what then? The spirit of truth is to guide us to the truth as it is in Jesus, that is Jesus possesses it. He must have something to tell us peculiarly His own, and that something must deal directly with his own specialty. What did he claim to be? A great inventor, a great doctor, a noted lawyer, an eminent discoverer? None of these. He claimed to be the Son of God, and the Savior of men. A unique claim, surely, and if well sustained the truth which He has to impart must pertain to His peculiar relation to God and men.

We should expect, therefore, to learn from Jesus what we are, how to live, what our destiny is, what God's plans and purposes are concerning us. If we do not learn these things we surely can expect nothing else. As a matter of fact we do learn these very things, and we see in Him what God is like. Just, merciful, compassionate, tender, loving, forgiving, long suffering. We see in Him how God regards His children, pitying their weaknesses, having compassion on the ignorant and on them that are out of the way; like a father pitied his own children, even so merciful unto them that bear Him going out to meet them that fear Him; going out to meet them who are the returning prodigal, and welcoming him home with the kiss of forgiveness, the ring of honor, the robe of favor, the feast of generosity, the hospitality of joy. Watching over them in sickness and in health, in prosperity and in adversity; chastising not for His pleasure, but for their profit; leading them step by step and foot by foot from things hurtful and towards all things profitable for their salvation; illuminating their minds more and more with the light of the everlasting gospel; fitting and preparing them gradually for all trials and afflictions which He sees fit to lay on them; leading them upward where true joys are to be found by the innumerable changes and chances of this mortal life, to the inheritance among the saints in the household of God; watching over them night and day with a vigilance that neither slumbers nor sleeps; guarding, protecting, keeping, with all embracing arms, while the tempests of the world rage and swell and all things temporal come to an end. We see in His the secret and condition of eternal life. This is life eternal to know the only true God and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent." God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in His son.

He claimed to be the Son of God and the Savior of men. And He proved both claims while in earth, and He proves both claims today through the agency of His spirit. What greater proof of His divinity than His resurrection? What greater proof of His being the Savior of men than Magdalene, Levi, Thomas, Peter, the woman of Samaria, the penitent thief, and the countless other "publicans and sinners" prostitutes and harlots, who were gathered into the kingdom of God? What greater proof of His divinity than His resurrection? What greater proof of His being the Savior of men than Scott's Emulsion?

Well Children

that are not very robust need a warming, building and fat-forming food—something to be used for two or three months in the fall—that they may not suffer from cold.

SCOTT'S EMULSION

Cod-Liver Oil with Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda supplies exactly what they want. They will thrive, grow strong and be well all winter on this splendid food tonic.

Nearly all of them become very fond of it. For adults who

are not very strong, a

course of treatment with the Emulsion for a couple of months in the fall will put them through the winter in first-class condition. Ask your doctor about this.

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