

LOOK Through the GLASSES



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SHAKESPEARE'S THEOLOGY

(W. C. Reuter A. M. Ph. D.)

Every Bible student will admit that it contains the doctrine of a two-fold inspiration—specific and general. The specific is taught in such passages as the following: "And God said unto Moses, I am that I am: and he said Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I am hath sent me to you." Exod. III-14. "For the prophecy came not in olden time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." II Peter I-21.

The general is taught in such passages as the following: "It is written in the prophets, they shall all be taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh to me." John VI-45. "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal." I Cor. XII-7.

God is trying by various agencies to win the race back to himself: by his Son, by the Bible, by the Church and by his Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit, God talks to every man.

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners has spoken in times by the prophets, hath also spoken by the poets. Devout theists will admit that God has spoken by Shakespeare, Milton and Browning. Gilman says, "Shakespeare drank deeply of inspiration's wells." According to bishop Wordsworth, there are in Shakespeare's works more than 550 quotations from the Bible. Hamlet alone has eighty. One can construct a complete system of theology from his writings:

1. God the Creator.
"I commend my soul into the hands of God my Creator."—Extracts from his will.
2. Design in Creation.
"Sure, He that made us with such large discourse,
Looking before and after, gave us not
That capableness and godlike reason
To fust in us unused."—Hamlet, Act 4, Scene 4.
3. Inherited and universal depravity.
"Every man with his affects is born."
—Loves Labor Lost, Act 1, Scene 1.
"We are arrant knaves all; believe none of us."
—Hamlet, Act 3, Scene 1.
4. The heart the seat of corruption.
"All offences, my lord, come from the heart."
—Henry V, Act 4, Scene 1.
5. Atonement.
"Alas, alas!
Why, all the souls that were, were forfeit once;
And He that might the vantage best have took
Found out the remedy."—Pleasure for Pleasure, Act 2, Scene 2.
"I charge you, as you hope to have redemption
By Christ's dear blood shed for our greivous sin's."
—King Richard III, Act 1.

6. Confession and repentance.

"Confess yourself to heaven;
Repent what's past, avoid what is to come."
—Hamlet, Act 3, Scene 4.

7. Prayer.
"My ending is despair,
Unless I be relieved by prayer,
Which pierces so that it assaults
Mercy itself and frees all faults."
—The Tempest, Epilogue.

8. Conversion.
"Twas I; but 'tis not I; I do not shame
To tell you what I was, since my conversion
So sweetly tastes, being the thing I am."
—As You Like It, Act 4, Scene 3.

9. Providence.
"There's a special providence in the fall of a sparrow."
—Hamlet, Act 4, Scene 2.

"There's a divinity that shapes our ends,
Rough-hew them how we will."
—Hamlet, Act 5, Scene 2.

10. Angels.
"Angels and ministers of grace defend us!"
—Hamlet, Act 1, Scene 4.

11. The Devil.
"The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose."
—Merchant of Venice, Act 1, Scene 3.

12. Judgement after death.
"Cut off even in the blossom of my sin,
Unhous'd, disappointed, unan'd,
No reckoning made, but sent to my account."
—Hamlet, Act 1, Scene 5.

13. Heaven and Hell.
"I go and it is done; the bell invites me
Hear it not, Duncan, for it is a knell
That summons thee to heaven or to hell."
—Macbeth, Act 2, Scene 1.

Who can tell how much the world's poets have contributed to the salvation of the race? Plato says: "All good poets, epic as well as lyric, compose their beautiful poems, not as works of art, but because they are inspired or possessed;" and a divine of our own times says: "All the great poets, from Homer and Hesiod down to Browning and Walt Whitman, utter in the stress of their poetic afflatus truths and feelings, which we can only explain by attributing them to God himself." Thank God! the word of God still comes, and much of it is found in the works of the best poets.

OUT OF THE GINGER JAR

A freckled person always wears specks. Did you notice that?

The wind often travels eighty miles an hour, and that too without a ticket.

Much of what we call love at first sight fails when it comes to the second, sober view.

Many a man who is calling loudly for justice would be in the county jail if he got it.

A word to the wise is sufficient, but a whole volume wouldn't convince the otherwise.

Some men are like a laying hen, they set up a big cackling every time they do anything.

STRIPED BASS.

And an interesting Note About the Skimmer Clam.

It requires more than "catfish skill" to catch and successfully land the king of salt water fish, the beautiful striped bass. One must be patient, have no grouch, fish long and quietly, have endurance of strength and good nature, and then there is a possibility of the hook breaking or loosening, the line parting, or it may be that day that luck will be on the side of the salt water king.

One of the essential things to remember in striped bass angling is that one must be as careful in the selection of grounds as is the fish itself, for the larger and gamer bass select as homes or feeding grounds the great beds of skimmer clams along the coast, out on the ocean floor. While they have no "nutcracker" in their throats, such as the drumfish and sheepshead possess, they are able with their powerful jaws to break the rather slender shell of the skimmer clam and obtain their food supply. The smaller bass, being unable to break the shells, enter the salt bays and feed on bloodworms, shedder crabs and such other food as their jaws can manage.

The skimmer clam deserves more than passing notice. So let W. H. Ballou, who knows the striped bass and the skimmer clam, tell about it. "It does not belong to the edible foods of the human race," says Mr. Ballou, "although it has been found varying in weight from a quarter of a pound up to four pounds. The skimmer clam, like all other clams, has the fatal habit of walking on the ocean floor by suction—that is, it moves its hinge up and slightly opens its shell, thereby sucking its way along in the sand."

"The edible clam species have the same habit. But as they live and breed only in salt water bays there are no violent seas to drive them about. The skimmer clam, living on the ocean floor, takes his life in his hands, as it were, when he emerges from the sand and goes strolling over the bottom. Unable to resist great seas, tides and undertows grasp him in fatal grip and roll him over and over toward the beach, where he is landed high and dry at high tide. In the early morning small boys and anglers gather the juicy bait by the basketful. Thousands of seagulls likewise swoop down on the unfortunate skimmers, cracking their shells and gorging themselves on the big meats."

"At Barnegat beach I have often seen albatrosses and other huge birds sharing with countless gulls the loot of the beach. As the skimmers are rolled toward the beach they are followed by striped bass, drumfish and other species, and these often by sharks, the fish preying on the clams and the sharks on the fish. The reason, then, is obvious why surf fishers prefer the skimmer clam for bait to shedder crabs."—New York Press.

A Match For a Matchmaker.
The story is told by Allen Ayresworth, the British dramatist, of how a well known peer who was the prey of matchmaking mammas for a long time and who was imprudent enough to show more than ordinary attention to a young lady in question, thinking she had a trump to play, met his lordship and observed:

"People are talking a good deal about your attentions to my daughter and are asking when your engagement is to be announced. What can I say?"

"I authorize you to say, madam," replied his lordship, "that I asked you for your daughter's hand and that you refused it!"—O'Connor's Weekly.

Two Cases.

The clerk of arraigns on assize was swearing the jury when a jurymen said:

"Speak up! I cannot hear what you say."

The presiding judge asked him if he were deaf.

"Yes, my lord, of one ear."

"Well," responded the judge, "you may go, for it is necessary that jurymen should hear both sides."

Another judge, however, on a like objection, said:

"Oh, let him be sworn. We only hear one side of a case at a time."

—Exchange.

Manias of Authors.

Darwin always practiced on his old fiddle before writing; Chateaubriand while dictating to his secretary was in the habit of walking in his bare feet; Schiller and Goethe could not write unless their feet were on ice; Lord Derby always filled his mouth with brandy cherries; Fenimore Cooper used to chew gumdrops; Byron filled his pockets with truffles; Theophile Gautier burned incense.

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CALENDAR.

1911.		1912.
JANUARY	JULY	JANUARY
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1	1 2 3 4 5 6
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	28 29 30 31
	30 31	
FEBRUARY	AUGUST	FEBRUARY
1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
26 27 28	27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29
MARCH	SEPTEMBER	MARCH
1 2 3 4	1 2	1 2
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	3 4 5 6 7 8 9
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	10 11 12 13 14 15 16
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	17 18 19 20 21 22 23
26 27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30
APRIL	OCTOBER	APRIL
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
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29 30 31	29 30 31	28 29 30
MAY	NOVEMBER	MAY
1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
28 29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30	26 27 28 29 30 31
JUNE	DECEMBER	JUNE
1 2 3	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
25 26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	29 30
	31	