

THE

PSYCHIANA

BULLETIN

VOL. 1

JANUARY 1950

NO. 1

THE BEGINNING AND THE ENDING

By
The Wayfarer

Restless man is always searching for the *beginnings* of things. He is a walking question mark. He asks, and in asking, probes the recesses of the mind and the archives of history: "What is the source of life, or of energy, or of everything?" His insatiable desire to get at the origins of things keeps him fretful and restless. He needs to find these origins before he feels satisfied with himself, just as explorers followed rivers to their sources before they ceased exploring. The word "genesis" means beginnings--and we find that even the Bible starts with a wonderful book by that name.

And restless man is concerned about the *endings* of things, too. He wants to know the consummation of processes he sets into motion. He tries to understand sweeping international events of the present by anticipating or predicting their endings step by step. Man speaks constantly about the end of things. He talks about the end of his vacation, the end of life, the end of a job, the end of a program--in fact, he is disposed by his observations in his world of constant change to wonder at the end of all that he sees or touches. A common phrase at the conclusion of a story or of a book is "The End." In his world of change, I say, a man always expects things to end sometime. He plans that way, and is only greatly surprised when the anticipated end is unexpectedly sudden, as when storm or flood or the sword sweep him to ruin.

I know that man is baffled by what he has found at the end of his ever-enlarging telescopes, just as he is bewildered by the residuum at the bottom of his test

tubes. Moreover, in the intricate social adjustments needed to be made every day, the social scientist has not yet all of the answers nor all of the techniques. Take just one subject, for example, or one line for scientific examination--the atom; with the atom none has the full explanatory words to describe its wondrous power so recently discovered--power either for construction or for destruction. So almost all other lines of investigation, though much older, have "fringed edges" both at the beginning and at the ending of their considerations.

Therefore, I ask: Would it not be helpful to offer a new kind of assurance that there is a power in the world, which in its circle of influence, includes every other circle of thought that man has himself drawn? Would it not be deeply satisfying to know that there is a mind that is greater than all of the composite minds of men at their best, and abundantly able to grasp the meanings of plants, planets, and platoons? In whom there is both a beginning and an ending to every hypothesis which can be projected by mortals--a recognizable and dependable resource to account for and to resolve man's bafflements, to restrain him from despair at the contradictions of half-knowledge and partly-perceived truths? And, yet, in this limitless source still to find room for investigators to discover much more than what is already known, with enough intrigue to induce philosophers to search for new meanings to old things?

I want to come to you today with an answer to this conundrum of beginnings and endings. I want you to cease your furtive

and further questings. I want you to find confidence amid your questionings. In his historic creed, the Christian says, "I believe in God the Father Almighty," and students of Psychiana affirm daily, "I believe in the Power of the Living God." God is the answer. And I want to bring to you several great ideas from the world's best seller, and I will ask you to pause with me briefly at the doorway of each such idea as we ponder together about the great mystery of beginnings and endings. I think you will find that each of these ideas will be helpful, and the series will be cumulatively so.

I. "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God." (Psalm 90 verse 2). Let us look at these words with intense interest. How long is "everlasting"? Anything described by an adjective "everlasting" means that it DOES NOT HAVE AN ENDING. And when used as a noun, it means that state of "unendingness" very unlike anything man knows about. Now if, looking backward, a person uses this term "everlasting," it also implies "NO BEGINNING" --just as, looking forward, its use implies no ending. Hence, the one of whom it can be said that he is "from everlasting to everlasting" has neither beginning nor ending. That is, he always was and always will be. Such a one is perfect in his being, not only in his character but also as to time. There is only one such Power to whom this kind of a term can possibly be applicable, and that Power is God. This is such a satisfying revelation.

II. "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." (Deuteronomy 33, verse 27). The significant word here is the word "eternal." The word itself "as used of duration strictly implies absence of either beginning or end, commonly as the result of inherent quality." (Webster). It is not strange, therefore, that in translating the Old Testament Dr. James Moffatt has centered his attention upon this characteristic of God by using this word to describe Him. For example, he says: "And the *Eternal* said...etc." But there is further depth to this meaning when we read "underneath are the everlasting arms." True, the figure changes; but its meaning is that no matter how far down into the depths of either despair or knowledge a man may go, still beneath him will be the power of a sustaining God who is

described here as having arms able to support. If Atlas could be said to have upheld the world on his shoulders, why is it not even more natural to count upon God's arms of power to be underneath us all at all times, supporting our universe of which we are the center?

III. "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." (Revelation 1, verse 9). Do not be perplexed by these two strange words of Alpha and Omega. They are only the first and last words of the Greek alphabet. It is exactly as if we were to use our English letters A and Z. God is here represented as speaking, and he includes the whole of the past, all of the present, and everything of the future. And then, as if to climax this triumphant assertion, this deity describes himself as being "the Almighty." The resources of an "All-mighty" Power are beyond our computation; but our problem is to claim that power for ourselves, which is what we dare to do even now as we ask that God's power flow through us to make us potent for triumphs not yet experienced.

But, you ask: "What has all this to do with me, a man of the street, or a woman of the home?" I should like to answer that by making three practical assertions, although there is not space here to illustrate each adequately; but I mention them with the hope that each of us at the beginning of this mid-century year will be able to find our year fruitful and thereby begin our next half-century of success. If we understand God at all each of us can, by trusting Him, allay his fears and cease his witless wanderings; because in God we have a satisfying Creator, a significant Power, and a signal Presence.

We have in Him a *satisfying Creator*. It is more rational to hold that God created the first "firsts" of everything than to hold that two bits of energy accidentally collided to form the objective bodies within the universe. A great Mind is holding the universe together, keeping planets and stars and men in their positions. And the Creator has to be greater than anything He created--that is why when we discover the wonders of something we call new we are only actually uncovering a real essential of the world which God put there originally. In fact, in Him is the inexhaustible source of all energy, creative or otherwise.

We find in Him *significant Power*. Power

is what we all need for daily living. God is all-powerful. We call him omnipotent. If that is characteristic of Him, then (since His spirit resides within us) to the degree of our faith can we also be powerful. Being the temples of the Living God, and being made in His express image, He hath given us the spirit of power to use every day for all our needs. In our labor and through our sweat we know His power is in us and working through us and lifting us beyond our own otherwise imperfect abilities. Our task is to learn how to release that power which we have--to discover methods to make its use effective. And in the great affirmations that Dr. Robinson has given us we have made discoveries for ourselves through faith.

His is also a *signal Presence*. We have comradeship with the divine. None lives alone and likes it. We need never feel alone. The prisoner in his cell, the banker at his desk, the druggist at his scales, the laundress at her ironing board, the radioman at his tubes, the philosopher at his lectern, the bride being carried over the threshold, the beggar in the street, the foreman of his crew, the mortician in his chapel--indeed, none needs ever to feel excluded. God is now **HERE**.

He is **WITHIN**. That makes more meaning to one of the songs we hear sung so often:

"And he walks with me and he talks with me,
And he tells me I am his own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known."

Let us, therefore, this January, get along with God. Like him, let us throw away the calendar and stop marking time by days and months and years. Let us stop our clock-watching with its attendant fretting and haste. Let us go along with God daily, for he has all the time it takes to get his work done through people who will help him. There is this deep personal satisfaction for you this new half-century and this new year if your total confidence is in God. So may He who is without beginning and without ending bless you now and forevermore, world without end.

The Psychiana Bulletin is published monthly by Psychiana, Moscow, Idaho. Address all correspondence to The Psychiana Bulletin, Box 402, Moscow, Idaho. Subscription rates: \$1.00 for 12 issues.

SOMETHING NEW

We hope you will like this issue in its new dress. New type, new art work, new format, new features--these have been interesting to develop, and we hope will prove to be as interesting to you. The subscription price is kept low on purpose to be helpful to many readers each month. The editor would like to have your reactions to the whole issue--form and content. Please write him. Thanks. Ask your friends to subscribe, too.

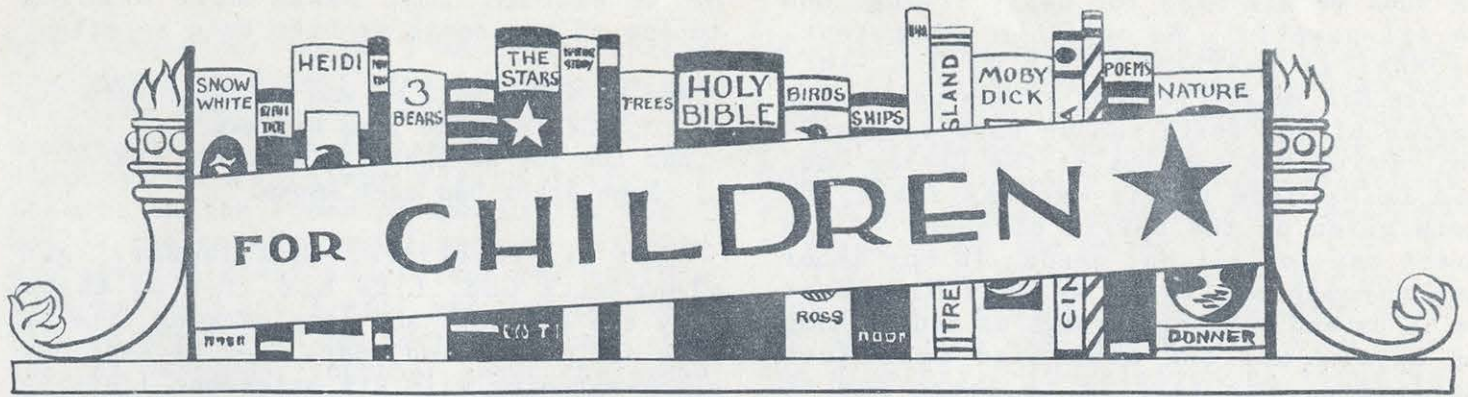
THE WORD "NEVER"

Let us take from our ordinary vocabulary the word "never." It is such a conclusive shutting of doors. It is so final in its connotation. I know that precious opportunities are not seized by us; but the word "never" does not apply toward their recovery.

Another word should be substituted--that word is "forever." It is comforting to know that in God's good time the qualities we hold dear are "forever" preserved, since God is what He is. Love is to be forever. Truth always abides. Friendships persist. Beauty lives on.

Therefore, let us each have faith that our unspoken desires, our postponed realizations, our unmet needs, will have their fruition "in God's good time." Do we not all know that good things of eternal value are worth waiting for? They are certain to come.





The Thompson Family

By

Sally Brightside



"Winter doesn't seem long to me," said Nora.

"Maybe it's because you like to do winter things," said Alice.

"Whatever are winter things?" asked Father who was supposed to be reading the paper, but had overheard Alice's remark.

Alice laughed and said, "Oh, skating and and parties and club meetings, and things."

"There you go again," said Father, "things"--

"I believe by things you mean fun, and you're perfectly right. Fun makes any season seem short."

Tom and Bob came in from the kitchen just then and announced that the dishes were done and the kitchen ready for inspection. "We tried your stunt, Nora, and it really works," said Tom.

"If you mean really doing a good job of dishwashing, it did work," said Father, as he came back from inspecting the kitchen.

"That's not the stunt, but I'm sure glad the job is good," said Bob. "Nora told us she and Alice play games while they do dishes. Alice thinks of a country and Nora asks questions about it. Alice can only answer "yes" or "no." After a few questions and answers Nora usually guesses and then she thinks of a person or place or thing and Alice asks the questions. After two turns each, Tom and I had the dishes done," Bob explained.

Just then the front door opened and Mother came in carrying a basket. "Hello, everyone," she said, "It was so much fun taking dinner to Grandpa Smith. He says

Grandma is getting so strong, she'll be home from the hospital on Saturday."

"We were talking about winter being fun, Mother. Do you think it is?" asked Alice.

"I like to go out in the crunchy snow when the sun is sparkling on it or at night as I just did. The sky is such a lovely deep blue and the moon and stars are so bright. It makes me feel that God is very near. I get that feeling in the spring, too, when I'm working in the garden. I think of fun as having a good time and being happy. Being with my family means that to me no matter what the season is."

"That reminds me," said Tom, "there is a Bill Smith in my room at school I'd like to invite for dinner. He doesn't like to stay home and keeps telling me he can't see what I find exciting about my home and family. It's hard to explain so I thought I'd show him if nobody minds."

"Wednesday will be fine for me if it is with everybody else," said Mother.

"I suppose Nora and I will have to change dishwashing days with you and Bob so you can entertain him," said Alice.

"Thanks for the thought, but the answer is no. Washing the dishes is part of the entertainment."

"No wonder he thinks we're queer," said Father, "but I think you're showing good judgement in just doing what we always do. When I was a boy we had company with a capital "C." You'd hardly recognize us. I always thought it would never be like that at my house when I had one and I was lucky enough to find a girl who had the same ideas."

"Maybe that's what's different about us," said Alice. "We seem to have a lot of ideas that are the same."

"They sure don't at Bill's. When I was there last Thursday, I thought I was going

to have to referee. Everybody wanted to do something different and do it his way. If anybody had listened, I might have told them about our Jamborees where each of us tells what he likes to do and why and then we vote and decide which is best and do that."

"Who won at Smith's?" asked Father.

"Nobody won. We didn't do anything because by the time everybody had argued and told everyone else off, it was time for me to come home and do my homework," said Tom.

"That's one big argument against quarreling," said Mother, "it wastes so much time."

"I have an idea for next Friday evening," said Father. "They tell me the lake is frozen solid enough for skating. How about going down for an hour or so and then coming home for hot chocolate and some games?"

"You don't expect to fight for an idea like that, do you?" laughed Mother.

Nora said, "I've been thinking about what Tom said. Why don't we each invite someone who doesn't think families are fun."

"That would make our party twelve instead of six," said Mother. "I like that idea."

"Twelve? You mean you and Father know parents who don't like family fun?" asked Alice, in amazement.

"Parents are people and some of them

haven't learned how to get along and have fun with other people any more than children have," said Father.

"Maybe we should invite another family then," said Bob. "Could it be Smith's?"

"It's all right with me," said Father. Everyone agreed.

"Would anyone like to sing a couple of songs before bed time?" asked Mother.

"It's my turn to choose them," said Bob. "Let's sing 'Families are Fun'."

Song--"Families Are Fun"
(Tune "Jingle Bells")

We have lots of fun, in our family
Each one does his best to be good
company.

One night every month, we ask our
friends to come

When they leave they're bound to say
It surely can be done.

Family fun, family fun,
We have lots of fun.
Each one does his level best
Never to be glum, Oh,
Family fun, family fun,
Let's have family fun.
When we share our happiness
We seem to hear, "Well done."

QUESTIONS



& ANSWERS.



(This section will be devoted to questions which come in to us from our Students. If you have a question, the answer to which you feel would be of interest to a great number of our Students, then send it in to us and we reserve the right to decide upon those questions which will be published.)

Question: How many different courses does Psychiana have at the present time and what is the general content of each course?

Answer: At the present time we have four series of Lessons: the Primary Series, which consists of 20 Lessons and is the

latest up-to-date revision of what was formerly known as Advanced Course No. 1; Advanced Teaching No. 1, which consists of 10 Lessons and is the latest edition of what was formerly known as Advanced Course No. 2; Advanced Teaching No. 2, which consists of 30 Lessons and which is the latest edition of what was formerly known as Major Teaching or Master Series; and New Psychiana, which consists of 27 Lessons and which is the last complete series of Lessons written by Dr. Robinson.

The Primary Teaching is for those who are beginners in the study of Psychiana.

Advanced Teaching No. 1 deals primarily with immortality and life after death. Advanced Teaching No. 2 deals with ancient crucified gods, together with other pagan customs and how they have survived through

the ages. New Psychiana deals with the basic application of the principles upon which Psychiana is founded, and is couched in terms which can be understood by both the church and unchurched.

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FROM NEAR AND FAR

Pennsylvania
July 26, 1949

Dear Psychiana,

I have just finished my second Lesson, and am eagerly awaiting my third.

I had an abundance of fear in my body which almost made me a failure. Started to pity myself and figured I could never make a come back.

Always was a successful business woman and had plenty of pride, and I was just about ready to give up.

I lost so much money through my husband's sickness. Lost our business and had to give up my Beauty-Shoppe, and I figured I didn't have a friend in the world after he died.

But how foolish--the world has no place

for a weakling. So I have studied my Lessons religiously and applied the God-Law to everything I do and what a change in myself, plus my friends which I thought had forsaken me.

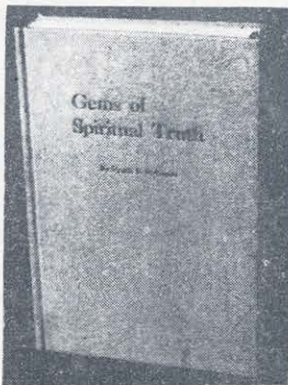
I have one particular goal I want to meet, and when I do I will write to you.

It has been such a pleasure to study this wonderful God-Law. "So simple but so mighty."

I have concentrated on that one particular thought for two weeks. I should have started this work one year ago when I first heard from you. God bless you in all your undertakings. He is surely helping me. I could keep on writing but I know this letter is entirely too long now.

I have had some wonderful results. Thanking you for everything

I remain respectfully
E.S.



Gems of Spiritual Truth

By

Dr. Frank B. Robinson

One of our Members recently stated: "Gems of Spiritual Truth" is an excellent guide and reference book. I find that I can easily find an article or quotation which fits my daily mood."

Yes, "Gems of Spiritual Truth" is a veritable gold-mine of sayings and writings of the founder of Psychiana which will fit every student's particular pattern of living. This book was compiled and edited by a Student of Psychiana. Included in it is the original ten Lesson series, which cannot now be obtained anywhere at any price.

Why not start this new year of 1950 off by ordering for your Psychiana library GEMS OF SPIRITUAL TRUTH? You will not be sorry that you did.

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