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LET THERE BE LIGHT

By The Wayfarer

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep; And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good, and God divided the light from the darkness."

These are the memorable words with which the book of Genesis opens. Curious enough, it is here recorded that the first definite act of God in the creative process was to create LIGHT. And, following the record, it was not until the fourth day (or epoch) that the "lightholders" (sun, moon, and stars) were created. God saw that light was GOOD, and He divided light from darkness.

So we, His creatures, have been enjoying light ever since; it is an essential part of our living; without it we would die. Think a moment; without light we would have no heat, and soon all of mankind would perish beneath giant glacial deposits; without light there would be no photography (what would some do without the movies?) to record the faces of those we love or the "scenes of our childhood"; without light there would neither be telescope nor microscope to study things far and near; without light we could see not one thing, and we would soon be blind "as bats"; without light there could be no fire; without light there would never be a rainbow; and in this July month, we could not have a single set of fireworks, not one sparkler, and not one firecracker. Who would want to live, if there were not light, -- indeed,

who could live? But that dismal picture never need bother us long--for God has created light, we have it always with us, and if we fail to use the light we have, we are the losers.

But let us get two things clear at the outset, even though they may upset some of our commonplace notions: one can be stated this way, that darkness is the absence of light; it is not an entity in itself; it can always be dispelled when light comes near and within; darkness, therefore, holds no terror for anyone, since it does not genuinely exist by itself. Recently, I was digging a basement for a new building. And I got into huge boulders, so that they had to be quarried out of the ground. These "niggerheads" were realities in themselves, and they were stubborn in their weighty resistance to pick and shovel. I could not reason them out of existence. They are different from darkness, let it be said. For darkness flees of its own accord when so much as even a tiny candle comes near. No powder to blast, as in the moving of rock, but just a little light. That is something worth remembering. God has always separated the two; it is His creative genius that makes darkness disappear when light shows up. Had you ever thought of that before?

(2) A further consideration to record here can be stated this way: Shadows are good, despite all of our figures of speech to the contrary. Because shadows prove the presence of strong light somewhere. For then some opague barrier stands between the bright light and the spot where the shadows linger. Move the light and the

shadows move. Have you not seen the shadows dance on the walls as you watched the flickering flames with the fireplace? Consider, too, that actually we have many lovely things that grow in the shadows (shade): fern, moss, pansies, tuberous begonnias, and many others. So it is that in our spirits where shadows sometimes TEMPORARILY lay across the sweeps of time, we grow deeply satisfying flowers of character, such as patience, perspective, solitude, and so on. In thinking of Heaven, many years ago a writer entitled a song: "No Shadows Yonder." The sentiment is good up to a point; but I repudiate the concept entirely; if there were no shadows in Heaven (whatever you construe that to be) we would all perish from the blazing light of the glory of God Who is in His heaven. It would be an ethereal place, to say the least, if the strong light of His glory would never cast a shadow anywhere. Anyhow, do not fear shadows any longer, they are your friends, and they can be beautiful.

I am wondering if we know how the "Good Bible" tells us about God in terms of light. This was quite a discovery for me. The Spirit of God reveals wondrous things to us every day, and part of these discoveries are what come to us when we ponder the words of great men. "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that GOD IS LIGHT, AND IN HIM IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL." (I Jn. 1:5.) Again, "The Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God and glory." (Isaiah 60:19). Reflecting upon this, I can restate it: It is the nature of God to be filled with light, so that everything that can stand the light, is like Him. In Him is NO DARKNESS at all. Whether you construe that literally or figuratively, it persists as the truth. Everything that loves light, is of God, for it is like Him. So when we try to understand what God is like, without and within, we can go about it by analyzing what in this world flourishes in the light, and thoroughly enjoys illumination, and from these discoveries reason ourselves (if we do not intuitively do so) back to God. Let us do some probing at this point.

What is there in the world of men which flourishes in the light? What institutions are there that need not do anything under "cover"? Good government, and honest politicans, both of which serve the people nobly, would immediately put us upon the pathway to God, Who is to govern His people

forever with justice and peace. Everything beautiful also would point Godward. The dew that distills on the roses in the morning, the flamingo rising gracefully from the placid water, the fragile wing of a butterfly, the hard stem and calyx of a crinkly carnation, the nostalgic sweep of the sunset sky, the haunting melody of all birds, the carving on an urn, the frescoes in a cathedral, the cupid face of an infant, -- in short, EVERYTHING BEAUTI-FUL would point us to God, for that is His nature. Further, all new life would direct us to God. Every young thing in the universe, innocent and blest with novelty: every noble idea that springs anew from the human breast; every sacrificial devotion which arises because of "new occasions that teach new duties"; and each single new-born lofty purpose wherever found (in explorers, philsophers, missionaries, priests, kings, peasants, artisans) reminds me of God. He is NEW LIFE. He initiates the generations. From Him there spring the progressive ideas of the world. Even atom and hydrogen power stem directly from His spirit and energy; only man corrupts that fresh and great dynamic by creating bombs. I say that God is revealing Himself daily to all seekers who will set out to find things that enjoy and flourish in the light -- for as sure as life itself, behind it there will be

"Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,
And back of the flour the mill,
And back of the mill is the wheat and
the shower,
The sun, and the Father's will."

I am further intrigued by what I read in Holy Writ. I quote again: "For with thee is the fountain of life; in thy light shall we see light" (Psalm 36:9). "Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance." (Psalm 89:15.) "When I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me." (Micah 7:8.)

This can be condensed by saying that in God's light we see light. Our illumination comes when we make some effort to walk in the light of God's ways and thoughts and power. We never need to be in darkness for one moment of our lives if we walk where God is; because He dispels darkness; and if we realize how powerful His light is within us, we can do wonderful things

because we see clearly what He sees and what He is attempting in His world. At the moment, I recall these: we can be forever freed from every psychosis, every

despair, and every loneliness.

Our minds play tricks upon us; we also get our bodies into such terrible conditions sometimes that our bodies (somatic) distort our minds (psycho-somatic) into outof-balance actions. Great darkness of bewilderment overwhelms us, and we look through dull eyes upon a dismal world which in our psychosis is peopled with weird and strange ghosts of yesterday, fearful goblins, and even giants of guiltcomplexes. But, let any one start walking in the light where God is, and all of these psychotic distortions will be dispelled. And it does not take much of God's light to dispel the worst of the darkness. Even one tiny candle of faith in the darkest moment will result in illuminations beyond speech to describe -- almost beyond capacity to contain and explain.

In God's light there is no chance for despair either. To surrender to lesser good, to succumb to temptations, to worry over past mistakes, to live in the confines and recesses of remorse--these are only for those who have never walked in the light of the great God of the universe. For he beholds all historical events, each personal history, and all purposeful action in the proper perspective. He it is, too, who can be trusted to be thoroughly just and fair in evaluations. He is not

a God of caprice.

In God's light, finally, there can be no aloneness. I know that loneliness will eat out the heart of anyone--or, to maintain our figure, will black out many a career. But a person never need be alone when God offers him his powerful light that is softly glowing within and shines like a beacon abroad. I tell you from experience that there are always God-

seekers everywhere who enjoy the companionship of other God-seekers. Sometimes it is by correspondence, sometimes it is by reading lines like these in religious periodicals, sometimes it is by association in some assembly. Would you understand me, or would you think I am prejudiced unduly, when I assert that among believers there is the greatest possible kinship and friendliness and creative outlet for personality! The unbelieving world knows nothing about this; how could they who walk in darkness know even one fractional part of the comradeship of those who walk in the light? Indeed! If you are lonely, the surest cure I know is to discover God's light, start walking in it face forward, and you will be amazed to find that all of the shadows are promptly behind you. Face the light, then, and in His light you will see light -- enough and to spare for your journeyings every day through this interesting world of ours.

Besides all of the above, we have the deep satisfaction when we have discovered that God is light, and we set out to walk in His light, that OUR LIGHT "giveth light to all that are in the house." We see how necessary we are to others, and to our present generation. "And the strong shall be as two, and the maker of it as a spark, and they shall both burn together, and none shall quench them." (Isaiah 1:31.)

If we let God have His creative way with us, He will say as in the dawn of creation, Let there be light; and (I promise you out of deep experience) there will be light."

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O what a glory doth this world put on For him who, with a fervent heart, goes forth
Under the bright and glorious sky, and looks
On duties well performed, and days well spent!

Longfellow--Autumn

Those Who Walk With God

Have you ever thought of life being something like a card game? Dr. Robinson draws this comparison: "Life is similar to a card game. You draw when you enter the game and you play accordingly. Most of us, however, seem to be laboring under the delusion that whatever cards were first dealt us are the only cards we can ever draw. Such, however, is NOT the case."

"Many are the cards which may have been dealt you when you first entered this game of life. You had nothing to say about these cards, either. You did not deal. You could do nothing else than accept the cards as the 'dealer' gave them to you. And to date, the chances are, you are highly dissatisfied with the game. The 'other fellow' seems to be having all the 'luck' while you seem to be always holding the 'losing' hand. Well, in this Lesson my friend, let me just point out to you a few of the things which may be accomplished by YOU --- whoever you are. For never were truer words spoken than this: you ARE the MASTER of your fate. You ARE the captain of your soul. And if you go on in this game of life, playing with inferior cards, it is simply because you want to. For the cards can be reshuffled and redealt, and THE CARDS CAN BE CHANG-ED --- remember that."

A great many people go through life playing the same cards which were presented to them, not even stopping to consider that they can rearrange their thoughts and actions. A Student in Pennsylvania brought this point graphically to mind in his letter to us. He said:

"A little over a year ago, in February of 1949, to be exact, things began to happen in my life of an adverse nature. Until that time I had always felt that I had received more than my share of misfortunes, but the things that began at that time were more than misfortunes. They were calamities. It seemed as though they assailed me like tidal waves. I was at the point of becoming desparate. My religion which up until that time had been of some small assistance to me suddenly became futile. To this day I don't know how I first became aware of Psychiana, whether I saw an advertisement in some periodical or someone gave you my name.

Anyway, I received some literature from you telling me about Psychiana. I kept it several weeks and one morning I signed the card and enclosed a dollar enrolling for the first course. I can truthfully say that it has been of untold value to me. I do not believe that I would have survived but for the new lease on life which I received as a result of your work. I always think of Psychiana as a scientific man's religion. Perhaps a better phrase would be 'an intelligent conception of God.'"

"..... The remarkable thing about Psychiana is that it works literally. It works because it is scientific, intelligent, and sound good sense."

Now here is a person who was not satisfied with the original draw in his particular game --- he decided to change the cards and HE DID! And probably one of the things which helped him change his circumstances was what he learned about the power of a thought. A wise man once said, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." If a person desires to have a drink of water he will not just sit and think about that drink of water, but his desire for a drink of water will motivate him to action, and he will walk to the faucet and take the drink of water which he desired. This example is applicable in everything we do. Thoughts motivate our actions, and cause us to do and say the things we do. But here is the difference between one who intelligently uses the power of thought and one who carelessly lets his thoughts get out of hand: The person who enmeshes or ties his thoughts to his most earnest desires will obtain that which he seeks; the person who lets his thoughts run rampant and doesn't try to direct these thoughts toward the improvement of his own circumstances is bound to continue to lose in the game of

But what about God? How do thoughts and the God-Law get together? Listen to this:

"THOUGHTS ARE MORE THAN THINGS --they are part of the DYNAMIC GOD-LAW I am
showing you. Did you grasp that? THOUGHT
IS THE MANIFESTATION OF THE GOD-LAW IN
YOUR OWN LIFE! In fact, there is NO OTHER
WAY THE SPIRITUAL GOD-LAW CAN OPERATE

AND COMMUNE WITH YOU IN YOUR WAKING MO-MENTS EXCEPT THROUGH THE POWER OF WHAT YOU CALL A THOUGHT!"

This is the point of fusion --- the point at which the Intelligence which created you can come actively into your life and bring to that life an abundance of the spiritual and material desires which you are longing for. This is one of the cardinal teachings of Psychiana, and one which has done more for individuals than any other. The power of YOUR thoughts

can change your life!

I am going to give you a little verse which has helped me many times. It is a little different way of expressing the general theme which I have been talking about. Here it is:

"Life's battles don't always go to the stronger or faster man, But soon or late the man who wins is the man who thinks he can."

(Perhaps you have a friend who would be given a lift by reading our new section Those Who Walk With God. Why not see if that some one can be encouraged and filled with more confidence by passing this section to him?)





Pennsylvania April 25, 1950

Gentlemen:

I want to come right to the point, and that is the condition of the world today.

I would like to make a suggestion, which you (can) place before every member of Psychiana through the Bulletin, instructing them to use the Power of God they have learned from our late Teacher and guide, against that element which is undermining our country from within and without.

Let us, every one who has found the Power of God, and knows that Power for what it is, use that Power for the good of humanity for the rest of the year of 1950, and show the spirit of our departed guide the progress we are making through his Teaching. I'm sure that God will bless us as His true children of God.

Let us forget ourselves to the extent that we use every effort at our command to use the instrument that saves instead of destroys.

Let us one and all show our departed guide's spirit what his true Teaching can do for humanity. I'm sure his spirit is with us as God is directing our Movement.

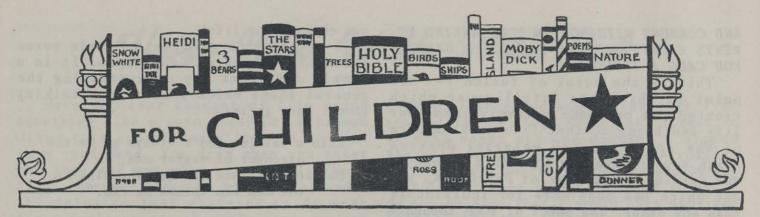
Instead of using the Power of God for ourselves, let us, day and night, throw that Power against every subversive element for the rest of the year 1950, and prove that Power for what it is.

Use your own words in describing this suggestion if you so desire.

Yours sincerely for success, C.G.C.

Editor's Comments: We felt this to be a very timely suggestion by this member and therefore we have reprinted his letter in full. Many of you can recall that Dr. Robinson urged each student of Psychiana to set aside a definite period of time each day for an affirmation and meditation directed against those who were impairing the freedom of this country and its peoples. During the last war these efforts by us were directed against the Axis powers, and especially Hitler and Mussolini. After the war affirmations for the condition of peace were given to you by Dr. Robinson. However, we would like to suggest here that each one of us set aside a few minutes each day for thoughts of peace throughout the world and the halt of those who would provoke trying world conditions which we are experiencing at the present time. Peace can eventually be a reality, and through the God-Law we all can materially help this condition to be made manifest. Therefore, in your daily communion period set aside a few moments and repeat the following affirmation. We can all help and really feel that we are accomplishing this end if we make this affirmation a part of our daily thought habits:

"The Power of the God-Law is bearing against those who would attempt to destroy the freedom of all men. They cannot succeed."



The Thompson Family at Grandfather's Farm

By Sally Brightside



"This is the part of the road I like best," said Alice. "I like watching for the house through the trees."

"If the mailman has just delivered the mail we'll see Grandmother out at the road," said Tom.

"I'll bet she has strawberry shortcake for dessert," said Father. "She always had that for me when I had been gone from home for awhile."

"There's the house and there's Grandmother

at the mail box," said Nora. "Honk the horn, Dad. so she'll know it is us."

"She's waving," exclaimed Bob, "doesn't

she look sharp in that blue dress?"

Father pulled over to the side of the road and stopped so the family could get out and walk up to the house with Grandmother. Everyone said "hello" at once and tried to get all the news.

"You can't imagine how we have looked

forward to being here," said Mother.

"All Grandfather and I have talked about since we got your letter saying you were coming has been what we would do," answered Grandmother. Then "my, how you children have grown. I can't imagine what you eat to make you such huskies."

"Dad always says that Mother cooks like you used to," said Tom, "maybe that accounts

for it."

"Don't think you're fooling me any with your soft talk, Tom Thompson," said Grandmother, "I'll get supper ready just as soon without that." "Speaking of supper, who wants to go down to the south field and call Grandfather"? asked Grandmother.

"Let's all go," suggested Bob.

"Hi, Grandfather," they all called when

they saw him.

"How nice you all look," said Grandfather, "I'm glad you got here before dark so we can look around after supper. I've got some surprises for you."

"Would any of them happen to be some-

thing I could ride on"? asked Bob.

"You never can tell," answered Grand-

"I'll help Grandmother with the dishes tonight," said Mother, "so you children can go with Grandfather to see the surprises he talked about at supper."

"Does children include me?" asked Father.

"It had better," said Grandmother, "it seemed to me that you were the most anxious to get away from the table."

"Is that the colt we thought was so spindly last year?" asked Tom. "You sure must have given him lots of attention."

"Nature has a way of working those things out, Tom," said Grandfather. "We just gave him the right food and nature did the rest."

"Every time I come up here I get more sure that I am going to be a farmer," said

lom.

"There's nothing I'd like better, Tom," said Grandfather. "If you really are interested why don't you come up and spend part of your vacation with us and get in some good practice?" Tom looked at Father who said it would be fine with him if Mother agreed.

"I always like to watch them put the cows out after they finish milking," said Nora. "If I were going to have a farm I'd

make mine a dairy farm."

Grandfather lead the way to the barn

where the cows were. Nora spotted a new calf. "Do you have names for them?" asked Nora.

"Sure do," answered Grandfather. "That calf you are admiring is Nosey. We call her that because she always has to find out about everything before she is satisfied."

"What I like best about the farm is the smell," said Alice. Everybody laughed at that, but Alice was serious. "It always smells so good," she added.

"I know what you mean," said Father.
"The air seems so fresh and smells of things

you like."

"I'm glad you know, Dad, because its for sure I don't, teased Bob.

"By the way, are there any berries down by the fence?" asked Nora.

"I haven't looked lately, but I'm sure

there are," answered Grandfather.

"Let's go down first thing in the morning and get some for breakfast," said Nora. "Don't tell Mother and we'll surprise her."

"We'd better be getting back to the house or Mother and Grandmother will wonder where we are," said Bob. "Besides I want to have time to do some singing before we bed down."

"Doesn't he sound like an old hand?" asked Tom.

"Can you still play the organ, Grandmother?" asked Alice when they were back at the house.

"And why not?" asked Grandmother. "Just call your favorites and I'll find them somewhere.

"How about 'Lamp Lighting Time,'" suggested Mother.

"After that let's do 'Swanee River,'" said Father.

"I want 'The More We Get Together,'" said Nora.

"We should do 'Alice Blue Gown' for Grandma," said Bob.

"I like the song and I like her blue dress. After all that I think 'Goodnight Ladies' will be in order," came from Grandfather.

"Would milk and doughnuts taste good before going to bed?" asked Grandmother.

"I can't think of anything nicer," said Mother.

When everyone was happily munching in the kitchen Alice looked around. "I think God planned a wonderful world," she said, "especially farms and grandparents."

*

*

Mr. Toadstool

By Sally Brightside

VI

David was having such a good time he had almost forgotten about lunch. Mayor Thimbleton took him over to a table in the park which reminded him.

There were pancakes with honey and lots of things he had never seen before. The cups were shaped like flowers and when he started to drink from one he surprised a bee who was inside it. David had always been rather afraid of bees. This one winked at him as it flew past. How could I have been afraid of a friendly little creature like that, wondered David. The drink was like the best nectar he had ever had. It tasted like daffodils smell.

After he had eaten lots of pancakes, David decided to try some dessert. It looked like snowballs and tasted like ice cream. He wondered if his mother could make anything like that.

Mayor Thimbleton seemed to know what he was thinking because he said, "Maybe you had better take a look up in your yard." There was mother and she was calling him.

"I've had a wonderful time, but I guess I had better go up and tell my mother that

I'm all right," said David.

"Very well," said Mayor Thimbleton "we'll find Mr. Toadstool and he'll take you back." And that is just what they did.

We are venturing some material for children of various ages, which we hope you will like. We invite your correspondence with suggestions. This same art head will be in each issue; and one thing "to do" for children is to color these "books," and from month to month see how wide a variety of "library" can be developed. The same will be true of the other drawing on this page. Try it.

HERE IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU!

For a limited time only we are making available to our Students 10 of our regular books for exactly one-half price! The reason we are enabled to pass this amazing opportunity on to you is that many of our publications are coming up for reprinting shortly and we must have more space and room for these incoming shipments.

Here They Are:

- * YE MEN OF ATHENS
- * A PROPHET SPEAKS
- * BLOOD ON THE TAIL OF A PIG

- * THE PATHWAY TO GOD
- * THE WANDERER
- * GEMS OF SPIRITUAL TRUTH
- YOUR GOD POWER
- * GOD IN THE DARK
- ★ FOR RENT --- A CROSS
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