

THE CHURCH OF
"PSYCHIANA"

(THE TEACHING WHICH IS BRINGING NEW LIFE TO A SPIRITUALLY DEAD WORLD)

ADVANCED TEACHING
NUMBER TWO

by
DR. FRANK B. ROBINSON



"PSYCHIANA"



LESSON NO. 15

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THIRD ADVANCED TEACHING

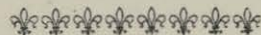
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BY

DR. FRANK B. ROBINSON

Fellow American Society Psychical Research, Author "AMERICA AWAKENING" "THE GOD NOBODY KNOWS" "CRUCIFIED GODS GALORE." "LIFE STORY OF FRANK B. ROBINSON" "WHO AND WHAT GOD IS" "IS THE STORY OF JESUS FACT OR FICTION" "THE NAME OF THE BEAST" Editor "PSYCHIANA" Quarterly, Founder "PSYCHIANA" Brotherhood, and author and founder of The Church of "PSYCHIANA."



In this Lesson, we will take up once more, or rather we will continue, the study of the creation of the universe from the scientific standpoint. In the last Lesson, I sort of wandered away from the subject, because I wanted you at that point to grasp the one great fact which I am sure you did grasp. That fact is the connection between the spiritual and the material. The conclusion we arrived at was that neither one of these two creations can operate without the other one.

I drew the picture of the corpse and showed you there a perfect human organism, exactly as you and I are. But that was only material. Left to itself, in a few days it decays, as must every material thing separated from the great Life Spirit or from the Spiritual Realm. Please grasp the picture very vividly that the Spiritual Realm is a useless realm except as it manifests through the material realm we know. Also remember please that if there were no Spiritual Realm, neither could there be any material realm. The life goes out of the tree, and it dies. The life goes out of an animal, and it dies. The same thing holds true with a human being.

Now in man, as we know him, we find a perfect functioning of spiritual and material together, insofar as life itself is concerned as we see it.

In nature we see only the material, but we know, for our reason tells us, that there must be a spirit of invisible life behind all nature. Now, when a person grasps that stupendous fact and allows his thoughts to dwell more in the unseen spiritual realm than in the physical, he will readily see how the spiritual unseen realm comes into the ascendancy. When that happens, of course, the physical and material begin to respond. And as the months and years go by, what happens to us or what we look at as physical life, changes.

You take the case of a man or a woman who has no interest of any kind in any life other than the physical. That person usually develops to the fullest extent physically. His or her whole realm is a physical realm. That is perfectly all right, I suppose, because in this instance, there is a normal, natural operating of the Spiritual Realm entirely outside of the control of the physical realm. This life principle, although it manifests for a period of about seventy years, for some reason or other leaves the physical.

Now, I am going to say something here which will probably knock you off your feet, yet it may be true. IT IS MY OPINION THAT THE REASON THE LIFE SPIRIT LEAVES THE PHYSICAL BODY IS BECAUSE IT SEES THAT ITS EFFORTS TO TAKE COMPLETE CONTROL ARE MEETING WITH FAILURE. In other words, we live in the physical. We see only the physical. We recognize, of course, in a dim, faint way the existence of the far greater Realm, but we ignore it.

Religious organizations have stepped into the picture and told us that by no possible means could we ever know anything about God or the future or an extension of the present life until we passed through this phenomenon called death. I am not so sure that that is true.

I am not so sure that if the death idea could be absolutely blotted out from the memory of all of us and became an unknown thing, we should not be able to live here and now forever. Oh, yes, we know that people say the physical body decays. And why does it decay? Is it because the Power of the Spiritual Realm is incompetent to continue a physical existence? If that is a fact, then the material realm is the more powerful realm of the two. I don't think that is the answer. I think that if our thoughts were ninety per cent of the time in tune with the Infinite, you and I would become so full of Spiritual Power that we should be able to control the life span of this physical body. Whether we would want to continue this existence forever, as it is now, or not, I do not know.

Some time ago, I asked several prominent physicians what would happen if the death idea had never been heard of or if it could be immediately blotted out from the memory of all of us. Their opinions differed, but they did agree that life would continue for a far longer period than it continues

now. The lowest number of years given me by these physicians was two hundred. Two of them went so far as to admit that it might be possible to live physically forever if we so desired. Now we know the earth is many millions of years old, yet it continues. Yet it is not anywhere near so marvelous a piece of mechanism as human beings are.

At this point you must remember that we are passing through a period of spiritual evolution. As far back as history takes us, the one predominating thought and idea of the human race has been death and heaven or hell at the back of it. You see now why I despise and detest everything that looks like a preacher or a priest. Years ago, they planted the seeds of doubt and unbelief in the great Life Spirit, and the seeds have taken root. Instead of these men knowing anything whatsoever about the great Life Spirit or the true God behind this universe, all they know anything about is a system of religious philosophy, which in the final analysis has been held by every different system of religion in the world. They have harped upon virgin births. They have prated about a cross. They have so imbued the minds of past races with the idea of in-born sin that it is going to take some time to obliterate that idea from the minds of thinking men and women.

It is a wonderful thought, though, that as far as being a religious power in the world today, the church is nothing of the kind. It has some political strength, surely; but it feeds on pagan superstition, and its success is dependent entirely upon the degree to which benighted and superstitious minds follow it. There never was a healthful, helpful, hopeful thought or philosophy in anything any church ever taught. Instead of being earnest and trying to find out or state what it did not know, it has come to us with a Bible in one hand and a threat of damnation in the other and has said to us, "You will either believe this story or you will be damned eternally." Well, fifty years ago, people were believing that, but not any more. For this reason, I stated that we are passing through a period of religious or spiritual evolution.

There are a few daring souls like myself who are not afraid to call a spade a spade. We are not afraid to publish the truth regarding the present church system as we know it to exist. Of course it hurts. Truth always hurts. But it only hurts because you are opposed to it. I am not saying that every man or woman in the church or every preacher or priest is dishonest. I wouldn't say that, but I do say that they have allowed their threats, dogma, and superstition to overrule their God-given reason and their God-given right of free religious thought. It isn't any wonder to me that they have turned everything they have loose on me in an attempt to stop this Teaching. No wonder at all.

When the two Post Office inspectors were in here trying to find something to hang onto me, I said to one of them, "Boy, these churches are certain-

ly getting vicious, aren't they?" His reply was, "Well, didn't you expect it?" Yes, I expected it, and the surprise is that it didn't come long ago. The churches were not a bit smart in their attempts to upset this Teaching. Had they leveled their guns at me the first six months, then it might have been different. But after eight years--I am afraid not.

You cannot paint a true picture of the world, however, and stand on one religious philosophy. Your picture must be wide enough to embrace the world as it exists today, and that, of course, includes all systems of religious teaching. Each one claims, of course, it has the only true gospel and that it has the only true God. Even the Jew does not believe in Jesus Christ and never did. There isn't a fundamental of the Christian religion that is not in the Hindu religions which antedate the Christian religion by a thousand years or more. But as you look back over the pages of history, you will find out that more atrocities have been committed, more blood shed through religion than through all the wars the world has ever seen. That one fact alone should brand it for what it really is.

There lies before me, at the present time, a very old book. It is called Fox's "History of Martyrs," or the "Acts and Monuments of the Christian Church," from its earliest state to the conclusion of the eighteenth century. It presumes to give a history of persons who have suffered for the religion of the gospel. It is one of the most horrifying things to read that I have ever read. It begins with the death of Herod and goes to the death of St. John, and then runs up to the eighteenth century. It is interesting to note that all these bloody, horrible, brutal torturings and murders were instigated by one church calling itself Christian, not in every case, but in most cases. In order to show you the absolute superstition of the human race at that time, let me quote from page 32 of Fox's "History of Martyrs":

"Galerius was visited by an incurable and intolerable disease, which began with an ulcer in his secret parts and a fistula in ano, that spread progressively to his inmost bowels, and baffled all the skill of physicians and surgeons. Untried medicines of some daring professors drove the evil through his bones to the very marrow, and worms began to breed in his entrails; and the stench was so preponderant as to be perceived in the city, all the passages separating the passages of the urine and excrements being corroded and destroyed. The whole mass of his body was turned into universal rottenness; and, living creatures, and boiled animals, were applied with the design of drawing out the vermin by the heat, by which a vast hive was opened, a second imposthume discovered a more prodigious swarm, as if his whole body was resolved into worms.

By a dropsy also his body was grossly disfigured; for although his upper parts were exhausted, and dried to a skeleton, covered only with dead skin, the lower parts were swelled up like bladders, and the shape of his feet could scarcely be perceived. Torments and pains insupportable, greater than those he had inflicted upon the Christians, accompanied these visitations, and he bellowed out like a wounded bull, often endeavoring to kill himself, and destroying several physicians for the inefficacy of their medicines. These torments kept him in a languishing state a full year; and his conscience was awakened, at length, so that he was compelled to acknowledge the God of the Christians, and to promise, in the intervals of his paroxysms, that he would rebuild the churches, and repair the mischiefs done to them."

Did you ever read anything as superstitious or as gruesome as this is? On the next page, I find a picture of a Christian being tied to the tail of a wild horse and dragged to death. On another page, I find a picture of a bishop tied to a stake with thousands of hornets turned loose to sting him to death. Just below that picture is another one which shows eighty-four Christian ministers burned on a ship by order of the Emperor of Rome. I could go on indefinitely almost, painting these gruesome, horrible pictures all committed in the name of religion. And how any thinking man or woman of the twentieth century can tolerate this gruesome thing which masquerades in the name of God today is more than my reason will grasp.

But once more, I state that we are going through a period of religious evolution, and my hopes are very, very high for the future of American people and the human race in general. The time must come when all these religious superstitions are banished from the face of the earth; and what a happy time that will be. Death will be an unknown factor. The physical realm will exist but be completely and perfectly under the control of the great God-Realm which is the motivating impulse behind all life today. I mustn't theorize about the future, though, because my work deals with today, not with tomorrow.

I am happy, however, that I have been used, and am still being used to bring the Truth of God, as this great Spirit actually exists to tens and scores and hundreds of thousands of people. This is a great work, and I am very happy in it. Whatever suffering I may have had to go through amounts to nothing at all when compared with even one day's work for the Kingdom of God. This new picture is so far ahead of all putrifying things that one cannot even think about it without being supremely happy.

There is an old hymn they used to sing when I was a kiddie, and it

goes something like this:

"Far down the ages, now much of her journey done,
The Christian church pursues her way until the
crown be won.
The story of the past comes up before her view.
How well it seems to suit her still.
Old, yet ever new."

Well, if the story of the past and the history of religion suits the church today, I wouldn't boast about it. Still, when you consider the church in the light of all that has happened and all that is still to happen, it may be for the best. I don't know. At any rate, it may have been necessary in the forward progress of evolution to go through these horrible periods.

Recently in New York City I saw one of the most ghastly exhibits of instruments of torture that it is possible to see. Bathtubs on rollers with sharp spikes three inches long and set three inches apart. If the poor "heretic" wouldn't accept the doctrines of the church, he or she was stripped naked and rocked back and forth in that devilish contraption until the church had put over its point and "won another convert." It is only the unbelief of man which perhaps has made the process of religious evolution so slow. And those who gave us these God-forsaken stories of crucifixion, resurrection, heaven, and hell, and all the rest of that, have a terrible debt to pay to society.

But we are trying to be helpful here in this Third Advanced Teaching. Yet it becomes necessary in order to catch a true comprehensive picture of the entire scheme to dwell upon the past religious history, no matter how distasteful it may be. I don't believe any new religious truth was ever given to the world without having to come through certain birth pangs. Whenever a man attempts to upset religious superstition and pagan tradition, that man can depend upon it that he will be called upon to suffer. That matters little to the true Spiritual pioneer though, because he is driven by a force, he is in the grip of a Spiritual Law, and if he is obedient to the spiritual vision, nothing will ever stop the message that Spiritual pioneer has.

If there were no church organizations today, the world would not go to the dogs as bishops and priests and preachers tell us. I have stated before, and I state again that the greatest thing which could happen in the interests of the Kingdom of God would be for every church organization in the United States to shut up shop. In the year 1936 sixty thousand churches didn't gain a single convert, and nine thousand of them closed their doors. There can't be very much of God in an organization with a record like that.

If it might be possible to take the eyes of the church away from its pagan idol, a great change would happen. It could be a great organization and a

great institution for God, instead of being the greatest stumbling block in the path of true religion the world has ever seen. I am reminded at this moment of a quotation from Emerson, "Great men are those who see that spiritual is stronger than any material force; that thoughts rule the world."

If it were possible to have the church forget all about virgin births, vicarious atonements, crucifixions, and all that tommyrot, and if it could be possible for it to devote its entire activities to finding and then preaching the Power of the Spirit of God, then my work would be over. There is a tendency that way. This preaching conference which recently covered the United States attempted to copy a good deal of my philosophy. But it didn't come from the heart nor did it come with the experience. So it didn't sound any too good, and the preaching mission was a failure. Hundreds of thousands of dollars were collected and spent. For what? I haven't noticed any wave of spiritual revival sweeping the country yet. To the contrary, I find these different organizations more vicious in their attacks on each other.

The Bible Institute of Los Angeles, through its mouthpiece, Mr. Rood, says that the Federal Council of Churches of Christ of America is a Communist organization. And so it goes.

There is always one sure test of persons in tune with the Infinite. There is never any argument between them regarding fundamentals. We do not find that situation existing in the present church, however. We find a good many of these denominations split in two. About one quarter of them say they believe in the divinity or deity of Jesus Christ, and the other three quarters say they don't. Yet they all preach under the same banner. They all draw their salaries from the unsuspecting public. What I would like to know is what is the use of it all? What good are they doing?

Take fifty church members known to you and compare them with fifty men and women who never see the inside of a church; and I'll warrant you that you can trust those who do not go to church to greater lengths than you can trust those who do. Try to find some evidence of Spiritual rebirth or Spiritual contact in the lives of any church members you know. And if you can find it, you can do something I have been unable to do yet. When the Spiritual Law which was responsible for the present created scheme of things began its first operations which resulted in the manifestation of things as we have them today, I wonder if that great intelligent Law could foresee the future. I wonder if it could look ahead a few million years and see what the result of the Law here would be.

The great consolation I find lies in the fact that the picture is not completed yet. The transformation from materialism and idols to the Spirit of God is not completed yet. When the final picture is painted and when the process of religious evolution has progressed far beyond the state in which it finds itself today, I would like to come back--say a thousand years from now and

see what the picture looks like then. I am afraid that it will be a picture so far beyond the comprehension of the present human mind that we cannot even faintly visualize it.

One thing is sure, and that is that the progress of all true religion is always forward. There are no mistakes made, such as the church God made when he created man and then regretted it and drowned them all like rats in a trap. There can be no regrets in the Realm of true religion, for true religion calls order out of chaos. True religion finds God among the chaotic conditions of the world and the universe existing without God.

Since the time of the ancients, the searching out of nature's secrets has been steadily going on. The accumulation of knowledge has been ever increasing. Every discovery made has opened up new avenues of thought and suggested ways of solving hitherto unsolvable problems. Look back, say fifty years or one hundred years, and you will find that one amazing discovery has followed another in rapid succession until the entire view of both the world and God has changed, and changed very much, from that of our forefathers.

The long list of mechanical inventions gives proof of science's incessant uncovering of the mysteries of nature. Sitting by my side is a radio. On the desk in front of me is a telephone. Flying overhead is an airplane. Standing in front of our building is an automobile. Yet, fifty years ago, all these were unknown. Yet in every case, in every instance, natural knowledge and law have been employed; and who would be fool enough to state that a new law came into existence when radio was discovered. The law of radio has always existed. The law of the electrical transmission of power over wires has always existed. The law governing the flight of airplanes has always existed, as has the law governing the principle of the gasoline engine. Yet fifty years ago we knew nothing of these things. Now, why was that? Because the law did not exist? Of course not. BUT BECAUSE MAN'S VISION AND IMAGINATION HAD NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO RAISE ITSELF HIGH ENOUGH TO SEE THOSE LAWS WHICH HAVE ALWAYS EXISTED. And I am perfectly within my rights when I state that there are other laws existing today far more stupendous than any law discovered yet. But the mind of man, and the imagination of man, and the faith of man have not yet progressed to the stage where it will believe that these things can be done.

There is in existence now an electrical ray which will kill a pigeon, even though the pigeon is so far away that it is out of sight. Now how much further than that they have gone, I don't know. But certainly you couldn't do that fifty years ago. Yet the law governing that electrical contraption of death has always existed. And if these things be so in the material, mechanical, physical world then, remembering that the spiritual always is manifested behind the material, who can say that far greater spiritual discoveries will not be made in the future than ever have been made in the past? As a matter of fact all of these new mechanical discoveries I have been talking about are but the reflections of human minds in tune with the Power of the Realm of God.

It is a fallacy to think that the Realm of the creative Life Spirit only operates through a religious organization. The great two hundred inch telescope on the top of Mount Wilson will bring the moon within fifty miles of this earth. Yet how could that great mechanical instrument have been built had not the vision of this Power of the creative Realm of God been used.

Orthodoxy would have us believe, of course, that God only manifests through priests and preachers and through the church. But that foolish dogma makes no allowance for the great scientific discoveries of all ages, this age in particular. No, I see the workings of the Spirit of God in one hundred men and women who make no profession of religion far more than I see them in one man or woman who does make such profession. A few weeks ago, I crossed the great San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge. I know who the engineers were who built that bridge. The chief engineer is a Jew who never believed in Jesus Christ. Therefore, according to the church, he is a lost soul. But, nevertheless, his God-inspired brain was responsible for that superstructure which is one of the world's outstanding engineering marvels. Do you not see the Power of the Spirit of God in the mind of the man whose imagination and vision built that bridge? I do.

Not long ago, I spoke from London, England to Moscow, Idaho. Now, it makes no difference whether Christians or non-Christians operated those telephone lines and the radio waves. I could speak regardless of that. And I did speak. The point I am trying to make is that to attempt to confine God to any religious organization is a very fallacious and asinine thing to do. Yet, that is exactly what has been done.

The church sings its song, "Nearer MY God to Thee," and while in a sense, that is true, yet it is not true in the sense which orthodoxy claims it to be true. If the only way we can judge the activities and the Powers of the Realm of the Spirit of God is through what has been accomplished by the church, then I am afraid we have a very impotent creature in God. But once more cast your eyes above on the next starlit night. Be quiet and listen. Stand there or lie there and catch, if you can, the rhythm of that silent starlit night, and the rhythm of the God behind it all. Then, compare that quiet stillness with the blah blah of the shouting preachers and the pious pap of the priests. Five minutes alone with nature and nature's God fades into insignificance every man-made theology the world has ever known.

I am trying to lead you now to the place where you will grasp a personal consciousness of the close existence of the Spiritual Realm of God to you. I am taking a round about way to do this. I pay no attention ever to literary style, because if I did that, what I write, in all probability, would never be read. I am following the leadings of the great Life Spirit in this Third Advanced Teaching, and I am very positive that before you finish your studies, you will be able to shout with joy for the present consciousness of the Spirit of the Eternal God in you.