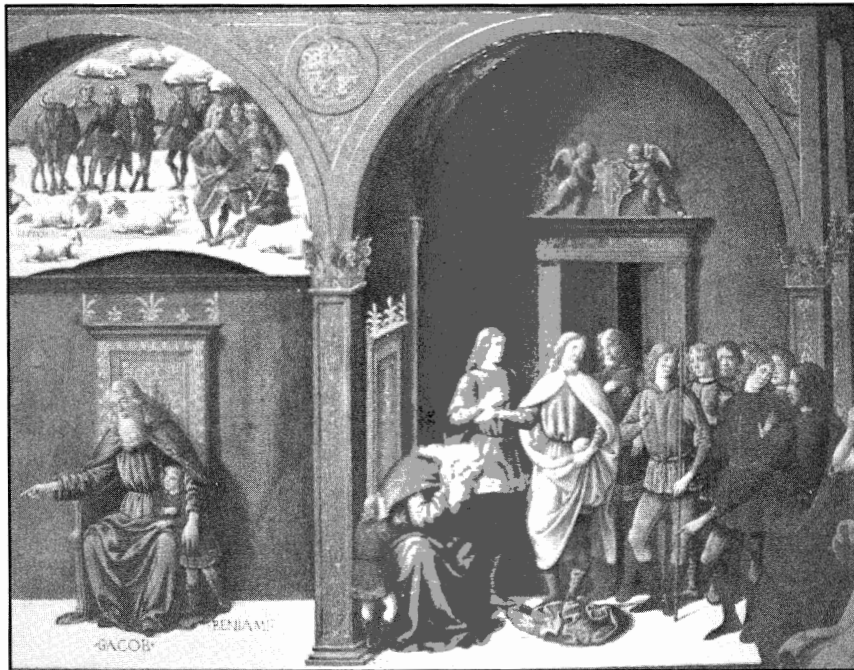


Western Wisdom Bible Study



Christ Jesus Predicts Judgment

Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not.

Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you.

And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.

All these things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father, neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

—Matthew 11:20-27

In reading the beginning lines of the above passage, one can hardly help being reminded of the many other cities down through the years which have rejected or at least been indifferent to the Teachings of Christ Jesus since the time of Chorazin and Bethsaida, and of the sad end to which they came. There comes a “day of judgment” for every city, as well as for every human being—a time when the fruit of past actions must be reaped.

However, this is in no wise a “punishment” from those Higher Ones who

guide our destinies. It is only the immutable working of the Law of Cause and Effect—the Law which proclaims that we must, individually and collectively, reap what we sow.

Thus it is no “accident” when cities are destroyed by earthquakes, volcanoes, floods, or other forces of Nature. These have been the means used from time immemorial to help teach mankind to learn and obey the spiritual Laws which govern all created things. It was no mere poetic justice that was involved in the destruction of such wicked cities as Herculaneum, Pompeii, and others. It was a reaction against the materialistic, vile ways of living of the inhabitants that brought each its just “reward.”

“As might be gathered from the fact that it is the reflected immorality and anti-spiritual tendencies of mankind which arouse the Nature forces in the seventh stratum to destructive activity, it is generally profligate and degenerate peoples who succumb to these catastrophes. They, together with others whose destiny, self-generated under the Law of Consequence, for various reasons, involves a violent death, are gathered from many lands by the superhuman forces, to the point where the eruption is to occur.”

In thanking the Father for having “hid these things from the wise and prudent,” etc., Christ Jesus was of course referring to those who had intellectual knowledge, but who were unable to cognize real truth because of a lack of heart development. The “babes” refer to those who may be entirely lacking in academic learning but who have unfolded the power of inner knowing through the heart or intuition.

The intuitive impulse is connected with the World of Life Spirit, the world of love and unity, and thus is drawn directly from the fount of Cosmic Wisdom. Through this faculty we may truly “know God.” □