

Western Wisdom Bible Study

Learning to Walk with Love

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. Matthew 5:48.

Till we all come in the unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of Christ. Ephesians 4:13.

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made Perfect.—I John 4:16,17.

The perfection mentioned above is not an idle dream, but a living, developing condition toward which we are all striving. Since humanity first became aware of the great breach between the omnipotence of the Creator and the weakness of its own powers, as related in the first few chapters of Genesis, when Adam and Eve took their faltering first steps alone in “eating of the fruit of the tree of knowledge,” man has gradually learned to walk upright and some few have even consciously walked with God.

It is interesting to note that Max Heindel avoided the use of the word *karma* in his books, preferring the word *destiny* or the phrase *Law of Consequence*. Too often this word *karma* has come to carry with it the connotation of punishment for a past offense. This is a perversion of its meaning, for this law is as impersonal and universal as the law of gravity in its application. It is outside and above the moral law of good and evil; the moral laws, based on the Ten Commandments were given to man to aid in his relationship with other men.

The universal laws, such as that of Consequence or Cause and Effect, and Harmony (the finite mind has cataloged seven universal laws) are laws that operate on the higher levels. Since the material world is only a reflection of the spiritual, it follows that, when the spiritual side



of man comes into harmony with these divine laws, then the material working out is abrogated. By this we mean that when a man truly repents for a wilful disobedience of moral laws and comes again into harmony with the higher laws the effects of his wrong act are forgiven him. Max Heindel writes, “even though we are not able to make restitution for a wrong, the sincerity

ty of our regret will suffice. Nature does not aim to 'get even,' or to take revenge. Recompense may be given to our victim in other ways."

The Law of Consequence may be summed up in the verse from Galatians: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soeth, that shall he also reap." As we have stumbled in our weakness, or overextended ourselves in our exuberance, or overstepped the law in ignorance, are we brought up short and learn what and where are our limitations. Thus do we gain wisdom through experience. Every sorrow or trouble that comes to us demonstrates some lack of soul-quality which only such an

experience as this can teach, and so brings us closer to the "perfect man."

Earthly experiences, distilled into wisdom between incarnations, is the only way we have of learning to walk consciously with God. An intelligent acceptance of these limiting factors is the first step toward completing this particular lesson. When our mind has accepted it, then we can analyze and incorporate it into our way of life much as a child learning to walk learns to dodge obstacles or to remove them from his path.

It is this picture of the infant learning to walk, guided and helped and loved by his parents that makes the best comparison of learning to live in perfect harmony with God's laws. If we can read the Old Testament with this analogy in mind we can see beneath the fumbblings of the old chroniclers, and trace the loving parental hand of God as He guided reluctant humanity. How well they learned to walk is to be measured by the great multitudes who recognized the higher ideals of the new teachings of man's perfectability as explained in the New Testament in Christ's work. □

Freemasonry and Catholicism

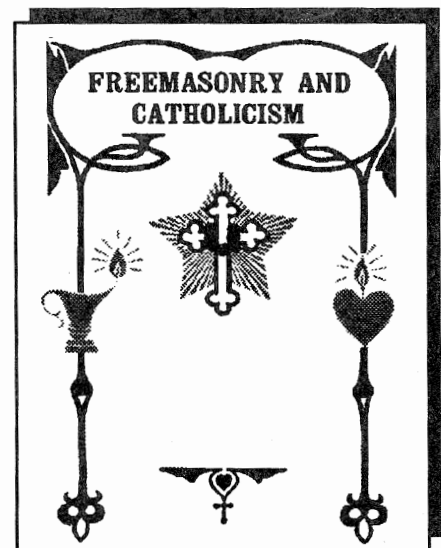
by Max Heindel

AN EXPOSITION OF THE COSMIC FACTS UNDERLYING THESE TWO GREAT INSTITUTIONS AS DETERMINED BY OCCULT INVESTIGATION

Unravels the mysterious conflict between the Sons of Cain and the Sons of Seth. The table of contents includes:

Lucifer, the Rebel Angel
The Masonic Legend
The Queen of Sheba
Casting the Molten Sea
The Mystery of Melchisedec
Spiritual Alchemy
The Philosopher's Stone
The Path of Initiation
Armageddon, the Great War

Enlightening reading. Published by The Rosicrucian Fellowship. Paper. Indexed. 110 pages.



only

\$7.95

Order now!

(order on page 64)