

Sample from our new publications - The Eagle Soars
The Book of John
as
Interpreted by William Allen LePar
John Chapter 5

Each one of us will have an opportunity to express our godliness not necessarily in having to give up our life but in smaller ways, less expensive ways. In this respect we should have a great deal of honor and respect for the man Jesus Christ and for the god Jesus Christ because through that great example of love that he went through, we are only asked to desire to be able to do it. That is our requirement, that we have the desire to do it. The action has already been completed. The ultimate price has already been paid and so what was established then in the material manifestation is a consciousness that permeates every atom of this creation. That includes you and me. Whether it is a physical atom or a spiritual atom. Simply by our desire we are gaining strength from this mystical body or this Christ consciousness that flows into us and gives us even greater inner strength to accomplish if we turn the switch on. When we hear about being drawn to the crucified Christ that does not mean that we should all desire to be nailed to the cross or being horsewhipped or be martyred or anything like that. That is not what we should desire. A more useful desire is the desire to help serve a brother or sister. The desire to die for your belief in God is an ego trip and is not as productive as the desire to serve someone because in serving then you are demonstrating your mastership that each and every one of us possesses. It is just a matter of us demonstrating it, practicing it.

From the very beginning when Christ brought us these truths as part of God's Divine plan it underwent severe and constant persecution and yet all through these centuries man has known it to be a divine truth. It was perpetuated by the very persecution, by the very negativity that wished to erase it, to rid man of this truth. Thus we have a beautiful example of a triumphant God, a triumphant Christ, a glorious and incomparable God and His Divine plan.

When you stop and think of this you should get a tremendous amount of excitement. Do you realize that all you have to do is WANT to reach perfection and you have made it? How many people really think of it that way? Usually when they talk to you about reaching perfection they say, "Oh, that means work!" No! When you have a sincere desire to reach perfection it is one heck of a good time. You do not have to walk around with monk's clothes and hide in the corner, and

shake pray beads all day because a true godly existence is living, it is laughing, it is enjoying people and enjoying them in a good wholesome way. It brings a great amount of inner peace and fulfillment. You can look at someone and not have the slightest tinge of guilt. You do not even question your motivation in looking at them. It is a tremendous feeling. I will venture to say that if people were just to try it for one day out of their life. Just get up first thing in the morning – ok, time to get up whether you get up at 4:00 in the morning or 4:00 in the afternoon, if you start that day out with saying, “Man, what kind of challenge am I going to have today to prove myself?” Look at it in a positive way. It becomes a lot of fun. Oh, there are times when it is not quite so much fun and we wonder why we got up. In the morning if you apply this joyous attitude for proving your godliness the rarer those not so good days become.

Now verse 24.

ESV – Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

Jerusalem – I tell you most solemnly whoever listens to my word and believes in the one who sent me has eternal life. Without being brought to judgment he has passed from death to life.

This version has a stronger word in it that might mellow some of the bible thumpers’ translation.

New American Bible – I solemnly assure you, the man who hears my word and has faith in Him who sent me possesses eternal life. He does not come under condemnation but has passed from death to life.

What that statement means is that the minute you accept the word of Christ - now again to accept Christ, to accept his word means to accept the attitude and the lifestyle. The minute you have decided to do that you have already raised yourself above your own condemnation. You have automatically raised yourself up above the necessity to reincarnate. All you must do after that then is maintain that desire. It is as simple as that. If you do not ever learn another thing from this bible class, if you do not ever come back again and you take that one simple thing with you that is all you will ever need. You will never come back into the material manifestation again. Never! You talk about truth and mysteries in the bible. Oh, there certainly are if you fail to read it and if you fail to do a little common sense homework.

Many of us would rather go sit two hours and hear some dummy like me tell us things when really we should be out doing it ourselves.

How many lectures have I gone to and come out with some strange ideas that I thought were the truth until somebody said maybe you ought to just look that up. Maybe you ought to check and see if that guy knows what he is talking about. How many times have I found out that some of these “big” speakers were commercializing on people’s ignorance? In fact to play the devil’s advocate I might be feeding you all a cockamamie story so why don’t you go out and do the investigating by yourself. Then maybe you will convince yourself. You will find out for yourself that reaching perfection is a very simple thing.

The statement that Christ makes in verse 24 is point blank, that whoever accepts him and what he has to say about the Father has eternal life and anyone who rejects what he says and says about the Father has already condemned himself. To believe in Christ and to accept his word simply means that you must take on a Christ like attitude. You must begin to act Christ-like. You must love in the proper way. You must manifest that love in a proper way. I can love a person with passion or I can love them with brotherly love. Which will be more rewarding? The one with brotherly love. I can love a person that I personally cannot stand simply because that person needs love. That is for my benefit and for the other person’s benefit. We both gain. Even though I might not like that person. Even though that person may be completely opposite to what I feel a person should be, when I know that person needs love and I show him love, I bring myself above my personal desire. I begin to see in that person as something greater than what I see on the outside then I am demonstrating my godliness.

Just like I said, there are a lot of people I cannot stand. I am asked this often. What do you do with people you do not like? You just do not like them. That’s all. There are a lot of people I talk to who I would just as soon not talk to but you must be able to come above that if they need help. You can love a person but it does not mean you have to like them. That is not a contradiction. You do not have to like a person but you must love them. If your neighbor is a chronic complainer and she throws her garbage over in your yard or she does not let you put a fence up between your yard and hers and she is giving you all kinds of trouble you can dislike her. She deserves to be disliked because she is antisocial but if she needs your help then you must help her. You must love her enough to overcome your own personal dislikes because that person may have been sent as your next door neighbor simply to test you, to give you the opportunity to demonstrate your godliness and your greater love. Too many times we look on people we do not like

as curses. They may be blessings in disguise. That may be the very thing that will get us into a state of mind where we are truly perfected as far as the material manifestation can hold perfection.

I think that we are all aware enough that if I use this example you will not misunderstand. Suppose perfection required you to do ten good deeds. You had to do 10 good things to become perfected so you would not have to come back into the material. Maybe that next door neighbor might just be the one who gives you that tenth opportunity so you can skip over. She may have tested you for 5, 10, 15, or 20 years and just been the biggest burden on your back and the one opportunity to demonstrate your godliness you miss or don't take full advantage of. Maybe that woman underwent an entire lifetime of grumpiness simply to give you that one opportunity to get number ten. Now perfection is not on a scale like that but that is an example. A lot of times when I meet people that I dislike, I wonder if that is the one that is going to get me over the top?

We now understand what believing in Christ or accepting Christ means. To put it very briefly this means three things. The important thing is that we must accept these three things.

First, it means to believe that God is as Jesus says He is, that He is Love, and to enter into a new relationship with Him in which fear is banished. In other words, we are not to feel a fear of God because God is total love. To try to have a relationship simply out of fear is no good. You must want to have a relationship with God because you love Him and you know He loves you.

Second, it means to accept the way of life which Jesus offers us regardless of what the difficulties or what the sacrifices may be involved. In other words, regardless of what your position is in life whether you have no money and live in the ghetto or whether you are an extremely wealthy man you accept that situation that you are in and accept the love of God right from the place where you are and then begin to work for something better. Do not say, "I will love God when I finally get done hating Him because I am here in this destitute situation." You are there in that destitute situation simply because of a karmic debt or maybe you are a little bit higher evolved or maybe you are doing that for some other reason but you cannot blame your God. You cannot blame anyone or anything but yourself. You must accept the totality of God's love and that loving relationship right from that position and then you go through positive thoughts to whatever means that comes to your awareness to bring yourself out of that situation. To accept this way is the ultimate way to peace and happiness. To refuse is the ultimate way to self-

condemnation. If you blame God for your miseries you will condemn yourself even greater. I hope everybody understands when I say condemnation and self-condemnation what I mean by that is not fire and brimstone. That simply means that your karmic debt that you will create for yourself will be that much greater later on.

Third, it means to accept the help that the risen Christ or the transcended Christ gives and to accept the guidance the Divine Spirit or the Holy Spirit offers us. We find strength by our way of imitating of Christ. Accept the help of the transcended Christ, the risen Christ. That consciousness that Christ has left, that permeates everything. Accept that. That is an energy, that is a vibration and we can draw it into our own physical and spiritual beings. It acts as a life source, an energy, a force that will help us to overcome our own self. By reaching for that consciousness it also brings in the spiritual guidance, that of the Divine Spirit, the Holy Spirit. The more you desire in a godly sense the more guidance you will have and the more obvious that guidance will be and the more dependable that guidance will be because you will learn to depend on it. It is not that the guidance is not dependable. It is because we do not learn to depend on it. If we only take part of the guidance and we fall flat on our face, but if we accept the totality of this Divine guidance it will bring us above everything. It will give us all sorts of inner spiritual strength and make our life, our physical life, even better. Not to mention anything about the great growth spiritually.

Once we have accepted these three points then we enter into three new relationships. We enter into a new relationship with God. This God that we have often seen as a judge or a being who says, "off to the fiery pits" or whatever our term of a judgmental God was, that judge then becomes a loving father. That far away God then becomes very near to us. That stranger becomes very intimate to us. He is no longer something out in the distance. He is something very close inside, very tender. God whispers very gently in our ear. As we have said before God is the lover of men. He is our lover. He woe us in His being. It is only our selfishness that does not allow us to be cradled and the fear that we once may have had of our God then becomes love. We enter into a new relationship with our fellow men. Those people that we once hated now we can love because we see godliness in them that we know cannot be hated.