

L E C T U R E
"THE SON OF MAN"

-by-

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-at-

UNITY AUDITORIUM, KANSAS CITY, MO.
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Do not pray as the Pharisees. "When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and, having closed the door, pray to the Father in secret; and the Father that heareth in secret, shall reward you openly".

Matthew 6:6

That is one of the finest admonitions, directions of true prayer that was ever given to man. Now, a Pharisee is one who believes in the form of things. He studies the Scripture as history; believes the literal letter of it, and wants us to take all things in a real material way. But the followers of Jesus Christ are not Pharisees; they are not Scribes; they don't describe anything except in terms of Mind, Spirit.

So, when we pray, we must pray in the Spirit. Now, there are two realms of consciousness which we every one have:

the outer realm, which is the Gentile, the external, the Pharisee, the Scribe - sees everything in the external world; then that inner mind, that inner consciousness which beholds the face of God. We every one of us have these two phases or two states of mind. They are always with us, so long as we are in duality. But which do we desire above all? Why, you say at once, the Spiritual State of Mind. That is the real; that is what we are striving for.

Then, if you want that, you must practice identifying yourself with it, because in no other way can you bring it forth.

Then this is the whole object of prayer, - to identify oneself with Spiritual Mind, Spiritual Consciousness. So,

let every man pray. If you don't pray, you go into materialism, because, there is the strongest pull on the I, is toward materialism.

So daily practice, in which you strive to realize this inner spiritual nature, is necessary to your well being. In every of our meetings, in all of our gatherings, we should make the essential point of prayer paramount.

Let us, then, enter into the closet, close the door, and pray to the Father in secret, get still. You can still your mind, still your own body, and you will find God. God dwells in eternal stillness. Let us be still, and carry with us to-day this idea, "I am the Son of the Living God". Let that be your secret thought: "I am the Son of the Living

God". Let us, everybody, enter into the stillness, in the presence of God".

(S i l e n c e)

The subject of our lesson this morning is the "Son of Man", Son of Man, based upon that Scripture in which Jesus asked his disciples, "Whom do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" Now, we have a Scripture Reading, a Responsive Service based upon this text, and we would like to have you all join in it. You will get a better understanding of the lesson.

(Responsive Service).

Who is the Son of Man? What is the relation between the Son of Man and the Son of God? Who is that in man that says "I"? In what department of being does he belong?

These are all questions of vital import to man. These are questions that can be answered only by man. These questions can only be answered by the individual. I can't tell you about all this in a satisfactory way. I can point out here and there some of the Principles involved in the proposition, but, like everything else, you must have the consciousness yourself. You must have the understanding of these great Principles - and they are great principles - just as you have the understanding of mathematics and music. You work the proposition out from your own view point., and you get results just in proportion to your

observance of the Law.

Now, in this question of, "Who am I", is involved the Law. We know that there is an eternal going forward; that the Law of Progress is the only Law; and that man is part of that great forward movement - tell the Children of Israel to go forward.

In this evolutionary process, we are, above all, bringing forth a man. Man is the acme of God's creation; and the one man that we are bringing forth is 'myself'. Then, it is a question of "How shall I get hold of the factors that enter into my being, that will make me what I aim to be, what I desire to be, what God has implanted in my being to be. How shall I go forward with the Law".

Now, there is a Law, progressive Law, a law of larger and larger consciousness and better understanding every moment. This law enters into the development of man. We have but few examples of men who have entered into this progressive movement with the fullness of the God idea. And Jesus stands at the head. Consequently, we take his Life and his words and his example as of far greater importance to us than any other man that we know anything about. He developed within himself powers; he expressed the potentiality of man, and demonstrated what man was, in a larger way than any other man. Consequently, he is a good teacher. We may not all believe that he was the very God come into the earth, but we do know that he was a supreme man; that he brought forth powers in himself that most

of us have but faint comprehension of. Consequently, all of these points that he brought up in his life are for our study.

What did he mean? What was the meaning, in my life, to the Life of Jesus? There is a comparison; there is an illustration in his life that will be of vital importance in my onward going. And we, if we have the least spark of ambition, want to go to the highest, we want the very best that is in us, and we can get it if we study ourselves and get real points here and there from the lives of others.

Now, Jesus came to a place in his development where he began to question within himself, "Who am I; who am I". "I seem to be the Son of a man and a woman; that is, I am the son of the human race, a product, apparently, of the human race,

and yet there is something in me that tells me that I am from a higher Source than this". Now what -- we will take for granted that Jesus was really talking to himself, this was a questioning within himself. We are told that he was in the enviroing Cities of Philippi and Caesarea; but we know that that is all symbolical. His life, as it is written out here, is an allegory, it was an illustration of what man passes through, and just what steps he takes into the higher development of man, because Jesus took that highest phase of man-consciousness; and when he came to this place, in which we every one come sooner or later, where he said, "Well, men say so and so about me, but I want to know what the highest in me has to say about myself".

one of us which can't be explained, but is. You know you have it; you know that you can with your mind discern certain things, but to put that discernment into language, and tell the logical, reasonable conclusion, you can't do it.

This shows that we have faculties that transcend the ordinary intellectual reason, that arrive instantly at the conclusion; and when that questioning came to Jesus as to "Who am I", he wasn't yet in clear understanding. He was asking himself, "Whom do men say that I, that son of man, am?" And the mind says, "Well now, you may be a reincarnation of Jeremiah". You have all had, probably that same experience, as you felt the rush of the Spirit into your mind and body. You would say, "I must be something more than an ordinary man. I

wonder whom I am". And you think about all the theories of reincarnation, and you would ask Yourself that question. And all of these ideas would come rushing in. You have read, probably, in our current literature, about men who claim to be the reincarnations of this one and that one; but those are only limited steps in the progress of man. He is something greater than and higher than all the personalities.

I might have had experience in the world, and gone through, in my various movements, every race. I may have been the greatest of the great; but would that count in the sight of this higher Spiritual man? Not a bit. You might travel around and around and around - wear mask after mask; take every part in the human family, and still you would be a man

after the son of man order. And you would be born and you would die, and you would go through all of this circuitous route of the human, until you get hold of yourself and said "Who am I, this Son of Man"? "Am I always going to be just a human being, or must I awake to that next step, which is the Son of God?"

Now, the son of man and the Son of God are one and the same. The only difference is in consciousness. The Son of God must step out of the son of man consciousness, and enter into the Son of God consciousness. Then he becomes the Christ. And the one faculty of mind which recognizes, above all others, this Christ mind, is Peter, - Faith, Discernment. He realizes the Substance of spiritual ideas. Until you get the Substance

of Spiritual Things into your consciousness; until you can realize that Spirit as Substance; that Spirit as eternal, everlasting being, you can never become consciously the Son of the Living God, because the Son of God makes a spiritual body, and that body is substantial. These bodies that we have now are not substantial. They pass away, they go through changes. When you have incorporated into your consciousness the body of the Lord, then you have something eternal.

That is what Jesus Christ was talking about when he said, "He that eateth of my body and drinketh my blood shall never see death". This is life everlasting. So, when this question of what you are comes to you, get an understanding of the Truth, and let that high thing within you say, "I am

the Christ, the son of the Living God".

Then what is the next step? A certain crucifixion, passing away of all things that pertain to limitation. As it is a material body, that body must be crucified. If it is a man that believes in the things of the world as necessary to the Kingdom of Heaven, why, that must be taken away. So this explains why Jesus talked about going up to Jerusalem and being crucified. The Son of Man must be crucified; he must be killed, and yet, after three days, he will be resurrected.

Now, metaphysicians, modern metaphysicians, have discovered that there is a principle that will restore their bodies to health -- God. And that, only through the worship of God, through the understanding of Truth, will they ever have

health. And we are healing people here and there and everywhere. Many of us stop right there. We think that if we have healthy bodies, that is all that is necessary, because a man with a healthy body can get riches; he can develop his mind and get honors; he can become great in every direction if he only has a foundation of health. But is that the teaching of Jesus Christ? Why, he says that man of health must be crucified, he must die. Yes. Does that mean that all these bodies of ours are to die? Yes. I don't care how healthy you are, that seeming healthy body of yours must go through a transformation. We can build up this flesh man and make him very healthy, and he will still be an animal; he will still be confined to the limitations of the material world;

and that man would invent all kinds of machinery to simulate the real body of Christ.

Now, this Body of Christ is the creation of Spiritual Mind, and when once you have discerned yourself as the Son of the Living God, chained lightning begins to run up and down your back-bone. Did you ever think of that? Lots of people get the idea in their minds, and it is an intellectual perception. They can bring themselves into states of harmony temporarily, but when the regenerative process of Almighty Spirit sets in, there is something doing; there is something being set into action in the whole organism, and the man of fleshy perfection finds that he must be crucified; that he he must die; that the new man, the man of ascended spiritual

material, may come into expression. Jesus Christ, you will remember, resurrected his body. That is true. He brought that physical organism up to what might be called the psychical plane, but he had to go one step further, and that was in the ascension, in the illumined body he appeared, and that is the only body in which the Lord can dwell.

And this is the whole meaning of this teaching, that man must put on the Lord's body. He must have the body of energy and force and power that will fulfill all the ideals of the mind. Men are inventing flying machines, because the mortal man sees the necessity of being omnipresent, getting there. But when man really flies, it will be in his spiritual body. He will think of place, and place will be omnipresent,

he will be there with his soul and his body instantly.

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Now, that was the kind of body^Jesus Christ developed. And this is going on right within every one of us, when we begin this understanding of the Spirit, and its perfect expression. Now, whatever you discern in your mind, becomes expressed in your environment. That is a law - a law that we can't get away from; and if you can think of yourself as having a spiritual body, you begin at once the manufacture of that body.

We have a habit of separating ourselves from these processes, of trying to imagine the Christ Mind and the Mortal or Carnal Mind separate from ourselves. But the fact is that they are all one, that is, so far as condition is concerned. It is merely a matter of consciousness.

Now, these processes are going on in all of us. And this great proposition that we are setting up, which is that man does not have to die, enters into this understanding. I die daily. I don't know that Jesus Christ was crucified on a certain day - hung up on a cross. That was only symbolical; that was one of the ways in which the Romans killed their malefactors. But it was used in this Scripture to illustrate; but the crucifixion of the material is going forward and takes place every time that you get a thought of the real spiritual man. These ideas are sweeping through our minds and our bodies constantly, and producing these atomic changes.

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I have within me a spiritual body that, we will say, has developed to the point of a boy ten years of age. Next year

that body will be a little older, not his development or his condition will not be confined to years, but the number of right ideas of my real being that I introduce into consciousness. And the old man of flesh may be passing away. He dies daily, but the new body in Christ comes into resurrection and ascension to-day.

So the process is going on and on, and we are becoming more and more into the consciousness of our spiritual bodies. As I say, when you feel the thrill of Life, after you have held the thought of Life, you may know that that response comes from the Spiritual body that you have formed within yourself.

Some good Christians form or cling to two planes of

consciousness. They think that the body must go through absolute death and decay, and finally, in some mysterious, unknown way to them, bring forth the spiritual body, which comes after death. But that isn't the teaching of Jesus Christ; that isn't the teaching of Science; that isn't the teaching of common sense. We know that all things are here, and, as Paul says, "Some of the brethren have fallen asleep, because they discerned not the Lord's body". People fall asleep - that means they die - because they don't discern this living spiritual body of the Christ Mind,-the Christ Mind in you makes the body.

As I say, it makes that body every moment that you believe in its power. If you have a thought of your spiritual

supremacy, your mastery over material things, all at once there enters into your consciousness a new vibration. Every cell responds to a higher thought, a higher rate, and you are putting on the Lord's body, and you won't die, unless you want to die, and give up; and that is ignorance; that is foolishness, because, sooner or later, if you expect to continue to live, you must put on this body of Christ; you must go forward with the race.

I tell you we are all going right forward to the new Kingdom, the new Heavens, and the new earth will come into manifestation here and now. All things are in the minds of men, and it is for us to bring them forth.

Now, are you realizing yourself as the Son of the Living God, the Christ of God? If you are, you must be bringing

forth that body, that energy, that force, that power, that new realization of what you are. That means health far above health. It is eternal Life. You don't think about health any more. That proposition as to whether you are going to get your health, or whether you are going to be sick, or whether you are going to die, drops right out of consciousness. You don't think about those minor things, you only think about God, Life, Power, Love, - all those things that enter into the supreme Mind, the Mind of the Spirit; and that is the Son of God, and also the Son of Man.

There is no separation,- Divine Unity; and that Unity is here, and we are always in the presence of it. Let us, then, continue to hold to it. If the crucifixion should come,

let it be. Know that there is always a resurrection which follows, and an ascension, if you ascend into that high plane, and realize that "I am the Son of the Living God."

11:36 A. M.

12:06 P. M.