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L E C T U R E

"LOVE CASTETH OUT FEAR"

-by-

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-at-

U N I T Y A U D I T O R I U M

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This question presents itself: "Which is the greater incentive to right action - fear or love"? I will repeat that: "Which is the greater incentive to right action - fear or love?"

People who have been taught in Practical Christianity, do not hesitate in answering that question; but you would be surprised how widely ^{there} is ingrained into the race thought the necessity of punishment for wrong-doing. All of our penal institutions are founded and carried on with the idea that punishment is the thing sought; that the object of the institution is to punish men for their transgressions of the law.

Now, this comes from ages and ages of education. Away back under that old Mosaic Law, you will remember, that was the "Eye for the eye, and the tooth for the tooth"; but Jesus refuted it. He

said "No, I give you a new law. Love one another; do good to them that despitefully use you". He inaugurated another motive, another remedy, and that was Love. But it has taken us a long time, as a race, to realize, to appreciate that love is a stronger incentive to right action, it is a more potent remedy than punishment or fear, because all punishment is based upon fear.

Now, this question has vital import to every one of us, because we have inherited the race idea; and it may be that we are, somewhere in our subconscious, carrying that "eye for eye and tooth for tooth" thought, and it is affecting us; it is weakening some of our glands, or some of our muscles in the subconscious; it is paralyzing some nerve. Consequently, we must understand the situation; lay hold of it, and set ourselves right on that particular subject.

So, it isn't a discussion of ancient law, nor is it a matter that concerns us, as to how our jails are conducted; but how are we considering the situation; what is your idea about the most potent remedy for right action?

When you call up that boy and say to him, "I am going to punish you, son, for that"; are you using the old Mosaic law, or are you using the law of Jesus Christ? When you tell the child, "Now, be careful. You will hurt yourself. Now, if you do that, you will get punished for it" - is that the old Mosaic law, or the law of Jesus Christ? When you say to yourself, "Well now, I would like to do that, but I know if I do, something will happen to me. I know I will have that old condition come on again".

Now, we are getting right back to home, don't you see?

Is that the right remedy? I found not long ago that I was refraining from doing a certain thing because I was afraid of getting punished. That is, I knew when I did a certain thing, I suffered some discordant condition in my body, and I refrained from doing that thing from the fear of suffering. And I found I was being pulled asunder almost by two currents of thought which were running through me, and I was in a state of discord, and I didn't know what was the matter, and I felt disturbed, and the Spirit showed me in a dream that I was afraid of the result of my active thought, the result of my actions.

We spoke the other night, in the Mystic and Occultist schools they have a symbolism of one entering a tunnel with a bright chamber at the other end. You see a star, but you have to pass through this whole chamber of horrors, in which you meet all kinds of enemies and animals, and those things which oppose the man.

Well now, what are those things? Why, those are all in the subconscious. This Kingdom of Heaven, or this chamber of light is deep within the soul of every one of us, but, in order to reach it, we have to pass through all these thoughts that we have built up in us, and they are tigers and lions and wolves, and they are angry horses and muley cows, and all those things that you dream about as chasing you - serpents, and birds of prey, and a thousand and one things - falling down precipices, and being drowned in the water. You dream about all those things. That is, when you get into your subconscious, you are going through this chamber of horrors towards the promised land.

Now, those conditions have been built up, nearly all of them, through thinking. That is true. They are creations of the

mind, or its ignorance, and when we begin to straighten ourselves out, that is, the regeneration sets in, all those subconscious states must be set right. But, when you get down there, or you pass through this chamber of horrors, you are afraid of the conditions, you are afraid of the animals and the serpents and the terrors there set forth, and some people refrain from going into the regenerative process on that very account.

That is just exactly what the Spirit showed me. I was afraid of my own thought creation. Now, we know that if one has the power to make a thing, he has the power to unmake it, and if you are in any way suffering from these conditions, why you never will get into the Kingdom of God, you will never enter the chamber of Light. In other words, you must fix up all of your creations. When you do

it boldly and fearlessly, in love, they simply melt away. They have no power but what you give them, and if, in the name of Divine Love, the Forgiving Love, you withdraw that power - they are dissolved, dispersed. They only live from your thought.

Now then, all of the evil, and all of the evil effects of evil in our minds, are sustained either by our willing, loving thought - and every time that you do anything of your own freewill, there is a certain amount of love goes into it - as I say, either sustained through your loving thought, or through your fear thought. Those are the two motives to all actions. And if you have done wrong, if you have transgressed the law maliciously, of course there is a certain amount of punishment. I wouldn't take away all thought of punishment. I think those people who use malice of forethought, as

the lawyers say, to do evil, why, they must expect the punishment.

But where we, without thought of evil, without malice, in our childish ignorance, do things that bring discordant results, that create evil conditions, I don't think it is necessary to punish one. It isn't necessary to punish yourself; it isn't necessary to hold up the thought of fear. We need educating, that is it. We need a fuller understanding, and with it, the consciousness that God, the Loving Father, is always with you, and that All-forgiving Love is always ready to take away the fear, the ignorance, and all of its results.

Now, this is a wonderful curative agent, this is a wonderful curative power. A man said to me not long ago, "Why, I have got to have health. There is a certain muscle in my body that I have had trouble with for years, that keeps getting worse. I have been

to the doctor, and he said that it is necessary to stretch it. It has been contracted, and he has been stretching it". He said, "It has been stretched too far; I am in pain continually; irritation has set in, and I want to know if you can help me". I saw at once it was in his mind. That man had caused the muscle to contract through subconscious fear. I said, "Why certainly. All you have to do now is to get hold of thoughts of the omnipresent love of God, and that, through that Love, all your sins are forgiven". He said, "That is so. I have been a mighty bad man". "Yes," I said, "I knew that. I could see it on your face". He said, "I am not really a bad man at heart. I have just been bad through association". I said "I know that too". Then I said, "If you had a young man before you, and you knew that man hadn't been bad, maliciously bad, but

had through association, you wouldn't feel like punishing him, would you?" "No", he said, "I would educate him." I said, "You need educating; your body needs educating; that subconscious mind, - we will just begin the educating. That will be that every day, about 5:00 o'clock, you take up the healing love of God, and that God doesn't punish any of His children for any transgressions, for any falling short, and you don't want to punish yourself. You will say, 'God forgives me. There is no thought of punishment; there is no thought of penalty for anything you have done". Now, the fact is that God doesn't hold against us a thought that He is going to whip us or punish us, or put us in jail, or tie us up by the thumbs and flail us, or anything of that kind. God is Love; God is the great basis; and that man took up the thought of Love. At first, he said, he didn't get any results; but finally he got

healed because he reduced his mind to a perfect harmony, and that reacted upon the weak, irritant muscle, and he got well, permanently well - didn't have to have his muscles stretched by the doctor's instruments.

We know the true remedy for every evil is to desire with the right thought, and adjust the thought to the Divine Mind. But, in dealing with ourselves and our fellows, we must remember that Love fulfills the law, and if you read of some great criminal, and you think that man ought to be hung, he ought to be severely punished, you should be careful about that, because you are trying a law opposed and different from that of God. That man should be educated, and all men should be educated. Our jails should be institutions where men are taught the law. And you can see that there is a great

change gone on in the last few years, right in this one thing - in educating the criminals, doing away with the severe punishment; and the reform in that respect has just begun. Every man that does wrong should go to school and be taught the right. We will all do right if we know the right. I do right when I absolutely know the right. I may do it through motives of fear, but there I must know myself. If you find yourself doing things because you are afraid of the law, why, get a little closer to God, and say to the Father, "I want to do things; I want to do all things because I love to do it, not because I am afraid of punishment. Then you love to do everything; then all that you do becomes a joy. Your whole life is transformed when you love to do, when you only think of loving to do the will of God.

Now, we can all live under that law. It is just a matter of a little attention every day, every moment, to the thought that "I love to do this, and I love to do that. I love I love to do my work, just as a child loves to play. I don't think about the burden; I don't think about the pain; I don't think of anything, just the loving to do it." And, through this law of drawing upon your resources within, you, pretty soon set into action a love-battery. Every one of us has a love-battery. You know where that is. Right here at the heart; and when you center your attention there, it begins to generate, and the Love just goes out in everything you do. You become a healing power, a center of love, a center that will work love into all that you do, in all your affairs, into your very body. This power of Love is something beyond our concept. We

talk about the power of electricity; we talk about the power of steam; we talk about the power of water; we talk about the power of light. There is nothing equal to the power of Love. That is a fact. So, if you want a real power; if you want to do something that will be eternal and everlasting; if you want your business to succeed, send the power of love into it. But you can't send that out from just your head. Why, if you want to help the business; if you want to help people, you must have your wires into your battery, and then the power goes out. That is the law.

Then, quicken the power within; claim God is in you, and set this kingdom into action through realizing first these wonderful truths, that Love is the fulfilling of the law; that there is a power in Love, an Almighty power; that we, every one of us, are batteries

through which this infinite current of Love is expressing itself, and it is expressing itself more and more as we make ourselves receptive to it; think about it, and think how strong and large we are, and put out all fear.

Now, if you find that you have a trembly feeling in any part of your body, it is lack of love. There is a fear thought, - it may be fear of punishment, fear of transgression, fear of animals, fear of friend and foe. We sometimes are afraid of our friends; that is, we are afraid of their criticism. A little thing like that will cause you to be shaky sometimes. You are afraid of what people think about you, say of you. Now, if you have your heart filled with love, that fear won't count at all; and the way to make your body harmonious is to fill it with the very Substance of Love;

and, as I say, if there is a weak spot in you anywhere, deny fear and affirm love, and you will heal it.

I have seen this remedy tried again and again, in nearly all kinds of diseases where weakness comes in - where there is some weak gland, or weak functions - there is always a fear as the cause of that weakness, and the strongest thought of building that you can have is love.

So, for any condition - I don't care what it is - try this Love Treatment, and you will find it will work. You can heal yourself through it. You can heal others; you can become a healer by taking as the text every day, "I cast out all fear, and I put in its place all Love." Why, if you could stick to those two texts, and use those two states of mind, you might become the greatest healer in the world. But we don't stick to our proposition. That

is the trouble with us healers. When a patient comes to us with some disease, instead of simply denying it, and saying there is no reality in it, we don't criticise - or we do criticise - and we see the error, and it begins to fix itself in our mind; and you can't heal without love. Error never heals error; evil never heals evil. It is the all-forgiving power of Love that does the work.

So, if you want to be a successful healer, don't allow it to enter into your mind; don't see those things. Just think about health, the Supreme Forgiving Power of God's love. Don't hold anybody in evil states of mind. Don't say to people: "You will 'get it in the neck' for that; you will be punished for that." You have no right to lay down the law of punishment. You are not here as the judge of God, and you will never do this healing if you see the error and its result. See only the condition of God's Di-

vine Love. I don't care what the condition is. I say "God forgives you. I don't pass judgment on you. It doesn't make a bit of difference what you do, I know that the All-forgiving Love of God is equal to the condition."

Now, we will take that up, and we will demonstrate it. Demonstration always follows to the extent that we can get the Divine Harmony into the Divine Love. Jesus Christ came to save us from the sins of fear - among many other evils - especially the sin of fear. And I say to you, let us take up the thought that I am not afraid of evil; I am not afraid of the result of my evil acts I am not afraid of my evil propensities, and I say to you the love of God forgives you; the love of God puts you out of service; you don't bother me any longer. I am not afraid of any condition in my body, because I know the power of Divine Love will take care of

me and all of my thoughts and affairs.

Now, if you will take that power of God's Love into your mind, it will do wonders for you; it will work out problems that you probably have been in doubt and discouraged about, because you haven't put enough of the dissolving, cementing power of love into them. Love cements and brings together. Love is the greatest magnet in the world, and yet, at the same time, it is the greatest disintegrating force when it is put into action under the Divine Law.

Let us try the power of Divine Love here tonight. You know this love is always present. You don't have to go up into the Heavens or down in the earth, nor across the seas to see it, but it is always right here present. It is a Principle. It is the one

Principle that has more force, and incorporates more of the elements and powers of Divine Mind than any other; and we can use it and have it to express itself through us, if we will only give it an opportunity.

Now, we will be still, and try to realize the love - God is Love, and that that Love is always present with us, but especially right now. The power of Divine Love forgives me for all of my sins and all of the effects of my sins. Let us hold that thought.

(S i l e n c e).

8:14 P. M.

8:40 P. M.