

WEEKLY UNITY

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free"

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Happy New Year!



THIS IS the time of year when good wishes are being expressed in every hand. It is the season when everyone wishes everyone else a happy new year.

The people of every country in the world wish one another happiness in some manner at the beginning of their new year. We do not all express our wishes in the same way, but the good thought behind our wishes is just the same. The customary new-year greeting in China is "May your joy be full." In Turkey it is "Happy years." The Germans say, "May the new year flourish." In Iran they say, "Happy new day." And so it goes round the world. Everyone speaks in terms of happiness at the beginning of the new year.

Webster says the word wish means "to invoke in favor of, or against, anyone." This means then that a good wish is really a prayer for good. If it is expressed in earnestness and in faith, it does indeed affect the life of the one toward whom it is directed. The effects of such a wish are perceptible the moment it is expressed. It is always accompanied by a smile from the well-wisher, and it seldom fails to produce a smile on the face of the one receiving it.

One of the wonderful things about wishing happiness for others is the fact that it brings so much happiness to the one doing the wishing. You just cannot express a desire for the good of

BY W. G. SONASTINE

another without receiving a generous portion of good yourself. This is the fulfillment of the law to which Jesus referred when He said, "With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured unto you."

A friend recently pointed out to me that our greeting "Happy new year," is actually a positive declaration for good. "Because the word happy comes first in this greeting," said my friend, "the whole thing is a positive affirmation, an affirmation of good for the new year." This is certainly true, and our frequent repetition of this affirmative greeting causes us to start the new year on a positive note. It gives us a wonderful opportunity to adopt a positive trend of thought for the coming year and thus assure our happiness for the future.

Perhaps the most important new-year resolution any of us can make would be one to follow Paul's recommendation "Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." This procedure is especially advisable if you are dissatisfied with what the past year held for you. The process of renewing your mind is not an easy one however. It is a matter of changing your thought habits, and obviously it is a change for the better, a change from wrong thinking to right thinking. Such a change requires determination and forbearance. A new-year resolution to change

one's thought habits is a wise one indeed, but it must be made seriously if it is to be effective.

It is my sincere belief that all new-year resolutions should be made on the twenty-four-hour basis. Instead of resolving not to think a negative thought or speak a negative word throughout the whole year, it is better to awake one morning and say: "I will not think a negative thought or speak a negative word throughout this day. Only good shall come from my heart and my lips today. With the help of God I know I can do this." Even this will not be an easy matter if you have been using negative thoughts consistently. It can be attained though without too much difficulty, and upon retiring that night you will feel that you have won a real victory.

This same procedure should be followed the next day. In the morning say something like this: "I thank Thee, Father, that Thou art with me throughout this day, helping me to think, speak, and act in accord with Thy divine plan. 'Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight.' I thank Thee that this is so." This program should be continued on each successive day, and before long you will notice many delightful changes taking place in your life and your affairs.

Did you ever play with dominoes when you were a youngster? If you did, you will probably remember how

you would stand the dominoes all in a row, one in front of the other about a half inch apart, and then you would knock down the whole row by pushing over the first one. This one would fall against the second domino, which in turn knocked down the third one, and so on until the whole row was down. This is how it is when we make a resolution on the twenty-four-hour plan. The momentum we gain by carrying out our resolution fully on the first day helps us to carry it out on the second day, and so on until the new practice becomes just as much a habit as the old one was. Before long it requires almost no voluntary effort whatever.

A man in my neighborhood was weeding his lawn the other day when a friend stopped to chat with him. It was one of the most beautiful lawns in our city, and everyone wondered just how the man kept it looking so nice. On this particular occasion a cloth bag was suspended from the man's shoulder, and each time he pulled out a weed he took something from the bag and placed it on the ground. Curiosity finally got the better of the man on the sidewalk, and he asked his friend what was in the bag.

"Oh, that's grass seed and fertilizer," replied the worker. "Each time I pull up a weed, I put a little grass seed and fertilizer in the hole that is left there. In this way, I make sure another weed won't grow in the same spot."

This plan is an excellent one to follow in the process of renewing our mind. It is not enough just to eliminate negative thoughts from our mind. We must replace them with positive ones or other negative thoughts will take root and grow there. Nature abhors a vacuum and so does the mind of man. One kind of thought or another always rushes in to fill a mental vacuum, and so it is up to us to see that these in-rushing thoughts are the kind we should like to see manifested in our life and affairs.

Occasionally we hear someone say, "Why is it so much easier to think



New Year's Day

By Myrtle Vorst Sheppard

TREAD lightly, joyfully here
Upon the threshold of this new-born day,

'T was not of common clay
It was conceived;
Out of the east it came
Untouched by lust,
Unmarked by shame,
Engraved with purity and light.
Oh, see the bright reflection
On its face!
This is a day of grace,
A day of hope reborn,
A radiant morn,
God-given in an hour of need.
Draw near, bend down;
More beauty than you half believed
Lies hidden here,
Close-clasped within the rosy palm
Of this new year!

negative thoughts than it is to think positive ones? I try and try earnestly, but seldom a day goes by that I don't think, say, or do something which I regret afterward."

It is never easy to discontinue something we have been doing all our life. This is especially true in the matter of changing our thought habits. The moment we begin to eliminate our negative thoughts, they seem to loom up larger and stronger than they ever were before. This is due of course to the fact that we magnify anything upon which we center our attention; that is, we magnify our awareness of the thing on which our attention is centered.

With this knowledge in mind, it is apparent that a good offense is the best defense against the intrusion of unwanted thoughts, and this is where God enters into the picture. By centering our attention on the omnipresence of God and His goodness we increase our awareness of the good and at the same time decrease our recognition of evil. This reduces our negative thinking to a minimum, for nearly all negative thoughts originate with the recognition of evil.

I know a man who owns a large farm, has a good wife, a fine son, and just about every other material thing a person could wish for; yet he takes all the joy out of life for himself by

finding fault with everything and everybody. He recognizes evil everywhere and talks about it almost constantly.

Just across the road from this man live a middle-aged couple who run a small nursery and seed farm. They have had to face all kinds of difficulties, including the fact that the woman has to do all her housework while in a wheelchair, yet I have never once heard either of them complain about anything. They see good in everything and everybody. They live in identically the same surroundings as the disgruntled farmer, and their "good neighbors" are the same people he calls "nosy critters."

The unhappy farmer thinks everything is all wrong, while the happy couple across the road know everything is all right. They are too busy enjoying the good things of life to be much concerned about the things that appear to be otherwise. Their minds are so full of good thoughts that there is no room in them for evil or negative thoughts.

As the new year gets under way then let us resolve to keep our eyes "single" to the good. Let us earnestly seek God's kingdom and His righteousness. This is truly the way to happiness, and it is accessible to all of us. The coming year can be the happiest one we have ever experienced if we set ourselves the goal of making it so. "For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things shall not be remembered, nor come into mind."

The Purpose of Unity

The purpose of Unity School is not to found another sect, but to show all men their common aim and their common brotherhood; not to separate them or to emphasize their differences, but to bind them together more closely. Through helping churchgoers to apply to their daily living the principles taught by Jesus Christ, Unity makes any church affiliation even more practical.

Unity School spreads its teachings largely by means of its literature, which interprets the Scriptures metaphysically and explains the action of the mind—the connecting link between God and man. How the mind affects the body, producing discord or harmony, sickness or health, here and now, is made clear in the Unity publications.

Unity centers and study classes are places of religious research for all people, regardless of creed; and places where helpful instruction in Christian living may be received.

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Unity periodicals may be obtained from Unity School and from Unity centers.

Now Is the Time

"Now Is the Time for All Good Men and Women to Come to the Aid of Their Country."

THERE ARE many difficult problems arising today in the affairs of our national government, and there is such a diversity of opinion as to what should be done about them and how to do it that there is great danger of many disastrous mistakes being made.

Surely our lawmakers and executives need divine help and guidance so that they will make right decisions. They need wisdom and understanding greater than mere human intelligence to guide them. Every one of them truly desires to do that which is best for the good of his country, and no one really wants to be motivated by a selfish spirit or by a desire for personal glory or gain, even though it may appear that this is true in some instances.

As Truth students we have important work to do at this time. If we will, we can render a definite service to our country by realizing the truth for every lawmaker and executive. We can help them to make wise decisions by realizing for them that they are God's servants and that they are doing His perfect will.

This country had a marvelous beginning, and those who were at its head during its early development did better than they personally knew. They of course were doing what they believed was for the best interests of their country and they did their part unselfishly and humbly because they felt humanly unequal to the task. They therefore depended on prayer and inspiration from God to a large degree. They were guided by a higher power to do their bit in making this the most wonderful country in the world.

But since that time, as our nation has prospered, we have become more self-sufficient, and as we prosper we seem to depend less and less on prayer and the power and wisdom of God. But our problems are now even more intricate than they were before and we need divine guidance more than ever before. Many important decisions must be made; and who can see far enough into the future to make them wisely?

Here is a plan that will bring the power of united prayer to bear definitely upon the need:

Every Truth student who reads this is invited to pray for divine guidance

for the executives, lawmakers, and judges of our country. Pray that no personal feelings of jealousy, hatred, greed, or personal glory may enter into the motives of those who are making and administering the laws for the government of the people.

If each Truth seeker will acquaint himself with the names of the senators and representatives from his own State and will make a list of them and pray for them every day, as well as for the President, the Vice President, and all the Cabinet members and the justices of the Supreme Court, good is bound to result.

Our country has been built upon a spiritual foundation, and we must call attention to this foundation and help our leaders to stand upon it. Our country must be a light unto the world and be able to extend a helping hand to all humanity. To do this it must be wisely governed and unified with the principles of Truth, righteousness, and love.

Here is the prayer we suggest that you use every day:

"In our unity of purpose we are guided by infinite wisdom and prospered by divine love."

Addressing the one who has been chosen to lead, say silently many times a day: "You are an emissary of God, and you are lovingly, wisely, and fearlessly doing that which is for the highest good of our country, because God is guiding you and directing you. No personal fear or selfish desire can stand in the way of your performance of the duties that have been imposed upon you by God and by your fellow men. Because you are doing the will of God you are doing that which will bring peace, happiness, and prosperity to us and our children."

(Reprinted by request)

Fulfillment

By R. H. Grenville

As the closed buds show where the fruit will be,

As seed contains the harvest, so does prayer

Contain its answer. Like a leafing tree, Faith lifts green branches into frosty air,

Certain of spring, unmindful of the cold,

Until through its rich foliage we see The lovely miracle of bloom unfold

And the waste place bring forth abundantly.

A Prophecy

(Written fifty years ago)

A vision of the future arises. I see a world where thrones have crumbled and where kings are dust. The aristocracy of idleness has perished from the earth.

I see a world without a slave. Man at last is free. Nature's forces have by science been enslaved. Lightning and light, wind and waves, frost and flame, and all the subtle powers of the earth and air are the tireless toilers for the human race.

I see a world at peace, adorned with every form of art, with music's myriad voices thrilled, while lips are rich with words of love and truth; a world in which no exile sighs, no prisoner mourns; a world on which the gibbet's shadow does not fall; a world where labor reaps its full reward, where work and worth go hand in hand.

I see a world without the beggar's outstretched palm, the miser's heartless, stony stare, the piteous wail of want, the livid lips of lies, the cruel eyes of scorn.

I see a race without diseases of flesh or brain—shapely and fair, married harmony of form and function—and, as I look, life lengthens, joy deepens, love canopies the earth; and over all in the great dome shines the eternal star of faith.—Robert Ingersoll.

Those of the Way

By Gladys Goin Lent

Early Christianity was known simply as "the Way," and the Christians were known as those who followed in "the way of Jesus." "The Way" is a term found in all sacred literature. Its richness of meaning may escape us in the familiarity of the words. The "Way" is not an outward path, plan, formula or creed. It is an inner awareness of the presence and activity of God within man. When Jesus said, "I am the way," He was simply announcing His sublime understanding of the activity of the presence of God in, through, and as Himself. He knew and taught that the law of life operates from within each individual center of consciousness. He demonstrated that to know the Way is to be the Way.

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.—Gen. 1:3.

Things to Be Remembered

By Lowell Fillmore

+ "Behold, I Make All Things New"

REMEMBER that God is continually making all things new even though the spiritual creation that He spoke into being in the beginning is unchanging. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. The material heavens and earth are changing but not the true heaven and earth.

The material world is in constant change because it is trying to keep up the appearance of the perfection that God pronounced upon it in the beginning. As material forms grow old and are destroyed they are replaced by new forms. In this way the outer appearance of an inner perfection is maintained.

God abides within the physical universe and sustains it with His perfect ideas. Plants grow from seeds and bear fruit; and the seeds grow into new plants. Only in the realm of Spirit is there no change. Even though all things in the material heavens and the material earth are changing continually, none of their substance is ever lost. Take a tree, for instance. You may change its physical form, but the substance out of which it is formed is never lost.

Even though it be burned and reduced to ashes and gases the substance that was in the tree still exists in elements that can be remolded into new material forms.

The human body is also changing continually. Old materials that compose it are passing away and new materials are taking their place. The body is trying to renew itself, but it is handicapped by the old Adam man's limiting belief in mortality, which finally causes the outgo of materials to overbalance the income of healthy materials, and the body dies of old age. Paul explains to the Ephesians that we are renewed in the spirit of our mind and that we put on the new man, the one that God created "in righteousness and holiness of truth." He refers, I think, to the changing of our thoughts concerning our body. Instead of thinking of their material frailties we should believe in the renewing power of the

Christ within us. Through finding Christ we shall find eternal life here on earth. "Wherefore if any man is in Christ, *he is a new creature*: the old things are passed away, behold, they are become new."

Jesus said that He could build up the temple in three days, and we are

Suggestions for Daily Meditation

(Beginning Sunday, December 29)

Sunday. *The inspiration of the Almighty fills me with light, and I am become a new creature in Christ Jesus.*

Monday. *Every change that comes into my life leads me upward toward perfection, because I am committing all my ways to God's wise and loving guidance.*

Tuesday. *My mind is open and receptive to new inspiration from God.*

Wednesday. *New blessings, new mercies, and new light on my way—these are filling my new year with gladness.*

Thursday. *God's life is eternal. I rejoice because it fills my soul and body with renewed life and energy.*

Friday. *My mind is renewed in Christ, and my body is obedient to the heavenly vision of God's perfect creation of man.*

Saturday. *Behold, God is renewing my mind and body according to His perfect idea of man, whom He created in His own image and likeness.*

told in the Bible that the people who heard Him were incredulous, because they did not know that He spoke of the temple of His body. Paul understood that we are all temples of God, for he wrote to the Corinthians: "We are a temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

God creates by His word, and man,

who is created in His likeness, also has power to create by his word; but men have used their words to destroy their body instead of resurrecting it, as Jesus did His body. Men do not need to die in order to find eternal life. By the creative word of Christ within them they have power to renew their body.

Jesus proved that He possessed creative power like His Father-God. He did this by providing food in the wilderness for five thousand people. We may save ourselves from death and decay by renewing our mind and body as Jesus Christ did in resurrecting His body, raising it from an earthly body to a spiritual body, which was nevertheless a real body, as He proved by walking, eating, and talking in it.

Men can go the way of mortal flesh and renew the race by the birth of new physical bodies, or they can renew their minds in Christ Jesus and thus spiritualize their present bodies. God is everlasting and therefore His Son, whom He created in His own image and likeness, must also be everlasting.

The material body made after the pattern of the Adam man, is subject to change and decay, but it need not be. It can either go the way of all flesh, or it can be redeemed through a spiritual awakening of its real nature.

It is good to know that because God makes all things new, mankind does not need to live on the outworn husks of past mortal beliefs. It is good to know that nature is constantly renewing itself, that new fruit comes each year, that the grass is renewed from day to day. The things that die are soon out of sight, but new forms take their place and we do not miss the old ones.

Man can either be subject to the law of this physical cycle, or realizing that he is a spiritual being, he can achieve eternal life, which Jesus Christ promised. The change must come in man's mind first. It may seem hopeless because only a few, including Jesus, ever overcame physical death, but this is no reason for thinking it is not possible of attainment, for many things are possible that have not yet been done. When man renews his mind in Christ his body will be changed into a permanent body. By changing his mind from the Adam consciousness to the Christ consciousness man accepts his divine birthright and enters into a realization of the new heaven and the new earth, and he becomes indeed a

Faith in What?

By John H. Martin

STRICTLY speaking, no one with a sound mind is without faith. He either has faith that he can or faith that he cannot, either faith in good or faith in evil, either faith that God will or faith that He will not.

Man either has faith that the world is slowly but surely moving toward perfection or he is confident that it is going to wreck and ruin. He either has confidence that there is more good than evil in his fellow man or he is confident that there is more evil than good.

To tell a man that he ought to have faith is as much nonsense as to tell a millionaire he ought to make an effort to accumulate money. All men have faith as millionaires have wealth. Millionaires can make bad investments and cut their earnings, and man can invest his faith foolishly and cut off his source of supply.

If you believe you cannot, then you will not try. If you believe that God will not, you will make certain that you cannot accept His good. If you believe that there is more evil in your fellow man than good, you will not trust him long enough to learn differently. If you believe that the world is going to the dogs, you will find yourself trying to put the whole world in the doghouse, and standing guard to see that it stays out.

The question is not "Do you have faith?" but "On what do you pin your faith?"

You plant a good seed in the earth, and you have faith that it will germinate and grow. How do you know? You have seen it happen time and again, and you know.

But did you ever try to plant a good seed in the fertile minds of well-thinking people with the same implicit faith

in a new creature in Christ Jesus.

We rejoice in the new year and all new things, because these prove to us that God is in His kingdom and that His standard is perfection. All things reveal the divine urge toward perfection and try to measure up to it by renewing themselves. God's will is that we renew our mind, become new creatures in Christ, and prove the words spoken by John in Revelation: "Behold, I make all things new."

that you plant a seed? Do you ever plant a fervent desire in God's universal garden of good with the same undaunted faith that you plant a seed in the earth? There is no difference in the law of life and growth, only a difference in faith.

On what then shall I pin my faith?

I shall pin my faith on myself because God made me a little creator and gave me the privilege of choosing whether I will or will not. I have faith that I will.

I shall put my faith in my fellow man because he can return nothing but good for the good I do, and nothing but evil for the evil I do. Therefore I shall put my faith and fortune in his good and not gamble with my own evils.

I shall pin my faith in the law of life and growth and be confident that my thoughts, my ideas, and my desires will germinate and grow into well-ripened fruits according to my planting.

Last but not least, I shall put my faith in God because He is kind enough to give me a chance at life, loving and considerate enough to believe me capable of good, and wise enough to correct me when I err.

First the Vision

After any object or purpose is clearly held in thought its precipitation in tangible and visible form is merely a question of time. Columbus saw in vision a path through trackless waters around the world. The vision always precedes and itself determines the realization.—*Lilian Whiting.*

SILENT-70

Unity's Messenger of Good Will

Through the work of Silent-70, Unity's free-literature department, Unity is able to supply its publications without charge to prisons, homes for the aged, orphanages, hospitals, and libraries.

During the war years the amount of literature sent out by Silent-70 increased rapidly, and today hundreds of thousands of copies of Unity publications are distributed each year to all parts of the world.

The work of Silent-70 is supported entirely by love offerings from those who wish to spread Truth.

UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY
917 TRACY, KANSAS CITY 6, MO.

Someone Prayed

Healed of Shock

Dear Silent Unity: I sometimes find it rather difficult to still my mind, but God is always near.

Through carelessness I received a flash shock from high-voltage electricity while at work. My first fear was that I was blind, but immediately I started to repeat The Prayer of Faith. I came down the ladder cool and confident. My face and arm were burned slightly, but I had on a pair of gloves which saved me from the full effect of the shock. After reaching the floor I was led by a fellow workman to a place to sit down. He went for help, thinking me blinded. When I was about halfway through the prayer I opened my eyes. At first I saw nothing, but in a moment I saw two blurs which proved to be my big feet. Was I happy? I find that in a moment of distress it pays to laugh. God's love is only as far away as our thoughts.

The chap I was working with felt the accident was his fault, but I feel it was equally mine.

The only discomfort I had was from the paste they put on my face. The burn on my arm is deep, but does not hurt. Accept this gift to promote your work.—*F. A. K.*

Be Calm: Have Faith

Dear Friends: Seventeen months ago my daughter underwent a very serious operation. Not having the faith that I have now, I was naturally very much upset and worried. I was not able to concentrate on prayer as I know that I should have been. I had written to Silent Unity, but I had not yet obtained that feeling of well-being that comes after sincere prayer.

A friend of mine talked with me and told me of the wonderful blessing that she had received through Unity and prayer, and bade me be calm and put my trust in God. I took heed to her words and commenced to pray with all my heart. All my fears and worries vanished, and I became very calm.

The doctor that performed the operation had no hope whatever for my daughter. He did not even complete the operation! The condition that she was in when she was brought down from the operating room was almost unbearable to behold, but it did not make my faith waver one bit. I continued to pray.

It was at this time that I wrote to Unity for prayer, and I am sure that you prayed as I did, because she did recover. However three months later she was operated on again, but I thank God that it was accomplished with little alarm to anyone concerned.

Now all of my children are readers of Unity literature.—*M. H.*

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.—*John.*

THE SOCIETY OF SILENT UNITY

THE HEALING DEPARTMENT OF UNITY SCHOOL

+ A Message to You: Happy New Year

Happy New Year, dear Friend:

Joyously we send greetings of a happy new year to you. Never have we been more confident that your daily good is on its way to you, a good that will bring happiness, peace, and contentment to you; for we know the power of good that is in you.

Yes, we know the power of good that is in you, for it is the power of God Almighty. We know you will make good use of the power that is yours in Christ, for the new light in Christ will guide and direct you in all your ways.

Jesus Christ brought the new light to earth. It is the light of a new understanding of God, all good, the light of a new and more abundant life in which is found all that contributes to health, spiritual wealth, peace, and happiness.

You have within you the power to make of this new year whatever you will, the power to make every hour of it bright, the power to make each new day a record of joyous living by the faith that never fails, the faith that operates through the Christ in you.

The new light in Christ guides and directs you in all your ways.

The new light in Christ shines out from His all-wise, all-loving spirit. It gives you new light on the ways of life, its joys as well as its problems. It can outshine any lesser light of personality, any mistaken ideas. If ever you feel that Truth works for some people but not for you, just turn from the lesser light of your preconceived ideas and let the new light in Christ shine upon your problem.

Have you ever watched the beams from an aircraft beacon flashing across the night sky? Have you ever thought what they might mean to the pilot of an airplane? How sure he is of his guidance when he sees those broad streamers of light flashing out through the darkness. Nor does he ever argue in his mind about the course he is to take, or hesitate to direct his plane by the beams.

Right now the new light of Christ

shines upon the course of your new year. By it you can steer a straight course to the health you would enjoy, the success you desire, the overcoming you would make, the freedom and peace you seek.

When the whistles blow and the bells ring in the new year, there will be persons praying everywhere. In every

Daily at 11 a. m. join us in this thought for spiritual illumination:

The new light in Christ guides and directs me in all my ways.

At high noon each day concentrate your attention on this thought for prosperity:

All my affairs are blessed by the new life in Christ with its many promises of prosperity.

At nine each night let us acknowledge the healing power of Spirit with this prayer:

I rejoice in the restorative power of Jesus Christ now working mightily in a new consciousness of life in my soul and body.

hamlet, town, and city, in churches and dwellings scattered along little country roads, just about everywhere, men and women will be praying. Among them not a few will reach out to the heart of Silent Unity and join in the Silent Unity prayer thoughts. We rejoice in the assurance that whoever you are, and wherever you are, you will use the power of love, faith, and joy that God has given you for blessing yourself and others:

"The new light in Christ guides and directs me in all my ways."

"I rejoice in the restorative power of Jesus Christ now working mightily in a new consciousness of life in my soul and body."

"All my affairs are blessed by the new life in Christ with its many promises of prosperity."

The spirit of the conqueror in Christ is the spirit of prayer. Whatever you

may be facing you can conquer any negation, inharmony, lack, or disease in the Christ spirit of prayer.

There is no better way to open the door of the new year, no better way to enter the new year confident, happy, and unafraid than the way of prayer that is now offered to you.

Try out the power of Jesus Christ that is in you, dear friend. Use the new light He gives you moment by moment, the light that will never misdirect you, the light that will never grow dim. Increase the happiness that the new year holds for others by declaring the truth for them. The light you have received, the power of good you hold in your heart is intended not alone to meet your need but to meet the needs of the world. Knowing this you will be glad, we feel sure, to speak these words of Truth, to fill them with the power of your Christ-illuminated faith, to send them forth on pinions of love to others:

The new light in Christ guides and directs you in all your ways.

You rejoice in the restorative power of Jesus Christ now working mightily in a new consciousness of life in your soul and body.

All your affairs are blessed by the new life in Christ with its many promises of prosperity.

Withhold from no one the good that it lies in the power of the Christ to bestow through you. Through the use you make of the power that is yours in Christ, you learn of the almightiness of God. You prove, as you can do in no other way, that there is but one presence and one power in all the universe, God, the good, omnipotent.

Lasting good can be accomplished on New Year's Eve by those who pray, and we are expecting a mighty volume of good reports bearing witness to the love and the glory and the power of God.

Happy new year to all the world!
Silent Unity.

Help from Silent Unity

The spiritual ministry of Silent Unity is available to everyone who has faith in the power of God to heal, to prosper, to harmonize, and to bless.

Address your letter to

SOCIETY OF SILENT UNITY

917 Tracy

Kansas City 6, Mo.

Telephone VICTOR 8720

Cable address: Unity, Kansas City

The High Watch

The Growth of Truth

The truth that is the Christ is changeless and eternal. The truth that we learn as we advance from one stage of understanding to another changes from age to age. In "A Faith for Today," Ellis E. Pierce discusses, in the Christian Leader, the nature of truth and our acceptance of its authority. We quote the Leader:

When many years ago Pilate casually asked "What is truth?" he probably thought he was merely waving aside an irrelevancy. But he spoke more searchingly than he knew. What is truth? . . . Realizing the difficulty of defining the word some have said that "truth is only a label." Nay, rather, Truth is that which governs the running of the universe. The earth, held in her course around the sun, the stars in their courses in the spinning nebula of the Milky Way, the mother nursing her child through a serious illness, a man sacrificing his life for a friend—all these are governed by truth. What is truth? Truth is the mind of God. . . .

"How can we know what is in the mind of God? Is there any way to test truth?" As a matter of fact, there is. Some truth may be tested in the laboratory. Some may be tested by experience. And even the rest, which admittedly cannot be demonstrated with scientific accuracy, may be, and should be, subjected to a test—the test of at least being consistent with other known truth.

When we come to religion, we find that only a few articles of our faith are such that they can be tested in the laboratory. A few can be, but only a few. When the Scriptures tell us that God has made of one blood all the races of mankind, that can be tested in the laboratory; and science itself helps the Bible dispel the myth that a white man is necessarily better than another man with more pigment in his skin. Other beliefs may be tested by experience. When the Scriptures tell us that "righteousness exalts a nation but sin is a reproach to any people" that is adequately demonstrated by the historical records of the world. Similarly many of religion's most pertinent beliefs are adequately borne out by experience. There still remains however a large section of man's belief that cannot be tested either by exact scientific methods, or by the experience of men. Here two attitudes are possible. One says, "Accept it on faith, don't question, just believe." The result of this point of view has been disastrous for religion. . . .

The other point of view is in harmony with the temper of the modern mind—investigate your beliefs. This also is in harmony with the Biblical injunction to "test all things, retaining what is good." The

implication is that we should discard what does not meet the test. All truth comes from God, whether discovered by a scientist in his laboratory, a philosopher in his study, a priest before the altar of his church, or a pastor ministering to the needs of his parish. If all truth comes from God, then there can be no contradiction in truth. If something we hold to be true is contrary to what can be demonstrated as true, then we had better discard it. This principle is equally valid for religion as for science. Of course, there is then little certainty in religion—there is only the ever-present duty to search for the truth, and to hold to it loyally until new truth is discovered.

Truth is not something static, unchanging. It is ever growing with new discoveries of the mind of God. . . . The only absolute truth is in the mind of God. Our knowledge of truth is relative; and the truth of one age may become the error of the next. . . . At one time the institution of human slavery was a great moral advance. The humane practice of slavery was infinitely preferred to the previous practice of slaughtering and possibly eating prisoners after the battle was over. But that does not justify slavery now. Similarly, religious truth grows—and changes. . . .

Finally, let us not forget that truth has authority. All religions are authoritarian. Our dislike of the word will not change this fact. The only question is what authority will be found adequate in these days. Modern man has increasingly rejected the authority of another man, or a council of men, or of a book; be that book called the Koran or the Bible or by any other name. He has occasionally even rejected all authority, but at the cost of spiritual anarchy and moral chaos. Any faith, including a faith for today, must have some authority. There is one adequate for us; the authority of truth. For truth does have authority, whether we like it or not. You cannot disobey the law of gravity; not because Newton said you mustn't, but because it is true. The Ten Commandments still have authority—not because Moses may or may not have said them, but because they are true. Someone has said, "You can't break the Ten Commandments, you can only break yourself upon them." And the Beatitudes still have authority; not because Jesus said them, but because they are true.

A faith for today then is much more than an intellectual exercise, the search for truth. It is also a way of life—practicing the truth which we have learned. I think that is what Paul meant when he referred to "the stewardship of the truth which from all the ages lay concealed in the mind of God." (Ephesians 3:9.) Have we been good stewards of the truth?

Forgive the Past

Above all, no reproaches about what is past and cannot be altered! How can a man live at all if he did not grant absolution every night to himself and all his fellows!—Goethe.

New Day

Ere thou risest from thy bed,
Speak to God whose wings were spread
O'er thee in the helpless night:
Lo, He wakes thee now with light!
Lift thy burden and thy care
In the mighty arms of prayer.
Lord, the newness of this day
Calls me to an untried way:
Let me gladly take the road,
Give me strength to bear my load,
Thou my guide and helper be—
I will travel through with Thee.

—Henry van Dyke.

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Field Activities

MONTCLAIR, N. J.—Unity Society of Montclair, 11 S. Fullerton Ave., announces the following activities: Tuesday, 8 p. m., midweek service. Wednesday, 2:30 p. m., class in *Lessons in Truth*. Friday, 2 p. m., prayer service; 2:30 p. m., healing meeting. Center open Monday through Friday, 10:30 a. m. to 4 p. m. Gladys Stevenson, leader.

NEWARK, N. J.—Newark Unity Church, 456 Broad St., announces the following activities: Sunday, 11 a. m., devotional service and Sunday school. Monday, 10:30 a. m., class in *The Twelve Powers of Man*; 7 p. m., class in *Christian Healing*. Tuesday, 8 p. m., devotional service. Wednesday, 10:30 a. m., class in *Talks on Truth*. Thursday, 10:30 a. m., healing service; 8 p. m., class in *Lessons in Truth*. Alternate Fridays, 2 p. m., Truth round-table talks. Daily noon prayer service. Center open daily. Edith M. Berry, leader.

BREMERTON, WASH.—Bremerton Unity Center, 925 Park Ave., announces the following activities: Sunday, 11 a. m., devotional service and Sunday school. (These services are held at the Civic Recreation Center; all other services are conducted at the center quarters. Wednesday, 10:30 a. m., class in *Prosperity*. Thursday, 8 p. m., class in *Lessons in Truth*. Center open daily. Marion R. Brown, leader.

A complete list of the Unity centers offering a ministry of devotional services and class instruction in the Unity teachings appears in each issue of *Unity* magazine under "Unity Centers," or this information may be secured by writing to the Field Department of Unity School. Attend your nearest Unity center for further enlightenment in the spiritual principles set forth in the Unity literature.

Suggestion for

the New Year

If you have resolved to make the coming year a happier and more prosperous one you will welcome the Unity magazine designed especially for those seeking a happier living. This magazine is *Progress*. Filled with colorful illustrations, Truth-in-action stories, and stimulating articles and poems, each number is sure to inspire in the reader a desire for joy and success in his own life.

Youth of all ages finds *Progress* a welcome companion. Why not send in your subscription now so that you may be sure of a full year of enjoyable reading. Published monthly, *Progress* is priced at \$1 for twelve colorful issues.

UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY
917 TRACY, KANSAS CITY 6, MO.

Responsive Service

Sunday, December 29, 1946

Unity Subject—*The Transformation of the Person into the Individual*

INTERNATIONAL SUBJECT—*The World for Christ*.—Acts 9:15; 19:21; 23:11; 28:28-31; Rom. 1:13-16; 15:22-24

Unless otherwise specified, the Bible text used in this lesson is taken from the American Standard Version of the Bible, copyright, 1929, by the International Council of Religious Education, and is used by permission.

15. But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way; for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles and kings, and the children of Israel;

21. Now after these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.

11. And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer: for as thou hast testified concerning me at Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

28. Be it known therefore unto you, that this salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles; they will also hear.

30. And he abode two whole years in his own hired dwelling, and received all that went in unto him,

31. Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, none forbidding him.

13. And I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you (and was hindered hitherto), that I might have some fruit in you also, even as in the rest of the Gentiles.

14. I am debtor both to Greeks and to Barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish.

15. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you also that are in Rome.

16. For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

22. Wherefore also I was hindered these many times from coming to you:

23. But now, having no more any place in these regions, and having these many years a longing to come unto you,

24. Whosoever I go unto Spain (for I hope to see you in my journey, and to be brought on my way thitherward by you, if first in some measure I shall have been satisfied with your company).

Lesson Interpretation

What is the important thing for us to do in life?

To express our inmost convictions. This expression need not be by words alone. Sometimes acts are a truer expression of convictions than are words.

What is the effect of our failure to express our convictions in a way that is suitable and fitting?

Dissatisfaction with ourselves and a state of mind that falls short of complete happiness and contentment.

What is represented by Paul in this lesson?

He represents the experiences of the fallible human consciousness in seeking Truth.

What are the chief limitations imposed on our desire to surmount obstacles?

Our strictest limitations are those of the Spirit. As we learn to minimize our differences and to magnify our common understanding, these limitations will be lifted, and we shall be free.

What more do we need to know about power?

We need to know the spiritual laws that control it and how to work according to those laws.

What important kind of spiritual power is subject to our control?

The power that resides in unity or harmony of mind and will. The world is learning this law in an external form and organizing in groups to take advantage of it.

Why are spiritual leaders especially needed at the present time?

To show us the way to world peace and good will now instead of awaiting the slow process of transforming per-

House Cleaning

Throw up the windows and open the door! Here are some things we'll be needing no more:

Ragged old hatreds, a remnant of fear—We shall not want them this coming new year.

Heave out indifference, careless and cold; Threadbare excuses so often retold; Hoary old scandals, surmises untrue, Sadness, anxiety—wave them adieu!

Sweep out discouragement—hail to his back!

This year we're planning big things to attack.

Faded old prejudice, hugged to the heart, Mean little jealousies—bid them depart.

Sweep every corner and dust every spot; Wish a good riddance to all of the lot. Empty and garnished, the door opened wide,

High undertakings are welcome inside!
—Maud Irene Evans.

sons one by one into the likeness of Christ. Leaders possessed of spiritual power are needed to convert the world to the conviction that good will and brotherhood are possible on a universal scale, and that if the world is to be transformed into the kingdom of God everyone must set about doing his part in the great work now.

To Be Held in the Silence

I gain understanding from every experience that I meet and face.

(The lesson for next Sunday is from John 1:1-18.)

Let the Laws of Prosperity Work for You

THERE is no need for you to lack prosperity. These books by leading Truth writers can help show you how easily and successfully you can use the principles of prosperity in your life. Examine the following list of books carefully and select the one that best fits your needs.

PROSPERITY'S TEN COMMANDMENTS. Using the Ten Commandments as the basis for her ten principles of prosperity, Georgiana Tree West explains how you may find permanent health, happiness, and success.

BOTH RICHES AND HONOR. In addition to six prosperity affirmations for use in meditations, Annie Rix Militz presents essays on spirituality, confidence, work, debt, and other subjects. Particularly helpful to the new Truth student.

PROSPERITY. This book by Charles Fillmore is a comprehensive metaphysical textbook explaining the origin of prosperity and how you may enjoy it in your own life. For the advanced student.

WORKING WITH GOD. Gardner Hunting offers practical methods for finding happiness and success in everyday life. Chapter titles include "Any Job You Want," "Self-Expression," and "You Can't Beat Spiritual Law."

Each of these books is priced at \$1.

Unity School of Christianity, 917 Tracy Avenue, Kansas City 6, Missouri