

## THE POWER OF LOVE

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IF people only knew the bountiful provider, the easy task-master, that love is, the jails and penitentiaries would not be so thronged. If every morning each one would say, " I will take with me *this* morning into the world and its onward crush, just the one weapon, love," he would find the world at his feet, God revealed, and plenty of all good flowing to him from every quarter. If this sweet weapon, love, could be used just for one short hour by all the unions in the country, it would revolutionize the entire labor question, and bring plenty and happiness into each and every home. It would open the purse strings of the money holders, and fill the home of every laborer in the land with radiant sunshine. It would fill every man, woman and child with superb health. It would melt away all hardened conditions. It was only the dear teaching of the Christ that was given, not for a chosen few, but for all. If all would cease struggling and only *love*; love the Good Supreme, the good in everything, and in everybody, refuse to talk of and gloat over the ill things of life, refuse to condemn, but determine to win all through *love*, the desired peace and plenty would come to everyone on God's green earth.

This mighty power of love (unselfish love) in one's consciousness is a drawing card that cannot fail you. No one can resist the loving one, the sweet smile, the kind act. Cease all self-condemnation and go forth every day, yes, every hour, with this one avowed purpose in your mind, " I will win all through love;" and then let the love fairly shine out all through you, no matter if you have on the commonest of clothing, it will work like magic, and you will be a bright, sweet, pure presence that none can resist. "He who runs may read" such an one.

The battle is yours, and you are a blessing, not only to a few, but to the entire world. Just try this weapon of love; it unlocks all sorts of prison doors, breaks down all walls of oppression, melts away all barriers to success. This is nothing more than good common sense, doing as we would be done by. It is sound philosophy, and the best receipt ever given for overcoming all poverty, sickness, worry, sin and care.

There is a love so deep, so grand, that it cannot be sounded or compassed by the mind of man until he be unfolded into the perfect mind of God. Seek not to confound the use of love with that of personal gain, or selfish satisfaction, but go into the depths of the Christ teachings and from there bring forth the bright jewels that lay hidden to the unsearching mind. Bring forth the bright gems that quiver and dance and scintillate from the depths of true God consciousness, and beam forth as brilliant rays of love-light that pierce the gloom of every saddened and benighted heart in the universe. Then break forth, each and every soul, in the one grand theme of love, such as was given to the world in the glowing teachings of Christ, and this world of ours shall become so charged with brightness, so illumined, that all the worlds surrounding her shall be attracted to our bright sphere, and the effulgence of the holy presence of love shall be the all-known and widely worshipped God, and attract all the people that inhabit the entire universe of worlds.

This is no mythical teaching. It is the philosophical teachings of Christ, demonstrated by him wherever he went, whenever he spoke. These wondrous words of love are to be brought into daily, hourly, aye, into an abiding state of use, the fruit of which is harmony, freedom, prosperity, wisdom, and pure spirit consciousness, which becomes inevitable in prominence in every seeking soul.

Love was the power which Jesus wielded. Love was the awakening Life presence. Love was and *is* the bountiful provider, the all-healing presence, the kingdom of heaven consciousness which his disciples had at times when they came in closest spiritual touch with Christ. Love unfolded peace to the hearts of the sorrowing and opened the eyes of the blind; healed the lepers and cleansed the impure. Almighty, unswerving, unchangeable love! Not for glory or renown did Christ wield this mighty power of love. This teaching of love is handed down to us through generations as the greatest, most sacred and most practical teaching ever given to the world. Would it not have been wise to have destroyed the old Mosaic teachings and laws entirely when Christ came teaching such wondrous love, not even holding to these old documents as a matter of history? For do we not even today see the error that fills the minds of the over-zealous Bible reader, those who "believe *every* word in the Bible"? It seems incredible that anyone can make such a random statement, and if it *is* so that they so blindly believe, is it any wonder that on hearing of a murder these same people cry out that the guilty one be hanged? But Christ said, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." And again, "*Love is the fulfilling of the law.*"

The brightest star in the diadem of the immortals is that which symbolizes the teachings of Christ, is that which comes straight from the fountain of love within each soul, and when a soul is poised in love, untouched by selfish motive, that soul has the power to speak the words of spirit and of life to all creation, and as he speaks, so speaks God; and as God speaks, the universe obeys; and thus man, through •the power of love as taught by Christ, has proven that all power is given unto him in heaven and in earth.

"In love immeasurable and boundless I continually dwell; the love which is changeless, unfailing, and will at all times and in all ways sufficient prove."

## THE OPTIMISM OF LOVE

BY I. P. LATHROP.

THERE is nothing so beautiful in this world as the love of the world; the love of a lover for his sweetheart; the love of a mother for her children, and the great love that exists sometimes between friends. Have you realized that it is the optimism in these loves that makes them so beautiful? How ordinary to other people appears this sweetheart, but her lover loves her, not only for the beauty of her character, which she has revealed more freely to him than to any other, but for all the beauty which his own mind possesses, and is able to conceive. Why should it not be glorified love? In proportion to his power to retain the idealistic nature of his love, in that proportion will it endure. What beauty comes to the one so beloved! How her nature struggles to rise to the loftiness and beauty of her lover's ideal. Nothing can be so ennobling.

Then what mother fails to love her children in spite of their faults, and to believe in them, even though they appear incapable to others? What would little children do, if brought up under the pessimism of other mothers in regard to them, instead of by the optimism of their own—the sweet Divine love that "believeth *all* things" ?

Right here, let me give a word to mothers. Although one's natural inclination is to love one's children in spite of all things, and that sustaining love is the necessary support that God has given the mother in order to nourish the child, and protect it from all harm while growing, let me urge a greater *belief* in the child. Believe in the good only that the child possesses, and acknowledge as the only power in his being the Divinity which is a part of Omnipotence, and know that nothing else has control over the child. Do not allow yourself to see or acknowledge his faults\* If they seem too much in evidence, consider them only as you would something undesirable in your house. Open the door and let them go out, denying their power to stay in or do any harm. The result, if you do it faithfully, will be as magic, and your child will, with your assistance, build up a character so strengthened by the presence of good that it will not have to be greatly altered when he reaches manhood.

It sometimes happens that faults of children are so believed in, and impressed upon their minds, that it seems so great a struggle in after years as to amount to an entire reconstruction of the mental edifice. That is to be lamented, for, although he may build one of great beauty, life is not long enough to waste half of it unnecessarily. So I urge upon you to try, instead of the old way of telling the child of his faults and the power and danger of them, to tell him of his powerful good, and of the impotence of the faults as compared with it. It is beautiful to see the natural optimism of the child take hold of the idea, and see his little nature brighten into courage as he realizes that he is good after all, and that the bad does not belong to him. I know of nothing more despairing than to feel that the hosts of evil thoughts are a part of one's self, and nothing so inspiring and helpful as to feel that one is God's thought and creation, and, as such, has no darkness inherent in him.

Of one other phase of love I wish to speak.

You have noticed, perhaps, very strange friendships in life. One whom you know to have a beautiful character loves one whom you despise, because of the gravity of his faults, and the love is so great that you are tempted to think that there must be something not all right about the former if he can tolerate the frequent companionship of the latter. Do not think it. The friendship is found on the ground of some spiritual affinity, wherein the nobler one, with most beautiful optimism, loves his' friend in spite of the faults, which are perhaps more painfully evident to him than to others because of his closeness. Nothing could be more noble than the optimism of such a love that persists in thinking no evil, but magnifies the good. In great danger, however, is such a one, if he fails to hold firm, for the faults of the other's personality are like so many snares,, and would destroy the beautiful winged faith should it fail to reach above the earth and find its constant resting place in the secret place of the Most High.

Let us not be afraid to respond to anyone who may reach out to us for help. Remember this assurance: "Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not afraid, for I am thy God. I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee, and uphold thee by the right hand of my righteousness."

Get the whine out of your voice or it will stop the growth and development of your body. It will narrow and shrink your mind. It will drive away your friends. It will make you unpopular. Quit your whining. Brace up. Go to work. Be something. Stand for something. Fill your place in the universe. Face about and make something of yourself. There is nothing the matter with you. Just quit whining and go to work.—*Medical Talk*.

There should be no mysticism in truth. Nothing should be left to conjecture. It should have no realm of operation save the present. It should stand in the arena of consciousness stripped of all speculation. It should stand sponsor for its own arguments. —*Dominion*.

" There can be no life or power in man apart from the Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us all force and power to do. Live the Christ-life if you would know and realize true power and complete happiness."