

LIFE UNDERSTOOD FROM A SCIENTIFIC AND RELIGIOUS POINT OF VIEW

and

The Practical Method of Destroying Sin, Disease, and Death

SECTION ONE

FOREWORD

All over the world, not only in scientific circles, but through the daily press, the attention of thinkers is being drawn to the fact that our old ideas are fundamentally wrong, and that some great truth surely remains undiscovered which is likely soon to bring about a great change for humanity at large.

Lord Kelvin has written: "One word characterises the most strenuous efforts for the advancement of science that I have made perseveringly during fifty-five years—that word is 'failure.' I know no more of electric and magnetic force, or of the relation between ether, electricity, and ponderable matter, or of chemical affinity than I knew and tried to teach my students of natural philosophy in my first session as a professor." This was because Lord Kelvin, whilst a religious man, endeavoured to find truth in matter.

One of the leading and most practical chemists of the day, in mentioning a new discovery which has not yet been given to the world by its learned discoverers on account of the impossibility of fitting it in with any known theory of matter, made the following statement to me: "It is an extraordinary thing that every science is now coming to a head. This position has been reached before in different sciences, but it is the first time in the known history of the world that all the sciences have come to the same conclusion together, namely, that their old ideas are absolutely wrong." Another, recognised all over the world as a giant in research said: "We do not know whether we are standing on our heads or on our heels."

The consecutive statement in the following pages contains a collection of facts and logical deductions therefrom, which having been learnt and demonstrably proved, are gladly presented to suffering humanity. The facts given will, it is believed, be found of fascinating and vital interest to all.

The aim has been, not to present a theory, but first to expose the foundationless fallacies of material so-called laws on which alone rests all the seeming mystery of human experiences. Secondly, to draw attention to the only practical, universal, and unailing method of instantaneously

overcoming every kind of sin, disease, and trouble, including death, by right understanding of Life as God. To understand God is the work of eternity, but a grasp of this method will at once revolutionise the life of the reader. To obtain such a grasp, it is better to read steadily through the 5 sections in the order given, instead of merely taking the most interesting parts first.

The truths declared are not mere arbitrary statements. They can be proved by each and all of those who study the laws herein stated. The main points brought out are as follows :—

- 10 i. Sin, disease, and even death itself, are merely crude mistakes resulting from ignorance of the law of Life, eternal Mind omnipotent good.
- ii. God is not a distant potentate, but an ever-living, ever-active and unalterable Principle—Mind, Soul, Spirit, Life, Truth, and 15 Love; the omnipotence and omnipresence of which can be instantly utilised at any moment and for any good purpose.
- iii. Man's possibilities, resting on a scientific, mental foundation, are found to be limitless, for he reflects divine Principle. These, ever 20 as humanly discerned, are so marvellous that they enable us to form an approximate, and continually improving, conception of absolute spiritual realities.
- iv. The mysteries of birth and death are explained, the latter being merely a transition into another material state of human consciousness, which can be entirely avoided.
- 25 v. The changing and fading fallacies with regard to material evolution are laid bare, and the eternal facts of spiritual evolution stated.
- vi. A logical and consistent statement of the theories of material phenomena, exposing the fallacies that have hitherto, through 30 ignorance, bound mankind, is set forth.
- vii. Last, and not least, each reader, as he discerns the truths declared, can at once put into practice himself, an easy, scientific, and therefore infallible and instantaneous method of obtaining the following revolutionary results :—
 - (a) Deliverance from sin, disease, and the last grim enemy, 35 death itself.
 - (b) Ability to relieve his fellow-man instantaneously of any kind of sin or disease, and, in fact, help him out of any possible difficulty.
 - (c) The overcoming of limitations of all kinds in every right 40 direction.
 - (d) Freedom from all worries and troubles, and the attainment of perfect peace of mind, with continued increasing happiness.

“Slumber not in the tents of your fathers; the world is advancing, advance 45 with it” (Mazzini). Ten years ago I was retained by the *Daily Express* to make a professional examination into mental working, the vital subject that is now engaging the attention of the deepest thinkers and greatest

humanitarians throughout the world. In consequence of this I was asked by the Rev. J. Bruce Wallace, under special circumstances, which will be referred to later, to give a lecture, the amplification of which has led to this book.

In the course of this examination the facts came to my knowledge that are now to be presented to you. These facts, however surprising they may appear to you, were, I assure you, no less so to me. I am convinced, however, that anyone who examines them with even a little care and patience, and with an open mind, will come to the same conclusion as I have done, and reap a rich reward. I would emphatically echo the words of Uriel Esdras, who asked for understanding of some of the most important subjects dealt with in this work, and was answered as follows: "The more thou searchest, the more thou shalt marvel" (II Esdras 4: 26).

"Scepticism is ignorance," writes Victor Longheed, and a sign of wisdom is to keep our minds open and our mouths shut when scientific wonders are put before us. "Disbelief is easier than belief, if in accordance with environment or custom, and is usually due to indolence, and is never a thing to be proud of" (Romanes).

"Psychical research is by far the most important work that is being done in the world" (W. E. Gladstone). Remember that hardly anything is known scientifically about psychology. It is only recently that it has been deemed worthy of being studied and taught. Professor James, one of the leading psychologists of modern times, writes in *Psychology* as follows: "Psychology is but a string of raw facts, a little gossip and a wrangle about opinions, a little classification and generalisation on the mere descriptive level, a strong prejudice that we have states of mind, and that our brain conditions them, but not a single law in the sense in which physics shows us laws. At present psychology is in the condition of physics before Galileo and the laws of motion, or of chemistry before Lavoisier." We should, as Sir William Crookes has said, "keep our minds, like the windows of a lodging-house, with a notice written thereon, 'Rooms to let.'"

"If . . . And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8: 32). It is my intention to present, in accordance with the most recent scientific knowledge, a correct word picture; in other words, by the presentation of up-to-date natural science and latter-day practical metaphysics to enable you to understand better what this material world assumes to be, and how through the exposure of all its hidden workings, and therefore seeming mystery, it is possible to emerge from the mists of shifting appearances into the sunlight of eternal facts.

A. J. Balfour, in his presidential address to the British Association a few years ago, pointed out the necessity of not limiting ourselves to material facts alone, but of coming out of the realm of the unreal, that is, the material world, into that which has hitherto been termed abstract, namely, the spiritual world or world of reality.

It is certain that every honest, unprejudiced seeker will find, as I have proved for myself, that the substitution of metaphysical working, or deep, systematic thinking, produces practical effects, as far exceeding those obtained by physical methods as sunlight exceeds rushlight.

The theory or explanation¹ of material phenomena now put before you has been gradually evolving, and includes and accounts for every known so-called fact of the material world, whether physical or so-called mental, accepted by science, or of the class called occult. This theory is daily, although sometimes unknowingly, being corroborated by leaders in natural science all over the world. Many of the most important facts have been confirmed since they were first brought to my knowledge.

THE MYSTERIES OF OUR WORLD

“But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory” (I Cor. 2 : 7).

Our planet is full of mystery, and of the universe only enough is known to make those who are thought to know a great deal, partially recognise their ignorance. “And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know” (I Cor. 8 : 2).

Professor Drummond, in *Natural Law in the Spiritual World*, writes : “The one subject upon which all scientific men are agreed, the one theme upon which all alike become eloquent, the one strain of pathos in all their writing and speaking and thinking, concerns that final uncertainty, that utter blackness of darkness bounding their work on every side.” This darkness is ignorance, the mystery of evil, the only cause of the apparent limitation in every direction. This darkness has now been dissipated.

“Occult” Phenomena.—Amongst the phenomena known to investigators for which it has hitherto been manifestly impossible to account in any rational way, are those connected with thought-reading, prophesying, clairvoyance, clairaudience, second sight, psychometry, somnambulism, duplicated personality, suggestion, hypnotism, spiritualism, theosophy, the ancient temples, faith-healers, the Indian Yogis, Mohammeden fakirs, and the witches and sorcerers of olden days. So ignorant have we been of such matters that until quite recently their investigation was tabooed by scientific men on the ground that there was no method of obtaining exact knowledge concerning them. There are many other mysterious phenomena, such as ghosts and visions, miracles and enchantments, and marvellous powers that various men have exercised, of which there are many instances recorded in the oldest known writings, in the Bible, and throughout all history. These phenomena are now no longer mysterious, and by reversal of the many falsities in connection with them they serve as waymarks to better, and ultimately to permanent things, the ideas of God.

Scientific Difficulties.—Even if we put on one side all that may be considered “miraculous,” those facts which are called “scientific” are just as bewildering. Take, for instance, the ether, which is full of paradoxes. Is a material earth, as stated, flying at the rate of about eighteen miles per second through this ether, the density of which is believed to be

¹ “To make hypotheses, to verify them by experiments, then to attempt to connect, by the aid of generalisations, the facts discovered, represents the stages necessary for the building up of all our knowledge” (*The Evolution of Matter*, Dr. G. Le Bon).