

# GOD IS DOING IT

by

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## BUDDING AND BLOSSOMING

Besides Noah's ark, there is still another ARK. It is really the same Noah's ark. It is the ark of *spiritual consciousness*. But the material conception of it is different from that ark called Noah's ark. As we have all found out, the word *ark* means a vessel in which to keep things sure and secret, and is really just what it has been defined, namely, spiritual consciousness.

When we find ourselves in any sort of trouble, we may take refuge in that ark of spiritual consciousness; but while we believe in the belief of matter being an actuality, the thing called an ark is whatever is necessary at the moment to save us from the particular situation in which we find ourselves.

For instance, Noah built his ark of spiritual consciousness, and there appeared to him a sort of boat, which offered escape from a flood.

Nehemiah built his ark of spiritual consciousness, and the thing necessary to him on that occasion was a wall builded about Jerusalem.

Samson built his spiritual ark, and there was furnished him a temple, or wonderful body filled with strength, which enabled him to overthrow the enemy.

Solomon built another kind of an ark, a temple as the result of his spiritual consciousness, in which could be sought refuge from troubles of one kind or another.

And so on. This "other ark" was in appearance like a diminutive house, something like a doll's house, and the children of Israel carried it about with them. Of course, this diminutive house signified spiritual consciousness, and, in fact, was the result of the children of Israel's spiritual consciousness. When they carried the ark about with them into battles, and such like, and won their victories, it was because of their spiritualized consciousness, and not because they carried about a little wooden ark. From the records, however, it would most certainly appear that the Israelites thought the latter to be so.

Now, in this ark there were but three things: Aaron's rod that budded, the two tables of stone on which the Ten Commandments were inscribed, and the golden pot of manna.

When we build our ark of spiritual consciousness, which we should bear about with us at all times, and particularly when the enemy is attacking us, we find

some material ark appearing. It may be a good position; it may be a trip to some far country; it may be our advent into some new business; or we may move into a new home; it does not matter in the least what the material appearing may be. The important thing is to build this ark of spiritual consciousness, and to be sure to carry it with us on every occasion. Doing this, we will bring about the obliteration of the carnal mind's delusion, whatever it may be, and at the same time there will appear some corresponding good.

When we build this ark of spiritual consciousness, as there was in the ark which the Israelites used to carry about with them, so we shall find in our ark, individually builded, the two tables of stone with the Ten Commandments thereon, Aaron's rod that budded, and the golden pot of manna; signifying, first, the laws of God Himself, spiritual laws; then government by the divine Mind through the budding forth of spiritual ideas; and, finally, the pot of manna, which signifies that whatsoever it may be that is required, it will be forthcoming, be it food, clothing, money, house, or whatnot.

It is interesting to note the significance of Aaron's rod that budded, as found in the record in Numbers. A member of every tribe of the children of Israel was called upon to bring a rod and lay it on the altar, and whichever rod budded would signify that the owner thereof was the Chosen of God. Of the tribe of Levi (those who have awakened to the use of the good of the "tree of knowledge" and have left behind the evil of that tree, but have not yet advanced to the sole use of the "tree of life"), Aaron's rod was the only one of the twelve which budded, and *it* brought forth blossoms and almonds.

The rod signifies government. Everyone will recollect, when we were children, that if we were unruly, or doing some forbidden, childish thing, finally father picked up his cane, or rod, and shook it, maybe used it too, and immediately we recognized his authority and peace once more reigned.

The rod always represents authority and government, and so it does all through the inspired Word of the Bible. In this instance, it represented the government of God, Mind. Moses taught and recognized that God was Mind, so the budding of the rod with almonds and blossoms indicates obedience to government by the divine Mind, through the budding forth of spiritual ideas.

When those twelve men, representing the different tribes of Israel, were called together by Moses and laid their rods on the altar, it meant simply that each one was called upon to turn to God and bring forth, or offer, upon the altar of God, spiritual ideas. The only one who blossomed, or brought forth spiritual ideas, was Moses' brother, Aaron. In him, alone, the Christ-Mind budded, or brought forth spiritual ideas, bloomed forth blossoms and almonds. This would indicate, as we read afterward in Revelation of the "little book" made up of spiritual ideas, that it will be sweet at the first taste, but will make the "belly bitter." The blossoms of spirituality are at first sweet in the healing balm which is an integral part of them; but afterwards, like the bitter almonds, these spiritual truths or ideas, interfering with those material pleasures which we may not be willing to give up, cause some bitterness to arise within us.

So we see plainly enough just what is meant. As we build this spiritual ark in our consciousness, we perceive that therein are to be found three things: the tables of stone on which are inscribed the Ten Commandments, Aaron's rod that budded, and the golden pot of manna. In other words, we find that, within the ark of spiritual consciousness, we are governed solely by the laws of God, God's laws, spiritual laws, or by God Himself, through the budding forth into consciousness of spiritual ideas, sweet at the first taste but

somewhat bitter later on. We also find that golden pot of manna, wherein is to be found true substance, true Life, true Love, true health, and everything that is true and eternal.

In *First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, Mrs Eddy prophetically stated that the “government of The Church of Christ, Scientists [divine consciousness or that spiritual ark] will evolve scientifically.” That is, it will evolve in just this way, the blossoming forth of the rod of an Aaron, representing the highest good, or the “Second Degree” found on page 115 of *Science and Health*, of the “tree of knowledge of both good and evil,” or the tribe of Levi, into the spiritual ideas of the Holy City, or the “Third Degree” found on page 116 of *Science and Health*, or the use of the “tree of life” only, wherein all twelve tribes — “all the churches, one by one” (*Miscellany*) — are merged in the *one*, or spiritual consciousness, spiritual government only; and man, made in the image and likeness of *good*, being the Governor, the Christ-man.

This is *His Kingdom at hand*, or the other ARK (spiritual consciousness), which today is, like Aaron’s rod, blossoming into the glorious perception of “heaven here,” a state of consciousness where God unmistakably dwells with men.