

BEING THAT IMAGE

“Mortals are the counterfeits of immortals” (*Science and Health*), and the human counterfeits the Divine. Holding the perfect pattern in thought, there will be, according to our clearer perception of this perfect pattern, a correspondingly better counterfeit.

Supposing that we found ourselves in the last century, and in charge of the issuance of greenbacks. We would have a pattern made of a proposed bill, which, on being issued, would become legal tender; but owing to the crude conditions then prevailing for engraving plates, the production would be more or less imperfect.

Almost coincidentally, and without any effort on our part whatever, there would appear a counterfeit of this bill closely resembling the original with all its lack of perfection. This counterfeit would pass as current money just so long as the populace remained in ignorance of its spurious nature.

Supposing, some years afterwards, as our knowledge and understanding permitted us to improve upon the crude engraving, we made a new issue of a similar denomination, but a more perfect one, or rather, less imperfect. Again, and absolutely without any effort on our part, there would immediately appear another counterfeit, this time still closely resembling this less imperfect bill.

Again, some years hence, with further improvements along these lines, we will suppose another issue to be made, when, likewise, there will appear a further counterfeit, still spurious, still worthless, and yet approaching in its new endeavor the still more perfect pattern.

This issuance of a new pattern may go on indefinitely, and each time the counterfeit may appear as indefinitely; the counterfeit, however, never being able to pass as the real, or exchanged for the real or original engraving.

We thus can, in a measure, see what is meant when we are told to, “Let the perfect model be present in your thoughts” (*Science and Health*), at which time the human counterfeit will become less inharmonious and more ideal. But, no matter how ideal the mortal man, the human, may become, he can never be exchanged for, or evolved into the immortal or the spiritual.

This may be illustrated more particularly in the following instance: When the Jews, believing in one God and that man was made in His image and likeness (which is true), conceived this God to be a tribal God, a hero God, or a warlike God (which is untrue) — holding in mind this, to them, the perfect pattern — they eventually produced a more or less perfect physical race.

Later on, however, Christianity appeared, through the teachings of Jesus the Christ, and the human concept of God was erroneously but progressively changed to God, the Father (Spirit), and God, the Son (flesh), and that Jesus was God in the flesh. Thus a sort of composite God was conceived of, not altogether spiritual, but less

fleshly and somewhat ethereal, even as many artists in this day depict the face and form of Jesus the Christ.

So, holding this pattern of what was to them the perfect man in thought, the Christians somewhat departed from the more physical manifestation, as shown in the Jewish race at that time, and thus evolved a more delicately formed race. This is even more noticeably so among the ministers of the Protestant churches, who, for many years and until recent date, were pictured, and actually were, somewhat slender and spare in a perhaps attempted ethereality.

Now, Christian Science has come, destroying utterly the viewpoint of God or His Christ, as being other than Spirit, or Mind, and its manifestation. Because of this higher concept, one coming into the fold from the world gradually loses that worldly, fleshly sense of substance-matter. As the recognition, or right apprehension, of the truth of God and His Christ unfolds and permeates one's consciousness, so does the expression on one's face change from one stage to another of better health, greater happiness, more spirituality; and it is then expressive of Love, gentleness, tenderness and kindness, just according as he is enabled to uphold in thought the more perfect pattern.

Then does the Judas face (malicious evil thoughts) fade away, and the Christ, being no longer overlaid by this Judas face of every mortal, is brought to view in meekness and humility, the reflection of God; or, in fact, His very being. No longer then, does Esau, the Judas countenance, grasp the heel of Jacob, in the ignorant attempt to hide, or cover up, man's true birthright of spiritual being.

Thus is a better world constantly being manifested, as the perfect pattern is held before it and the *light* raised high enough for all to see.