
THE FRUIT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

To grow seedless oranges the parent tree is bent over to the ground and the top is bedded in the earth. In due course it takes root, and then the newly rooted and growing top is disconnected from the parent tree by cutting it off. From this new tree comes the seedless orange.

If we would cease to produce the seeds of fear, anxiety, worry, sickness, sin, death, poverty, old age, lack, accidents and other evils, we too must disconnect ourselves from the parent tree of believing that we are born of human parents.

When we first learned the fundamentals of Christian Science, or gleaned some exact knowledge of the Christ, for that is precisely what Christian Science means—exact knowledge of the Christ—we discovered that we were born, not of woman, but of God, that God was our Father-Mother, and so we did not have a human parentage. Thus were we rooted in the soil of God and not of the earth earthly; furthermore we then commenced to grow just the opposite way from which we had been growing, and brought forth spiritual fruit without the seeds of earthly error, instead of growing from the material, and continuing down the line of ancestry bearing the seeds of discord of every kind.

However the great majority of us, although we have become rooted in the consciousness of the Christ, have generally failed to disconnect ourselves from the old parent vine by cutting ourselves wholly away from it, and continue to claim our ancestral rights and privileges, ancestral lands, national traits, long pedigrees, titles, honors of our forebears, and what is called "the glorious past," all of which is of course exceedingly pleasant; but unfortunately—or perhaps fortunately—when we thus claim that glorious heritage, we find that we must produce the seeds of sin, disease, death, poverty, pain, suffering and other evils; and we shall continue to do this until the time comes when we are willing to wholly disconnect ourselves by cutting ourselves off from human parentage, and as-

sume our rightful heritage as the sons of God, and joint-heirs with Christ.

According to Biblical records when someone and another became rooted in the Christ consciousness and so perceived they were the sons of God, having "neither birth nor death" (S & H 244), they did a very practical thing in order to cut themselves off from their belief of human parentage, and forthwith forsook their parental name and adopted a new name, signifying in some measure their newly awakened consciousness. "To him that overcometh, will I give to eat of the hidden manna (life, health, peace, love, abundance, happiness, etc.) and will give him a white stone (the white Christ. M. W. 124) and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it" (Rev. 2/17). Abram became Abraham; Sarai, Sarah; Jacob, Israel; and Saul, Paul; while "Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasure of sin for a season;" and the son of Zacharias instead of being called after his father as was the natural custom, was given the then unusual name of John. Jesus gave to James and John, the name Boanerges, meaning sons of thunder, and to Simon the name Peter, meaning a rock, while to himself was given the name Jesus, meaning Saviour, instead of as would have been customary, a family name. If further evidence of this were required, his reply to those who told him of the presence of his mother and brothers without, would be of itself sufficient. Jesus said "Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?" and stretching out his hand toward his disciples, continued, "Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."

It may not be practical in this day and age to make a change of name in the endeavor to cut ourselves off from the seed-producing human father-hood and mother-hood. Probably it is quite unnecessary to do so, but certainly it is necessary for us to do so mentally, and to claim our rights and press our claim that man is the son of God, governed by the one Mind, and drawing from that one Mind whatever is righteous and good, which is the product of the King-

dom of God, wherein "we live, and move, and have our being," and in the soil of which we are firmly rooted. Moreover we must act accordingly or live it.

Thus we too shall be "priests of the Most High God, . . . Kings of righteousness and peace, without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like unto the Son of God . . . a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec." (Heb 7).