

## READERS' QUESTIONS

### *Christ as Mediator; After-Death Conditions; the Invisible Helper's Seed Atom*

HOW CHRIST BECAME FITTED TO  
MEDIATE BETWEEN GOD AND MAN

**Q**UESTION: I CANNOT SEE why it was necessary for Christ to enter the body of Jesus and be tempted in order that He might have compassion for mankind. Could not such a great Being have compassion without going through that?

**Answer:** No being, however great, can feel compassion for something he knows nothing about. For instance, the great Sun Spirit, Christ, in His own nature could have felt no temptation to turn stones to bread in order to appease hunger. Neither would He have felt it a sacrifice to refuse allegiance to a power that would make Him a sovereign over our little earth. But just as we, when we look through a colored glass, see everything tinted the same color as that of the glass, so, also, when the Christ consciousness became centered in Jesus' body, He saw the things of the world through the eyes of Jesus who was a human being. And from the viewpoint of a human being bread seemed exceedingly desirable when he felt intense hunger, and hence it became a temptation to Him. Power also is most desirable to human beings, considering its effectiveness in securing the things they wish to control, and for this reason the desire to obtain it becomes a temptation to mankind.

Only from the viewpoint of Jesus could Gethsemane have seemed such a terrible ordeal that the Christ would have wanted to avoid it; but



Fresco, 1454, Andrea Del Castagno (1390-1457). Santissima Annunziata, Florence

#### *Holy Trinity with Saints Jerome, Paul, and Eustochium*

*Christ raised humanity in spirit by being raised upon a cross. Through His incarnation in Jesus, He suffered all temptations and extremities incident to human physical embodiment.*

we can readily see how this great Spirit living in a body sensitive to physical pain shrank from the torture of crucifixion; also how having passed through that terrible ordeal He learned compassion for the suffering of mankind in a deeper sense than He ever could have done through observation. Having once worn a physical body and experi-

enced the frailties of the flesh, He knows better than anyone else the trials and hardships which mankind continually undergoes, and how best to help each individual to master the difficulties that surround him. He therefore rightly is the supreme Mediator between God and man.

#### AFTER-DEATH CONDITIONS IN PURGATORY AND THE FIRST HEAVEN

**Question:** I read in your literature that when people who have passed out in death reach the First Heaven, those who are studious will have access to all the libraries of the world; that painters will learn how to truly blend colors, and scholars will have the best kind of facilities ready for their use, et cetera. Will the knowledge obtained there be retained by the Spirit? Is it held by the Spirit, at least to some extent, and brought to earth when it is reborn?

**Answer:** Yes, it is true that we do have great opportunities for advancement after we pass into the invisible world, if we wish to take advantage of them. However, there is no transforming power in death, and the great majority of the people seem to live there much the same as they lived here. For instance, they do not need to eat in the lower regions of the Desire World, but they do eat, and they have houses over there, and they seem to live in other respects almost exactly as they lived here, just having as good and easy a time as they possibly can, enjoying themselves in that way. These people are not getting any great amount of benefit out of their post mortem existence.

There is another class of people there who are studious and they have great opportunities for self-improvement. That work, however, does not seem to result in soul growth in the same sense that similar work does here; but it does improve their standing by advancing their spirituality which helps them in their evolution to a wonderful extent.

#### WORK OF THE INVISIBLE HELPER RECORDED ON THE SEED ATOM

**Question:** From reading your literature I understand that there are Invisible Helpers who work consciously out of their physical bodies and others who work unconsciously. What I want to know is

#### “I am the Way”

Thou art the Way.  
Hadst Thou been nothing but the goal,  
I cannot say  
If Thou hadst ever met my soul.

I cannot see—  
I, child of process—if there lies  
An end for me.  
Full of repose, full of replies,

I'll not reproach  
The road that winds, my feet that err.  
Access, Approach  
Art Thou, Time, Way, and Wayfarer.

—Alice Meynell

will the unconscious Invisible Helper, when he leaves his body at death, recognize those in the spirit world with whom he worked at night before his passing, or will there be no record of those experiences?

**Answer:** The experiences of the unconscious Invisible Helper in the spirit world, while he still has a physical body, may be likened to a dream that he does not remember when he becomes awake; but the experiences are all recorded on the seed atom of the physical body, and so form a part of his life panorama. Accordingly, when such a one views this panorama after death, he will see all that happened to him both when awake and asleep during the time that he lived in his physical body. Although his recollection of what happened while out of the body as an unconscious Invisible Helper will not be quite the same as it would be if he had gone through these experiences consciously, nevertheless, he will obtain from his life panorama a conscious knowledge of all that he did during those times, so that, although he will not have the same feeling that he would have, had he gone through the experiences consciously, he will, however, soon adjust himself, and know and understand that they are all perfectly true happenings.

The work of the Invisible Helper, whether conscious or unconscious, is of untold value to the individual in furthering his status in evolution. □