

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

Future Development



“Perceive ye not yet, neither understand? . . . Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember?”

Mark, 8:17-18.

There comes a time in each man's life when there is an inner longing and awakening, just as the little life within the seed begins to turn to reach out for expression, and the germ in the egg begins its life which later bursts the shell and is born a chick. So this quickening of the Spirit within man begins its restless search for knowledge, when it wants to know whence has it come, why is it here, and where is it destined to go when its life in the physical world ends?

There is this longing which comes to every one, this loneliness, or can we compare it to a homesick feeling to return to the Father? The Spirit may be smothered for years by the life of the senses, but eventually it will turn toward that home from which it was sent, it will navigate to that Divine Fire from which it is only a spark.

But often this longing gives vent to cold, cynical pessimism. The mind refuses to respond to the higher desires which endeavor to lead the way back to God. But, as the wayward boy who has left his home to seek his fortune in the world, turns his back to the longing, the craving for the love of his mother, and drowns his desires for his home in dissipation, seeking for pleasure, so man may also turn his back to the cry of the Spirit and drown this longing in material pleasures.

There is an invisible world about us, a mysterious something that calls us at times, that great riddle of life, whence have we come, why are we in this world which is so full of sorrow,

why do we struggle day by day, searching, seeking, hoping, weeping, praying, ever groping to get higher, and for what? Do we ever stop to think what that great unknown something is that we are after?

The greatest riddle in the universe is man. There is a great force in nature that we feel, we sense its power. May we compare it to electricity, the force which itself is unknown to us. We cannot see it, we can only feel it; and we sense a like power surrounding the human body but cannot see it. The blind man is told that the trees are green and that the rose is red, but he cannot see, he must take our word for it, he is physically blind.

So is man also spiritually blind. Having eyes he sees not, and having ears, he hears not. But there are those among us who can see and who tell us of this great invisible world that is surrounding us; they have the spiritual eyes developed, they tell us of these great wonders. The question is asked: If some have that sight why do not all have it, why are we spiritually blind, and how do we know that what these people tell us is true? We all know that China is on the western side of the Pacific Ocean, at least we are told so by those who have been there. We have never seen that country, but we believe the man who has been there has told the truth. Why not also believe the man who tells us about these invisible worlds?

The question is asked: But how can we get there? We can get to China if we have the price of a ticket. We can also visit these higher worlds if we pay the price, but not with money. By persistent and loving service, one can purify his vehicles so that the spiritualized body can be used as a means of traveling consciously on the invisible planes.—*Max Heindel.*