

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

THE EPISTLES OF THE DISCIPLES

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I John 3:2,3

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

As all the evolving kingdoms of the earth draw the life force necessary for their well-being from the physical sun, so also the privilege has been given to man to attract a spiritual life and power from the spiritual Sun that contributes toward the formation of the new soul-body of light. It is only through "living the life" that this force becomes available and operative in cleansing the passion-filled blood of man.

I John 3:22-24

And whatsoever we ask, we shall receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do these things that are pleasing in his sight.

And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

The creative life essence, when conserved within the body, possesses an attractive power of such strength as to draw unto itself all that is necessary for its sustenance and well-being. "Whatsoever we

ask, we receive of Him." Here John in speaking from the experience of one who has attained through the processes of regeneration. Such a person dies to the physical world only to be born into higher joys of the all-abiding consciousness of eternal life.

I John 3:18-21

My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.

For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

In this Epistle John is writing to those who are familiar with the inner teachings. Therefore, he refers to the awakening of the Christ within man as the only means by which the Solar Christ may be contacted on the outer. To develop the inherent divine tendencies is the only way to find the path that leads to eternal life through Initiation.

I John 4:12, 15

No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

The confession referred to does not mean merely an affirmation or acceptance of the truth declared — which is the sense in

which it has been taught in the Church during the Piscean Dispensation, with its exoteric concept of religion — but bears a larger spiritual significance. Its deeper truth pertains to the development of Christ powers. Man's failure to apprehend this truth has prevented him from demonstrating in his own life the results promised to the true believer. While he has accepted intellectually, in all sincerity and earnestness, the belief that Christ Jesus is the Son of God, he has not realized that he himself is also a Christ in the making; that he, too, must be Christed before the words of the Bible are applicable to him.

I John 5:12, 7, 8

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one.

And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

The fundamentals of occultism are universality and unity. These manifest under three aspects; they operate through three principles emanating from cosmic substance and expressing themselves in man as will, wisdom and activity. These three principles are reflections of the Father, the Christ (Word) and the Holy Ghost, the triune Godhead of which John writes.

From the three principles there must later arise a fourth. In the Godhead this fourth principle is the Comforter, the highest aspect of the Holy Ghost. In man it operates as transmutation, the most potent activity principle. It is this principle that found demonstration by the Disciples on the Day of Pentecost.

The substance involved in connection with the fourth principle has been termed Azoth. Medieval Alchemists used many names to describe this tincture or sublimated essence, this element by which is performed

the great White Work. The Christ demonstrated it for man in the glory and splendor of the Transfiguration.

In the mystery of the *three* becoming *four* lies concealed the deeper meaning of the Trinity and the Immaculate Conception.

John says that three bear witness on earth: the spirit, water and the blood. The blood is one of the profound mysteries of life. Eliphaz Levi states: "Blood is the first incarnation of the Universal Fluid; it is the materialized *vital light*. Its birth is the most marvelous of Nature's marvels; it lives only by perpetually transforming itself; for it is the universal proteus. It can be allied to neither corruption nor death; when life is gone it begins decomposing. If you know how to reanimate it, to infuse into it life by a new magnetization of its globules, life will return to it again. The universal substance, with its double motion, is the great arcanum of life."

Madame Blavatsky affirms that the blood and the soul are one. The great White Work of transmutation is effected through the blood. The early Church had mystic legends connected with the lives of saints whose blood had turned white. These are but added testimonies to the regenerative process described by John. This illumined Disciple said much relative to birth by water and by blood, and about finding eternal life through the Son. The birth by water is the natural process by which the physical body is brought to the earth plane; the birth by blood is the regenerative process by which a new or spiritual body is born in which an ego may function upon spiritual planes. Eternal life in the Son is attained when Christed powers, latent in all, are awakened into dynamic activity through the process of regeneration or new birth, occultly termed Initiation.

I John 5:11

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.