

Western Wisdom Bible Study

The New Relationships

While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him.

Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak unto thee.

But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?

And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, 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. — Matthew 12:46-50.

Here Christ Jesus teaches the lesson of right human relationships based on the essential oneness of all living things.

Prior to the coming of Christ as indwelling Planetary Spirit of the Earth, the idea of separateness held sway — separateness of individuals, of families, of clans and tribes, and of nations. Conflicting interests growing out of this selfishness and feeling of separateness led to the wars and bloodshed that exist even to the present time. But as stated in *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*:

“Christ came to prepare the way for the emancipation of humanity from the guidance of the differentiating Race and Family Spirits, and to unite the human family in One Universal Brotherhood.

“He taught that ‘Abraham’s seed’ referred to the bodies only, and called their attention to the fact that before Abraham lived (the) ‘I’ — the Ego — was in existence. The threefold individual Spirit had its being long before all tribes and races, and it will remain when they have passed away and even the memory of them is no more.

“The threefold Spirit in man, the Ego, is the

God within, whom the personal, bodily man must learn to follow. Therefore did Christ say that, to be His disciple, a man must forsake all that he had. His teaching points to the emancipation of the God within. He calls upon man to exercise his prerogative as an individual and rise above family, tribe, and nation. Not that he is to disregard kin and country. He must fulfill all duties, but he is to cease identifying himself with part and must recognize an equal kinship with all the world. That is the ideal given to mankind by Christ.”

“There is much foolish, even dangerous talk of giving up the Self to the Not-Self; only when we have cultivated a ‘Self’ can we sacrifice ourselves and give up the Self to the WHOLE. So long as we can only love our own family or nation we are incapable of loving others. We are bound by the tie of kin and country. When we have burst the tie of blood and asserted ourselves and become self-sufficient may we become unselfish helpers of humanity. When a man has reached that stage he will find that, instead of having lost his own family, he has gained all the families in the world, for they will have become his sisters and brothers, his fathers and mothers to care for and help.”

Family relationships will continue for centuries to come, but already the tie of blood is becoming less binding among the most advanced peoples of the world. Each year, as the unifying power of the Christ becomes stronger and urges all humanity toward the higher ideals of selflessness and service to others, there is an increase in the number of those who recognize the unity of each with all and strive to live as brothers to all other humans. Through the great Love Power of Christ Universal Brotherhood is being accomplished. □

