

THE ORDER OF THE ESSENES

212 SOUTH MANHATTAN BLVD.
OR P. O. BOX 10427
TAMPA 9, FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION

Dear Friends:

What more can we say than that which we have already said, but in these letters we can draw close and inspire each other to build a group consciousness in the One Mind that is invincible. You, of course, surmise there is much activity along several lines required to keep these instructions going forth in an orderly manner and we know you want to help, for many of you have said so. So as you make your loving gifts to further the work, will you speak and know the Truth for us that we may be wise, loving and strong in God, abundantly supplied with all good.

This lesson on the Radiance of Faith helps to strengthen the foundation of faith upon which we raise the temple not built with hands. The wise master builder, not only has the best material, but a sure foundation. No one builds a fine structure on a bad foundation, nor does one use cheap substitutes in foundation material.

We all meet tests of one kind or another, not always to cleanse us, but to test our usefulness. Men must be spiritually united to co-operate. In spirit there is no selfish growth, but every idea works in harmony with every other idea, carrying out the loving purposes of God.

Man is a spiritual being, a being of light, of radiant glory and of power, and you are that man.

Faithfully,

THE ORDER OF THE ESSENES

J. Hamner Davis

Enc. 130



THE Essenes

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Instruction Headquarters - Tampa, Florida

INSTRUCTION 130

Assuring to the Acceptable and Accepted
HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS.

THE LIGHT OF THE BODY IS THE EYE: IF
THEREFORE THINE EYE BE SINGLE, THY WHOLE
BODY SHALL BE FULL OF LIGHT. BUT IF
THINE EYE BE EVIL THY WHOLE BODY SHALL
BE FULL OF DARKNESS.

MATT. 6:22-23

THE RADIANCE OF FAITH

We have said in former instructions that the Kingdom of Heaven consciousness is that in which Divine ideas blend into each other in such a way that there is no separation. We also call this the universal consciousness of Light and it is the Christ consciousness to a Christian. We will come to see that all religions are seeking the Light under various names and the more we understand this, the nearer all people come to the Kingdom of Heaven consciousness. We know it is a state of conscious harmony.

If the student of Life Science will take the time to read the "Life of Mahatma Gandhi", by E. Stanley Jones, he will find a living example of the above paragraph. Dr. Jones is a world famous missionary to India and was a close friend of Gandhi. The book is a challenge to Christians, for Gandhi put into practice the Christian attitude of overcoming evil with good, and followed this course without compromise. He practiced non-violence to the extent that he freed a vast country from the bondage of a great military nation. He had an amazing spirit, transforming everything he touched and it is said by some that he has done more for the whole world than any man since Jesus Christ. He realized that the true message cannot be given by word of mouth, for it can only be lived.

We are not giving a book review, but calling your attention to the fact that one of the most Christ like men in history was not called a Christian, but his life will surely help the Christians to become what they claim. For with many who claim to be Christians there is no evidence of Christ life, and the latter is the requirement.

We know in these instructions, unless we try seriously to live the Truth, they just become something we have read and we derive no living substance from the Source.

We add to our substance of faith that which we call the radiance of faith. Radiance is a brilliance denoting the emission of rays, so if one has faith established in Christ, there is not only a new perception in the mind but an actual light coming from the body. You have seen the circle of light that early artists painted around the head of Christ. We are instructed to "let our light shine", showing that man is truly a being of light here and now, and really has an eye Divine. This eye Divine is of course the single eye, the eye that is single to the good. In this understanding we perceive the manner in which the body is filled with light, for it really lies within all the time.

Sometime ago the daily paper published a scientific article on the idea of a guided missile having a thinking apparatus within itself and although it seems to be made in relation to the instruments of war, it was expressed in terms that caught our attention, namely: "a system of homing guidance, wherein both the source for illuminating the target, and the receiver are carried within the missile." This is spoken of as an uncanny and awesome weapon. Man knows that he projects these ideas out of that which is already contained within himself, for man first has a homing guidance, the I Am, that calls him to recognize the Kingdom within and man contains the light that shows him, not the target, but the purpose of all life. Strange that more people do not discern that which lies within all the time, just waiting to spring forth as soon as the door is open. Revelations 3:20 - "Behold, I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come into him, and will sup

with him and he with me." We do not have to beg or beseech it to come forth, for unless we are too dull of hearing, it comes quickly, almost like a child's jack-in-the box. Is not this spoken of in other terms as the "fountain of life"?

As water is the symbol of man's consciousness, the life fountain is the consciousness of life that is here all the time, springing up from within.

Over and over the Truth is brought to our attention by many parables and symbols that show us the simplicity of the Christ message and the ease by which we can enter into His Kingdom if we will. According to His words, He held back no secret teaching, neither did He make a mystery of the Truth.

Occasionally one finds he has held on to his fixed religious beliefs and has let them assume the role of Truth in his mind, thinking he has accepted the Truth. In spiritual consciousness we surrender our prejudices and narrow beliefs, or we allow them to be transformed, for they are tractable and obedient under kind, intelligent treatment. If they seem a bit tenacious, just remember they are the result of old mental tendencies carried over from the Hebrew idea of the sacrifice taught by the priesthood. The early disciples welcomed suffering for Christ's sake, but Jesus did not teach it, for He said: "These things have I spoken unto you that my joy may be in you, and your joy may be made full." John 15:11.

Today, we do not expect trouble, but we expect God to prepare the way before us that dissolves any possibility of trouble. This is the radiance of faith that shines before us making plain and easy the way. You have seen the "wake" of a boat, a pathway a passing boat leaves as it advances through the water; well, the radiance of faith shines out before man in just as real a pathway in the surrounding ethers if he has his eye single, without compromise. As yet, we do not see this radiance literally anymore than we see the waves of music that the radio picks up and sends forth, but we know they are in the room, even passing through the walls. Our radiation allows us to pass through the wall of fixed beliefs, the veil that Jesus rent. Paul says in Hebrews 10:20 - "He dedicated for us a new and living way, through the veil, that is to say his flesh, let us draw near with a true heart in fullness of faith." The veil that is the flesh is only dense looking because of man's belief in separation, or two powers, therefore when the eye is truly single, the radiant body is all that remains, a body of spiritual substance without having to pass through the grave.

Jesus Christ did that for us, but we haven't believed it with the whole soul. We say we believe the at-one-ment that Jesus reestablished between God and man, but we must come to accept it in the manner in which He demonstrated it, coming up over, rather than going under. There isn't anything glorious about dying, for it is a mistake and came into the world through sin. It is never too late to grasp this idea of life eternal here and now so that it will be incorporated into our being regardless of the present appearance. Do not watch what man does, or does not, accomplish, but watch God and you will be saved, raised up and all the ends of the earth will be raised with you, for we have already been raised with Christ Jesus.

Jesus didn't suffer with humanity, He did something about it. He saved Peter from drowning, but fear did not cause him to lose His poise, for He was master over all things. He had come up over the world with its false beliefs. To jump in to save a drowning friend is a grand and noble deed in our present unfoldment, and no real person does less, but the higher way is to know that the

drowning man is so encompassed and upheld by the everlasting arms of Divine love that he could not possibly drown. "I rest in God, for beneath me are His everlasting arms."

In Spirit there are no accidents, but until we are really aware of that, we do the next best thing, for even Paul saw that what faith we have is righteousness unto us while we are unfolding the utmost acceptance. Unbelief masquerades as common sense and caution, so "Lord, help Thou our unbelief." No one can step out on a faith he does not yet have.

In His healing ministry, there is no record that Jesus was sorry for the sick but he so knew the nothingness of disease that the blind could see instantly and any disease vanished in the radiance of His Presence. He did not share His last crust of bread and last bit of fish, but brought forth plenty for all. We share to keep open to the law of giving and receiving, but not because we think there isn't any more.

The reason we have not comprehended this more fully is because our thinking power has been submerged in a gross thought stratum. The tendency of thought emanation is to crystallize about the form that it has made, and it tries to hold onto it. We can understand how a whole race might be caught in the meshes of its own thought emanations, and through drowsy ignorance remain there for long periods of time. People in other countries have broken through certain fixed and unbearable conditions and have come to the United States because of the freedom for which this country stands. The whole human race was in just such a state when Jesus broke through the crystallized thought strata and opened the way for all who will, to drink of the waters of life freely. He made a connection between our state of consciousness and the more interior one of the Father. We became one, we are reconciled, which means to restore to friendship after estrangement. Therefore, we have really passed over into the new consciousness. The Lamb and the Passover are old terms whose real meaning we now discern.

That which died so long ago was the consciousness or mortal belief that held us in bondage, but man still holds onto some, such as hurt feelings, false pride and others. If we let the ideal man, the Christ shine out, it will so illumine the mortal self that only the Divine man will be in evidence. Can you, as a spiritual being, acknowledge that "I am the Son of God right here and now, regardless of any appearance"? This is the truth concerning yourself, and it will satisfy the heart and the flesh that cry out to the living God. Faith works through love, and the integrity point is faith, the eye that is single. Integrity is wholeness of purpose, uprightness of character, and is that place in man's consciousness which is made up of God's attributes which hold him steadfast and firm in his oneness with God.

In spiritual healing we have learned that the qualities in mind outpicture as centers in the body, but we are careful never to work with the body as such. However, it is interesting to follow the correspondence of mind and body. In the mind the physical center of faith is in the head close to the pineal gland but faith has to be established in love which has its seat in the region of the heart, so as the mind is balanced, the body is also balanced and raised into new light. But it is well to remember that faith and love will automatically take effect in the body if we remember to keep the body in our consciousness. The lungs are the lights of the body, therefore when the mind is illumined in faith, we breathe deeply of spiritual understanding and the lungs are filled with living light. The lungs breathe as the mind accepts.

So we can return to the first statement of the lesson - "If thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light."