

What Happens
AFTER DEATH

MESSAGES SENT BY A
FATHER TO HIS SON

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AND HOW TO LIVE, SO AS TO HAVE
A GOOD TIME ON THE OTHER SIDE

MESSAGES SENT BY A
FATHER TO HIS SON

FOREWORD

BY THE SON.

My father passed over in 1900, and in 1911, my aunt, living in London, was in the habit of going to a medium to talk with her brother; and in a letter I received from her she told me my father thought that if I would try, he could communicate with me. For a few weeks I attempted to get messages with a planchette, but without any success. Although I had not written to my aunt whilst I was making the ineffectual attempts with the planchette, she wrote again to say my father said he could not use the planchette, and asking me to take a pencil and paper, and write down the thoughts he would put in my mind. This proved successful, and for some years, any Sunday evening I spent at home, I had a chat with him.

When Sir Conan Doyle was in Australia, I sent these messages to him, and asked if they agreed with other accounts. He replied that there was nothing new in them, but it was interesting to know that I, in the Australian bush, had got the same information about life on the other side that other people were receiving, all over the world.

When many travellers give the same account of a far country, we must believe the account is correct, and in these days it has been proved so often that it is possible to communicate with the dead, that it is only right we should believe their description of the life to come, when so many agree.

These messages have been received at various times since 1911, and have not been edited in any way, only the messages on the same subject have been put together, to make it easier for the reader. Of course being a lot of separate messages, it is unavoidable to have a certain amount of repetition of some of the important points.

To show how souls on the other side keep the same character that they had on earth: In 1914 I was working a tin claim in Queensland, and although I was making a living, there was no chance of striking a rich patch, and making a fortune, which is the ambition of every miner, and I was undecided if to give it up and go prospecting. So one evening I asked my father, which he thought best; his reply was: "You are making a good living, and have a comfortable camp, why leave a certainty for an uncertainty"? A little time after I was communicating with an uncle, who had died in America, and I asked him the same question. His reply came at once: "Leave it, why of course, you are doing no good there, go

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somewhere where you have a chance of making a rise." I smiled, as it was exactly the advice, I believe, the two men would have given me when they were on earth.

This shows how very necessary it is to know the character of the soul sending the message, before acting on their advice, and how true my father's warning is, about not believing every message that comes from the unknown soul.

Some people think that as soon as we pass over we shall know everything about the other side, but this is a mistake. After my father had been dead about 10 years he was asked about reincarnation, and he replied, "he did not know; he had no desire to come back, but he would find out," and it was some months later before he sent the messages on this subject.

The chief thing we learn from these messages is, that death is not a thing to be afraid of; it is simply a journey to a far country where we shall have a happy reunion with those we have loved, who have passed over before us. Man is still a free agent to choose good or evil, and it is the strong character with plenty of will power, who loves all things, and will help others, that finds happiness.

If these messages will help any soul, either on this side, or after they have passed to the other, to take the upward track, then my father will not have sent them in vain.

—A. J. Baker.

MESSAGES FROM THE OTHER SIDE

CHAPTER I.

The Passing Over

When you first pass over you are unconscious for some time, that varies from a few days to a few months. After that you begin to recognize the faces you knew on earth who had passed over before you, and they help and minister to you, and give you encouragement to lead a better life; and gradually teach you all the duties and laws of the plane you are on; and also encourage you to try and fit yourself for a higher plane.

You learn the Majesty of God and that Jesus is the Master who is with Him, and whose voice is always raised on the side of mercy for the erring souls who have offended God's Laws.

After some time spent in learning the Laws of Heaven you can rise to a higher plane, where you do not communicate with those on earth. But if you have loved ones still on earth you can stop and watch over their welfare, until such time as they all pass over, when you can then take your place in the higher plane.

From there it depends how you develop your soul as to how quickly you rise, until at last you stand in the Presence of God, and form one of the Elect who help to govern the Universe.

When you come over the first thing you see is your friends and relations to meet you, and it is only after you have passed greetings that you lapse into unconsciousness for a certain time. Death is always painless to the soul; that is, the body may be in pain, but the soul knows no pain in leaving the body, or after it is on this side; so when death has been a painful one, the soul finds relief in death, and is pleased to get rid of the body. When you recover consciousness you are helped by your loved ones on this side; and if they are in the Realms of Light, and you are fitted to enter, you are taken to a happy home to rest and prepare yourself for a life of love and helping others.

If you are not fitted for the Light you have to go to that part that your character fits you for; as like goes to like. Your friends can still visit you, and try to implant the desire to rise and seek the Light, and once you have the desire you will soon progress, but you must have a real desire to improve your condition. So many on this side get contented with their

lot and make no effort to improve it. Everything is the same here as on the earth, you must strive to rise. The lazy contented soul that says he is "all right," and will make no effort to improve his condition is sometimes very hard to influence, often more so than the out and out bad soul, who is often full of energy and will power, and if you can turn their energy into the right path they soon rise and make valuable servants of God.

So always learn on earth to be energetic and take a leading part in anything you are engaged in, never sit back and say "that's good enough;" always try to be improving, and to do better next time. It is a fine habit to acquire.

You are weak and asleep for a short period after passing over, and when you recover and get your strength, it depends on your character and desires as to where you go. If you desire love and happiness and are willing to help others, you go straight away into the Happy Land. But if you have been used to an immoral life, and your desires still run to drink and lust, and you have no desire to love God and help your neighbour, then you will have to stop in the Dark Places until you have learnt your lesson.

All souls are in the Intermediate State until their desire for good or evil is determined, and you cannot enter the Happy Land until you have been proved worthy. You must have the desire for a good life with unselfish thoughts, and you must cultivate them on earth, as you cannot change your character in a moment. If you have led a selfish life on earth, you will find your thoughts will still run in the same groove when you pass over; so always try to be helping someone. You know the saying, "The only money you can take with you at death is the money you have given away," and this is true, you will find the record of your unselfish deeds waiting for you here. Try and love God and trust His mercies, and keep happy thoughts, and make up your mind that every thing will come out right; always be optimistic; you will find it will pay in the long run both in a material sense and in the improvement of your character.

The Other Side

Our Kingdom is all in the spaces of the Infinite, not on any star or planet; we do not require any solid matter when in this body. The Happy Land or Realm of Light are outside the earth's atmosphere, but the Dark Places are nearer the earth, so there is enormous space and plenty of room.

We have our spiritual bodies, which have the same appearance as our earthly bodies, so our friends will know us again. We can see spiritual things but not terrestrial things; you are conscious of thought on the earth, that is all, but we know everything there is to see on this side, that is when your eyes are opened; some, who are always striving for earthly things, cannot see the Light and so live in darkness.

The brain dies, but not the memory; your memory on this side is the same as your memory on earth, you know the things here you knew there, but you have no notes to refer to on this side; sit down and think what you can remember, without looking it up in a book, and you will find it very little. Old people go back to what they were in their prime, and can remember what they knew during their life, but the better the memory the better for you on this side.

On this side in the Happy Land it is all love, everything is permeated by love, and the only way a soul can rise is by being filled by love for all things, any evil thought or hard thought against any one or anything only puts back the soul's development. And it is the same on earth, the best people never think evil of any one, no matter how bad they may be. Hate is one of the worst vices, and even looking for evil in other people will react on your character and do you a lot of harm. If you know anyone who has done evil, feel sorry for him, even if he has injured you; never feel revengeful, as that is only hate, and will stop your soul developing. Let all your thoughts be loving thoughts, and you will always feel happy. On this side we know each other's thoughts, and you think your love to those you care for and you can know their loving thoughts of you. If anyone has injured you, you can tell if he is sorry or not, and you can tell if a man is bad or not. You should train your mind on earth only to think those thoughts that you would not mind anyone knowing; you will find it a great help on this side.

We are always watching over those we love on earth and trying to help them all we can. We find that we can, by

suggestion, order their lives to a great extent, especially if they believe in a future life. It is easy to influence others to do actions that will help those we love, as long as the actions will not injure others. But some people are very hard to influence, and some living an evil life cannot be turned from their habits, but must hope to improve when they leave the body with its passions and desires and pass over to this side.

Everything that is thought or done is known in Heaven, whether the thought or action is performed on earth or in Heaven, and often the action that is condemned on earth by your laws, is applauded in Heaven, as they know the kindly thought that prompted it.

Any baby born alive has a soul capable of being educated up to the highest plane, and a child that dies is educated up to its right powers in the schools we have up here, and the soul has the same chance to rise that the grown man has; in fact, it has not the drawback that the body imposes with its passions and temptations, and they soon rise to a higher plane, as they are not bound to the earth as much as anyone who has lived a long life; and so they are fitted to rise quickly to a higher plane.

People of weak intellect are all right on this side, as it is only the infirmity of the brain; not of the soul; although the soul is often undeveloped, and has to be trained the same as the soul of a child. Horses and dogs have souls that live in a future life, and where there has been love between the owner and the animal, it still continues on this side, and the spirit can still make use of his horse or dog that has served him well in the life on earth; but there must be mutual love between them. The souls of animals are only on the first plane, and sometimes the love of an animal keeps a soul bound to earth that should rise to a higher plane. A man should love his fellow man, who can rise with him to heights, that the animal soul cannot aspire to.

You should try to have some one you care for and love, whom you would look forward to meet on this side, and whose presence will give you pleasure. If you can have children to love, so much the better, as it gives you an interest in the life to come as nothing else will. You should marry when you are young. Souls on this side, still have the same hobbies and follow the same lines of thought as they did on earth; but they are continually learning, and many lead a better life here than they did on earth, also they can see all the sin and misery there is in the world, and they will use their influence to ameliorate it as much as possible. The faith that people had on earth they still hold on this side, but it is all modified, as they can see the actual truth. The religion

that people profess on earth makes no difference to their future life, if their personal character has been right and they have developed the soul.

But the Christian religion with its mission of love is the best fitted to prepare people for the life to come. And Christ the Master is all powerful to help sinners, and to plead their cause before God, who is all merciful and just. The Master will plead for men of all religions if there is any hope of their rising to higher planes. He is the Saviour of all the world.

The Spirits of Kings and Rulers on earth are the same as other souls and have to work their way upward by the same process. As long as his own personal character is good and pure it does not count what he has done as a Ruler, as long as he did it with a good motive or what he thought was one.

If a man makes a law that he thinks at the time would do good to the country, even if it is found afterwards it has done harm, it will not affect his soul, although he may suffer remorse when he sees the evil he has done. It is only thoughts and actions that affect the personal character that can injure the soul.

My work here is to help souls that sit in darkness and the shadow of death, and to bring them forth into the way of light. So many come over without the least conception of goodness; they have seldom had an unselfish thought in their lives, and very little love, and it is hard to make them realize that love is the only thing that counts. You must think of others before yourself, and love all things; that is the only way to develop the soul; and it is very hard to make some of the poor lost souls understand this.

After you have been here some time, if you have learnt love and led a good life, you can rise to a higher plane if you desire to do so; but you cannot then communicate with the earth, but you still can tell what your loved ones are doing, although you cannot communicate with them.

If you desire to rise you have to go into retirement for a few weeks, when you contemplate higher things and are helped by those above. If you prove yourself worthy, you are allowed entry to the higher plane. You can still descend and communicate with those you love on the lower sphere, but they cannot go with you to the higher plane until they are proved worthy. I shall not go up until all my children have passed over, as I want to be able to help them all I can.

Everything on this side is done by will-power and concentration on a certain subject. Everything you want to do or make must be formed by an effort of the will; it takes the

place of bodily exertion on the earth. All the beautiful places we have here have been formed by the collective will-power of the spirits in the District; and it is necessary to have perfect unity when creating some large work; it is absolutely necessary that all the spirits on the plane should be of one accord. That is the reason that like associate with like; and then they get just what they desire by collective willing. If you had spirits of different desires, they would be willing different things, and nothing would be done.

Of course spirits have different will-powers, and those with the strongest are looked up to and respected, the same as you respect a master craftsman on earth. When making anything it is necessary to think out every detail. If you wished for a chair for your house, you could not just wish for a chair; you would have to carry in your mind the exact shape and design you require, and having once visualised it, then will it into being, and will it to stay. Of course you do not form wood or any dense material like you are used to on earth, but you make a spirit chair materialize, so you can use it.

Remember I told you this place of Heaven is in the Infinite space between the stars and planets, so when by collective willing we create a country with hills and valleys, there is nothing solid about it, and it can all be altered by another effort of will; and we are always trying to improve our District, by adding any little details we think may be an improvement.

So you see you are dependent on your will-power for everything of use and beauty you require, and if your own power is not strong enough to create what you want, then you are dependent on others to help you, the same as a worker on earth is dependent on someone employing him for his means of living. So on this side will-power is your capital which you work with, and the spirit with the strongest will-power is the master mind who thinks things out, and does most of the willing when all are helping. So cultivate concentration and will-power on earth.

On this side we are full of energy and are always doing something to help others to rise. Of course on this plane we are very near the earth and we nearly all have loved ones behind that we still take an interest in and watch over; and that takes some of our time; but we all have our duties to do in connection with our work here.

When once you have volunteered for work helping others, you are put in charge of a higher spirit who directs you in your work. Everything is voluntary, but until you get the desire to help others and volunteer for the work you cannot

enter the Realms of Light, but remain in the spheres of Darkness according to your character.

Part of our work is to go to these darker spheres and help the souls to get the desire to rise. At other times we help those on our plane to amuse themselves. Life here is not a gloomy round of work; we have our amusements and hours of relaxation, when we join together for music and singing, and games. Sometimes it is debates, sometimes recounting stories and interesting information about things on this side and events on the earth. We hear all about your latest inventions and your industrial troubles, and these are directed to a certain extent from this side. Looking at the affairs of earth from over here, it is not considered right that a few should have more wealth than they can use, whilst so many have not enough to keep them in comfort.

What we want to do is to make a more even distribution of wealth, without destroying man's free-will, or taking ambition away from the world. Man must still be master of his own fate, and must have ambition to stand out from his fellow man, but the ambition to become richer than others will have to go if the world is to become a better place.

It is a difficult problem at present, but those in the higher planes who are directing events know how it will be done, and it will all come right in the end, but it may take centuries.

So you see we have plenty to interest us on this side, and we also have ambition, and it takes the form of being most successful in doing good and helping others. The soul that can get most sinners to repent is looked up to here, the same as a successful man is on earth. So our ambition is to rise to higher planes as quickly as possible; and only love and unselfishness can do this.

Over here, we can clothe ourselves by willing the clothes the same way as I told you we made our furniture, so you can dress as you please, there are no fashions to follow like you have on earth, and we do not consider the appearance so much as utility and comfort. The colour is often affected by a man's character, and you can tell a soul's position by the colour of his clothes; whilst spirits from the higher planes are often very beautiful, being clothed in light, and their garments shine with the beauty of their good deeds. It is the same with our houses; the walls and decorations show the spiritual power of their owners, by the amount of light and beauty they emit. So you see goodness and purity and love are well worth cultivating, as here you bear the outward and visible signs of a good life.

Down in the Dark Places, the houses are often large and fine, but there is no light to make them beautiful, and the

souls live in a state of torpor, with nothing to interest or amuse them, very often their only companions the thoughts of their lost opportunities on earth; and when hate and revengeful thoughts prevail, then their lot is very miserable.

The difference in the condition of the souls in the Realms of Light and the Dark Places is so enormous, that if people on earth only knew, everyone would try and lead a good life, and be filled by love for his fellow man, instead of the struggle to make money that occupies most people's thoughts at the present time. The world would be a happy place if everyone tried to do their best to make others happy; and that is what they must do before they can enter the Realms of Light. It is following the Bible teaching of love your neighbour as yourself, and then you will find you cannot help loving God. Always begin with what is nearest your hand, and you will find your love will increase and spread, until it even reaches to God's footstool, and you will be ready to take your place in the Happy Land and have bliss for evermore.

CHAPTER III.

Prayer

You must try to pray more; we cannot help you like we should wish to unless we are directed, and you must ask if you wish to receive. Pray for what you want, and if it is good for you God will grant it, and then we can help you to get it. You must have the desire for a thing, and then you must ask God to grant it.

All sincere prayer goes to those whose duty it is to decide if it is good for you to receive it without injuring anyone else. If the prayer is granted the message comes back to those whose duty it is to carry out the order, and then we influence those on earth and get them to do what we want.

We can watch over those we love, and keep evil influences away from them; but we cannot grant all their desires without orders from those in higher planes; and they cannot move unless they are asked; so always pray for what you want, and you will find the greater part of your prayers will be answered.

You must pray to God for help against temptation, and to give you strength to lead a good life; pray always. It is not necessary to speak your prayers, just think them, and in times of temptation and difficulty, just think the prayer, O God help me; and if you concentrate your mind and put your whole will into it, He will help you. You can always pray, at your work, or your amusements, or even in a crowd, without others knowing, and if the desire to be helped is there, you will be helped. No one can lead a really good life without God's help, and you must ask for it and really desire it before it will be given you; but remember you can pray at any time and in any place.

Also pray for any of your friends who have passed over. Prayer on earth will help those on this side, and often make all the difference, as it may kindle the desire for a better life, and that is the first thing necessary for a soul in the Dark Places; once he gets the desire he will soon be able to rise; so pray to God to help them.

Forming Character

Try to cultivate your soul so that it will be ready to take its place on the higher plane, soon after your passing over. To do this, be self-reliant and cheerful and take an interest in other people's affairs, so that they can look to you for help and sympathy; also try and keep your thoughts pure, and do not think ill of anyone; be always ready to take your share of responsibilities, both in your work and in your amusements. Be always cheerful and good tempered; as bad temper is one of the worst sins, as by it so many sins are committed, that the soul is very sorry for in the life to come. Try always to be calm and do your best to help others out of trouble, either by counsel or by monetary help, especially women and children. Also do your best to be a help to all those who are living an evil life, and to bring them to better ways of thinking, so that they may be more fit to pass over to the other side.

Have some subject that you know all about, so you can help others by suggestion after you pass over. It is a great thing to be able to influence people who are still on earth, and to lead them in the right way; both those working and those in power. The spirits of those passed over still have a great influence in the ordering of the things of your world, much more than the people on earth believe. So train the memory, so you can take an interest in what is taking place on earth; and it is all a matter of memory, as you cannot take notes on this side, but you want to know some subject thoroughly, and then you can help others by suggestion; but if you do not know your subject you can only watch what is going on, without being able to help.

Do not have day dreams, use the brain for thinking out problems that will exercise it, train yourself to take notice of things, and try to remember what you have seen; get into the habit of always fixing your thoughts on what you are doing and reading, and try and remember what you have read; do not look at the writing and then forget all about it; try and give your whole attention to what you are doing, and do not let the thoughts be running about. It will be a great help to you on this side, as here all your thoughts are public, the same as if you spoke them on earth. And remember that all your thoughts, even now, are known to your friends on this side. It will be a great help to you on this side if you cultivate will-power, so you can be a power among men.

Always make up your mind what you want, or what is right on a certain subject, and then stick to it. Do not let your ideas be influenced by the last man you have spoken to or the last newspaper article you have read. Weigh any evidence in opposition to your opinions, and then make up your mind. Always be able to give your reasons for your opinions; do not let them be "ready made" for you; think out things for yourself, and judge wisely and well.

When forming your opinions always look at both sides of the question, and try and put yourself in the other fellow's place, and look at it from his point of view. You will find you will soon get into the right habit and it will come naturally to you to do the right thing. Also in your work; think things out beforehand, and make up your mind what you are going to do; and then do it. Work at the job until it is finished to your satisfaction, and then start another one. Do not get in the way of doing a little bit of this and a little bit of that, and have five or six jobs going at once; when you start a thing always finish it.

Always concentrate your mind on what you are doing; you will find the work will be done very much quicker. Also when you are reading concentrate on the subject, so you can remember what you have read; get into the way of thinking over what you have read and reviewing it, so as to impress it on your brain.

You must remember everything on this side is done with mind and will-power, and the more you can concentrate and the stronger your will-power, the better for you.

If you want to build a house on this side, you have to think out what form it is to take and then will it, and if your will is strong enough, your conception will remain and be an accomplished fact. But if your own will-power is not strong enough, then you have to get help to will it, and that makes you dependent on others, which is always bad; it is better to be independent. So cultivate will-power and concentration, it will help you on this side. Always be lenient in your views of others; there is nearly always some good in a man, although he may not think the same as you, or take the same view of a subject. Do not condemn a man as bad because he differs from you in politics or religion, or because he does not appear to be doing his duty, according to what you consider his duty; he may have good reasons for what he does, and they are known on this side, and it will affect his character for good or evil; but it is not for you to condemn him. Of course you can state your views of the subject and try and convince him, but do not look on him as an enemy because he will not change to your way of thinking.

You must devote yourself to the good of your fellow-man, try and enter into the aims and objects of what each are doing, and help and encourage them in their objects; do not discourage them, but you can offer advice if you think they are going the wrong way to work, but do not try to put them off from the plans they had formed. Everyone should think out his own future and decide for himself what is best to do, but he can take advice on the details of the best way to carry out his plans, and learn from those of more experience than himself. But weigh all advice, and then decide what is the best course.

Do not give advice on a subject you are not well up in, as it may only mislead. Everyone is master of his own fate, and he must not blame anyone but himself if things go wrong; not even if he is following someone's advice, as the final decision always rests with himself, and so he must only blame himself.

Some people are very fond of offering advice on all subjects; beware of them, as they often discourage and mislead; be independent and find out for yourself as much as possible. Knowledge gained by personal experiment is always more reliable than what is told you. So be independent, and get into the habit of reading up a subject, and then form your own opinions; it will help to form your character, and will help you on this side.

It is good for you to be among your fellow men, as it is bad for anyone to be alone; you get too self-centred, and never use the brain like you do when you are talking to other people. Conversation helps you to get ideas, and makes you think, and that is good for anyone.

Life on this side is made up of companionship, as thoughts pass from one to the other, and your companion can tell if you are enjoying the conversation, or if you are bored. There is none of the "make believe" there is on earth, and silence is not taken for wisdom over here; and if you do not know a subject it is known at once. To enter into conversation with people, and talk on any subject you know thoroughly, do not get into the way of talking loosely, as it will be found out on this side.

We often have debating societies, in which we discuss all sorts of subjects, and they are all very interesting. We discuss, mostly, things that are happening on the earth, and the best way to help those left behind, and those in the poorer class of life, and how to give everyone an equal chance to develop the soul.

There is no need to discuss things on this side, as everyone has the same ideas, and unless it is some small improve-

ment to our District, there is nothing wants altering. But we still take an interest in the affairs of earth, as we have all got loved ones over there. So you see it is good for you to learn to think clearly on any subject, as then you can help on this side; and company and discussion will help you very much.

It is only those who have loved their fellow men on earth who go through to the Realms of Life, you must have an unselfish character, and have loving thoughts about every one; not only your own people, but those you meet in the world, and even those in opposition to you. You often meet such unselfish people as you go through life, and they are always liked and respected by their fellow man. So try and copy them, as you will have a happier time on earth, and bliss beyond description on this side.

Those not fitted as yet for the Light are sent to the plane where they will be happiest, as like always goes with like. An uneducated labourer would not be happy if asked to dine at a gentleman's table; he would enjoy his dinner more in the kitchen; and it is the same here, you go into the company that your character fits you for. Of course it does not depend so much on education as your whole outlook on life, and the desire you have to rise.

Many souls come over here with no belief in an after life, and it is sometimes hard work to make them believe that they are dead and have left the body. The best way to convince them is to show them their body with their relatives weeping round it. They generally are a long time before they get the desire to rise, although once they have got it they often make rapid progress.

Always be careful of the thoughts you have of other people; remember the character is built up by your thoughts, not by your actions; and that is the reason that so many souls find themselves less worthy than they expected, when they pass over. It is no good doing good actions if all the time you think it a nuisance, and only do it to make people think well of you. You must take pleasure in doing it if it is to improve your character; do it out of love for the people you help, and then the good deed will be registered on this side, and will help you when you pass over.

You must try to help others all you can, even if at inconvenience to yourself; only giving away what you do not want is not unselfishness; it is doing without yourself, so that others may have it; that is the real test of love. Remember the rich man, who was to sell all that he had and give to the poor; he would then have been fit for one of Jesus' disciples.

Of course if you have wife and children dependent on you, you must provide for them first; but even if you have not money to give away you have your help and sympathy to give, and that will all help you.

To get the greatest happiness on this side, you must help others, both on earth and on this side. If you look around, you will find plenty of people who will be glad of a helping hand, or a word of sympathy; it will cheer them up and make the world seem a better and happier place. It is the same over here; sometimes souls get despondent and doubt their ability to rise, and a happy and cheerful thought sent to them will often put them on the right path again, and send them on their way rejoicing. So do your best to help others, and it will be registered to your account in the book of life.

All actions and thoughts are kept account of on this side, even those taking place on earth, and your account will be balanced when you pass over, and you go to the plane you are fitted for. You will find the thoughts have more to do with it than your actions, as you are solely responsible for your thoughts, whilst your actions often are influenced by outside events over which you have no control. All this is considered on this side, and if a starving man steals the action is not condemned here, although he may be punished by your laws. But the rich man who makes money from greed, and causes a lot of want and misery, is condemned on this side, although it may be considered legal on earth; but his character suffers, and he will have to make restitution over here before he can rise. When I say make restitution, I do not mean he can pay the money back, but he has to get the forgiveness of all those he has injured, besides being genuinely sorry himself, for what he has done before he can get to the Realms of Light. So you see you must not have any impure thought or do any actions from a bad motive, as it all has to be accounted for when you come over to this side. People should consider this when they are only out to make money; it is the curse of the age, the desire to get rich quickly.

There is no harm in gambling if it does not cause harm to others; the mere fact of staking your money on a matter of opinion will not hurt your character. But if a man stakes all his money and loses, and his wife and children go hungry, then he will have to answer for the selfish act when he passes over. But supposing a man does not stake more than he can afford to lose comfortably, and forms his own opinion on the matter of the wager, and does not take other people's advice,

then it shows he has self-confidence and believes in his own opinions, which is what he ought to do.

It is the doubtful man, without strong opinions, who is never sure, who does not bet; and he will bring the same character with him to this side, and will always be doubtful as to his powers to rise, and so will make very slow progress.

Of course making a wager on pure chance, like the turn of a card or the fall of the dice, is mere foolishness, and often helps to debase a man's character; as he is always trying to get rich quickly at the expense of other people, and it often stops him making any serious effort to make a living.

CHAPTER V. Reincarnation

Some souls that are very much earthbound are born a second time, but few take advantage of the opportunity, as they can see all the pain and misery on the earth and few care to go back to it. A soul can choose the body it will enter, and sometimes they will change the sex, but more often they keep the same.

The soul has to give up all its knowledge; and that is what stops so many going back. If they thought they could take up things where they left off a great many would go; but a soul has to be prepared before it can return to earth; and during the preparation the memory of all past lives are obliterated. But the memory returns on the passing over of the soul the second time.

A soul that has been twice on earth sometimes finds it hard to leave all interest in the earth and rise to a higher plane, as they have all the interest of their first lives to pick up again, and to see what has become of their relations whilst they have been on earth.

A soul has to give up all chance of helping his friends and relations, with his return to earth; and few care to do this.

It is better not to come over, with the wish for and expectation of being reincarnated, as the highest and best way to advance the soul is on this side. Only some souls have many earth lives, and they are mostly souls that have got into the habit of returning; and it is a bad habit to acquire; you should look forward to rise on this side.

If your life on earth has been lived properly, one life-time should be enough to develop the soul sufficiently to rise to the higher plane on this side; and when once the soul has gone up to the next plane, it will never return to the earth; it is only souls on the first plane that are reincarnated.

The souls of the undeveloped races very often are born again and are developed to a higher state in the second visit to earth. But some of the souls of races low in civilization are fully developed, by reason of their life requiring unselfishness and the care for others, more than the nations, with a higher civilization and luxurious means of living. Rich or poor, educated or uneducated, they all have the same chance to live for others and develop the soul.

When once you get to the Happy Land you do not wish to go back, so it is mostly souls from the Darker Places that are reincarnated, and that is the reason the human race has not risen to a much higher spiritual state, but it is being fed by the less spiritual souls on this side, and that keeps it on a very low spiritual level.

CHAPTER VI.

Church Teaching

The teaching of the Church that the body rises on the last day was a teaching adopted by the early church when they did not understand that it is only the soul that lives.

The body is only used by the soul for the time it is on the earth, to propagate children, so as to teach love. The love of a child for its parents should be the first great lesson in love; and the love of a parent for its child the next help to prepare for the life to come. Both these loves are usually more unselfish than the love of man and woman.

When once the children have learnt love, even if the parent or child passes over, the love lasts on this side, and there will always be a happy meeting when the other loved ones come over.

The body does not count; it is finished with at death and goes into corruption; but the soul knows not death or corruption; and it should be your chief aim to develop it, both on earth and on this side, and love and unselfishness are the chief means of development. The last day was only a figure of speech; the real last day is when you pass over to this side, and take the place you have fitted yourself for. You are judged by the love you have for your fellow man, and you make your own punishments; you cannot escape.

A death bed repentance may help you a little if you really repent; but you cannot change the character of a life-time in a few hours. But repentance is a beginning to strive after the Light, and will help you to develop on this side, if it is sincere.

Christ came on the earth at a time when the morals of the world were at a very low ebb. It was much the same as it is now; there were very rich and very poor, and everyone was only thinking of himself, so there was very little love in the world.

So God sent Jesus Christ to preach love of God and man; and to show by his example what kind of life you should lead. And well He did His part, as the large number of Christians in the world to-day will testify. Having performed His allotted task, He returned to God His Father, and was placed in charge of all the souls coming from the earth. And He is always ready to help any soul who calls on Him for help, and He sends His love and protection to all those who love Him.

But any sin a man has committed on the earth has to be repented, and restitution made before that soul can rise; it is not a fact that Christ's death washed away all sin. Each soul is judged by its record on earth and the character it bore. But Christ is all-powerful to forgive sin, to those who truly repent.

So everyone on earth should love and reverence the name of Christ and try and follow His teaching as much as possible; but any sin they commit will affect their character and decide what part they will go to on this side. So it would be much better if all the Churches would preach Christ's message of love, and not stress so much His death, wiping away all sin; as it would be better for people to understand that every thought and action affects their character and they will have to answer for them when they pass over. But let them look to the teachings of Christ and follow in His footsteps, and both their life on earth and on this side will be one long reign of happiness.

Christ gave up great happiness and power to return to earth to help the people living in ignorance, and His death was a return to happiness.

He knew it was necessary for Him to suffer a painful death to make an impression on the world; but when he found His mission was ended, He prayed to God to take Him back; when He asked, "that this cup might pass from Him, but not as I will but as Thou wilt;" as He knew that God could judge better than He could if His work was finished. And God let the cup pass from Him, and he returned to Glory. It is through the dread of the unknown that death has been considered such a dreadful thing; and so His prayer has been supposed to mean He wanted to escape death; but that is what He was praying for. And He has been able to do more good for the people on earth since His return to this side, than if He had lived to a great age on earth.

Our Lord was sent from God to redeem the world. His soul was reincarnated in the Virgin Mary, and He came on earth with all His previous knowledge and wisdom; and he knew from personal experience what was necessary to help people in the future life. That is where He differed from the other great prophets like Mahommet and Budda; they were good men, and were helped from this side, but they learnt their goodness on earth; but Christ had learnt His wisdom in Heaven; and He knew it is only love of God and your fellow man that can help you in the life to come. And His whole teaching was devoted to that end. He preached love

of all mankind; not only of the righteous, or men of your own religion. And it is because the Churches have shown such an intolerant spirit to each other that the full benefit of His teaching has been lost; and that is the reason the Churches are losing the support of the people.

So God in His mercy is breaking down the barriers between the two worlds, to see if the people will re-learn the lesson of love, that Christ came down to preach. It is the only chance the world has to be regenerated, and once the belief is general in the possibility of communicating with this side, then the messages they will get will help to lead them in the right way, and there will be more love on the earth, and Christ's spirit will return to help those in distress.

It will take a long time by your measurement; but it will come, as all the forces on this side are helping it onward, and they cannot be resisted now they have got in touch with the world. This war will help it enormously, as so many have been cut off in their prime, with all their interest still on the earth, and they are doing their best to get into communication with their loved ones; and so many are succeeding that it will soon be an accepted fact that there is a life beyond, and love is necessary to help you in it. When this is the generally accepted belief, then Christ's kingdom on earth will come, and it will be on earth as it is in Heaven.

Anyone, no matter what denomination or sect they belong to, who preaches God's love and the teaching of Jesus Christ, is doing God's work; and all the Churches should work as one; whilst people see the Churches divided it will stop them believing the doctrines preached. The chief trouble that is stopping the amalgamation of the Churches is the Roman Catholics and the Church of England. They look down on the other Churches, and where there is contempt there can be no equal combination. Once they recognize that they are all doing the Master's work the world will soon be better.

Various Messages

If a wife or husband marries again, it does not matter if the love of the first one still survives. We do not know jealousy on this side in the Happy Land; and if the loved one left behind is happier with another mate, we are only too pleased for them to be happy, and when they pass over we can still all love one another. Love is all that matters; the fact of being man and wife without love will not bring them together on this side, but if a wife has several husbands, and loves them all, she will be pleased to meet them again over here.

You only consort with those you love, and the love must be mutual to bring true happiness; and as on this side you can read all thoughts, you know if you are loved, or not.

People getting messages from this side want to be very particular what spirits they get into communication with; as there are a lot of evil spirits from the Dark Places, who are always ready to communicate with the earth; and if they can once get command of anyone's personality they will obsess him and often do a lot of harm.

When getting messages, always try and get into communication with the soul of someone you knew on earth; and if it is someone you have loved, so much the better; but do not take for granted any message you get unless you are sure of the source from which it came.

Never let a spirit get dominion over you; an hour sitting once a week is quite enough; and never get in the habit of consulting those on this side about everything you do; or you will lose all self-confidence; make up your own mind about any action you are thinking of doing; if the spirits on this side love you, they will help you all they can without being asked; but as I told you before, you must pray to God for what you want, if we are to do our best for you.

There are a lot of earth-bound spirits that would always try to dominate you if possible, and we have to keep them away, or they might do you harm. When anyone first starts to communicate they should ask for the soul they wish to get in touch with, and if communication is once set up, then your friend on this side will keep evil influences away. But if you once get into the clutches of a lower spirit, then he will keep others away, so that he can get a complete mastery over you. So using the language of earth, an introduction is more impor-

tant when making a new acquaintance from this side, than when meeting a stranger on earth. All the harm that has been caused is through people thinking any message that comes from this side must be true, quite irrespective as to who sends it. I told you we keep our same character over here that we had on earth, and those souls who on earth were fond of practical jokes and misleading people keep the same character here; and like to send all sorts of false messages. So unless you are sure of the source from which they come, do not place too much reliance on what you get.

A sudden death makes no difference, as the soul has the same chance to develop on this side as on the earth. But it is against God's laws for anyone to take their own life; every soul has its duties to perform before it can again return to this side, and it cannot release itself when it chooses, or else it will be a very long time in the intermediate state as a punishment for its disobedience, and it will be the worse for it in the end. But the souls of soldiers killed in battle are just as good as if they had lived for the term of their natural life.

The habit of swearing is a foolish habit to acquire, but if you do not blaspheme and call on the name of God it does not injure your character, but those that blaspheme are committing a sin, of which they will have to repent before they can rise.

On this side we never mention God's name without reverence and awe, as we know the might and majesty of God, and His name is not to be spoken lightly; and it would be better for the people of earth to do likewise.

The subconscious mind and telepathy are two words invented by the scientific world to explain an effect they could not understand. The subconscious mind is really the promptings of those on this side. Everyone has some soul who looks after them and helps them to anything that is good for them, and it is the suggestions put into the mind of the people on earth, by the souls on this side, that the scientist call the subconscious mind, as they do not believe in the souls on this side helping those on earth.

Telepathy is much the same, as most of the messages are carried by those on this side, and it is only when two personalities are close together on earth that the stronger can dominate the weaker. If you have had an interview with a man of strong character, and have felt overawed, the feeling leaves you as soon as you leave his presence, and then you begin to remember what you ought to have said and done.

But any case where people have been influenced, at a distance, it has only been done by the help of souls on this side.

Some day this will be fully recognized, and it will only be necessary to know the kind of soul who carries the message. A good soul, acting under orders from those in higher planes, would not do anything to injure others. But some people who are filled with greed and avarice, are attended by souls from the Dark Places, who take a delight in working harm. But the terms subconscious minds, and telepathy, will have died out of use in another generation.

Everyone should attend some church, or place of worship, to praise God with other people and to unite in prayer. The united prayer of a congregation of earnest people has great power on this side; and if they pray for what they want, and it is good for them, it will be granted.

Going to church, without the desire to praise God, will not help you, and so many go, either from habit, or to see their friends, or to criticize the service, and few go from love of God. It does not matter what form the service takes; you will not mind what the minister does, if you go with a good object; and it does not matter if the service is high or low church, or a Salvation Army meeting; if you are in earnest, you can join with your fellow worshippers in prayer, and praise of God.

Everyone should attend Church at least once every Sunday, as that is the one day in the week especially set apart for the worship of God, and some time during the day, your thoughts should turn to higher things and to the study of the Bible. It will help you during the week.

