

The Gospel and the Law

an Inspired Insight Essay
by Rev. Lloyd Strom



The Great Law of Life teaches us that *'we receive what we believe.'* When we believe what is not true, we receive pain and suffering into our lives. This is the way that God communicates to us, that we are believing something about life that is not true. However, when we believe the Truth, we receive Peace and Joy into our lives. This is how we know that what we are believing is Spiritual Truth, ordained by God through us.

Furthermore, Peace, Joy, pain and suffering do not enter into our lives by merely speaking or thinking words that are either True, or false. It is not until we actually believe what we are thinking and saying, that we begin to receive the fruit of our thoughts and words. This is because, to *believe* means *'to be like.'* In other words, we will always receive *'what we are like.'*

If we are like a rich man, we will think and speak like a rich man, and subsequently receive many riches. If we are like a poor man, we will think and speak like a poor man, and subsequently receive very little out of life.

However, if we are a poor man, and choose to constantly think and speak like a rich man, despite all appearances to the contrary, eventually we will become like a rich man, and receive many riches. This is the Law of Mind, which states that what we constantly think and say over time, we will eventually become.

More importantly, we must avoid the great temptation of trying to act like a rich man, until we actually have some riches. In other words, if we try to act like a rich man before we actually believe that we are one, we will

tend to go on *'spending sprees,'* and find ourselves in debt. This in turn, creates a depressive form of suffering, which is an indication that we have not yet come to *believe* what we are thinking and saying about being rich.

On the other hand, once we truly believe what we are thinking and saying about being rich, we will naturally begin to act like a rich man. This is not accomplished by spending what we do not yet have, but by taking responsibility for our financial affairs, and bringing them into the order and balance that serves as a foundation for increase and abundance. In every instance, the Great Law of Life is infallible, and insures that we will always know exactly what we are *believing*, by simply acknowledging what we are *receiving*.



The Law of Mind holds many great possibilities for us, far beyond the creation of worldly riches. Consider these words from the great Christian mystical healer, Mrs. Emma Curtis Hopkins:

"Of course we understand why repetition is good. The mind actually gets to believing what it speaks often; and when it speaks the Truth till Faith is aroused, that Faith will break down all barriers. By Faith the very dead may be raised."

The greatest gift that the Law of Mind can bring to us, is when we constantly think and say that we *believe* in Jesus Christ. As a result of such a practice, Peace and Joy will ultimately come into our lives. This is because Jesus Christ is the living Spiritual Principle, or Presence of Grace and Truth that enters our lives when we believe in It. (John 1:14)

For it is written, *"My Peace I leave with you, my Peace I give to you: but not as the*

world gives, do I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid..” (John 14:27) It is further written, “Even though you are now sorrowful, I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and no one will take your Joy from you.” (John 16:22)

This is the true meaning of the ‘*Second Coming of Christ*.’ In other words, Jesus Christ comes again into our lives as Prosperous conditions, filled with a Peace that is not dependant on outer circumstances, and a Joy that is eternal.

Furthermore, when we think and say, “*I am like Jesus Christ*,” then Peace and Joy not only enters into our life, but also into the lives of everyone around us, as we ourselves become living redeemers from pain and suffering, just like Jesus. Even though, it might sound like a bold statement to say “*I Am like Jesus Christ*,” it is written that “*We are now the sons of God, and although it has not yet appeared what we are becoming: we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.*” (1 John 3:2)

Many have interpreted this to mean that when we see Jesus in Heaven after death, then we will then be like Him. However, it can just as easily be interpreted to mean, that when we are like Him, then we will see Him, even now. And the way that we can be like Him is by constantly thinking and speaking as He did, and the Law of Mind will do the rest for us.

The importance of engaging this practice was very clearly emphasized by St. Paul, when he advised us to “*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought that he did not diminish God by believing he was equal with God.*” (Phil. 2:5)

St. Paul further revealed that, “*Faith comes by hearing the Word of God” (Truth), over and over again.*” (Rom. 10:17) Additionally, he further advised that we “*let no false words proceed out of our mouths, but say only those things that will enlighten, and minister grace unto those who hear us.*” (Eph. 4:29)

All of this can be accomplished rather simply, by reading the Gospels of Jesus Christ aloud, and most especially the Words that Jesus actually spoke in the form of affirmations containing the words “*I*” or “*I Am*.” For example, “*I Am the Resurrection and the Life..*” (John 11:25)

Furthermore, once we remember His words by heart, then we must speak them aloud as often as we can, for it is written, “*If you continue in my Word, then are you my disciples indeed; And you shall know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.*” (John 8:31,32) In other words, by constantly thinking and speaking the Words of Jesus, we make the move from being a listening Disciple, to enjoying the freedom of being a Living Apostle, sent by God to bring Peace and Joy to all who live in desperation.

It is here that we will face another great temptation, which is trying to act like Jesus before we truly believe that we are like Jesus Christ. In such cases, we will find ourselves becoming self-righteous whenever we see our neighbors behaving in the way that is unlike the way that we ourselves want to be.

In other words, we will begin to judge our neighbors with our thoughts, and try to change them with our words, in the form of criticism, complaint and condemnation. Yet, if we truly believed that we were just like Jesus Christ, then we would surely be a *Healing Presence* to all, and would be more than willing to allow everything, and Love everyone who comes into our company.

To those who embrace the discipline of keeping the Words of Jesus, it soon becomes apparent, that all of his Thoughts and Words are calling us to *"Love God with all of our Heart and Soul, and to Love our neighbors as we Love ourselves."* (Luke 10:27)

This is the Great Commandment of Love, that fulfills the Great Law of Life. (Rom. 13:10)

For whenever we put Love into the Law, something Good will always happen, something that reveals the Perfect Peace and Eternal Joy that has been Promised to us by God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Rev. Lloyd Strom
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