

us from this thought; but, fellow inquirers, name some spiritual power higher, nobler, grander or wiser, that is nearer to us, or stronger when we need strength, brighter when we need light, wiser when we need wisdom, and gladly will we recognize that excelling power—God.

Do not think Him too far off, or too hard to find, or too intricate for us to understand. His location is wherever there is an honest, earnest seeker after His wisdom and grace, and wherever there is suffering or needy humanity. If we have found Him, our first desire is to worship Him. Here again let intelligence govern us; we are not under the law, but under grace. The worship of idols we claim to have passed ages ago. The worship of an "unknown god" belongs to pre-Christian times. Let us be aware lest unthinkingly we find ourselves guilty of one of these delusions.

Worship is to honor, to obey, to love. It is not in counting beads nor divers' washes; it is not in eating bread or drinking wine; it is not in inflicting or permitting human suffering, it is not in carrying out a previously arranged programme; but is simply to love, honor and obey.

Abraham, at the time of his great trial of faith, said to the young man with him, "Abide here while I and the lad go yonder and worship, then we will return again to you," manifesting a willing obedience at the designated time and place—it was an act of worship.

The wise men, having seen the star of prophecy in the East, obediently followed it until they came to where the infant Jesus lay, and said, "We have seen his star and have come to worship him." They had to find him before they could worship him, then their wisdom was laid at his feet. Paul, in obedience to the heavenly vision, when he saw the error of his ways, in his utter helplessness cried out: "Lord, what wilt thou have me do?" His first act was an act of worship, because it was i

obedience to manifest light, as he received the answer to his prayer. These varied circumstances indicate the true idea of worship. It is true all this has been done without meeting in public, but demonstrates individual responsibility. They are the works that emanate from a living faith. We need that faith, we need it strong, and we need it *living*. Let us not forget our previous idea of God as Spirit, Love, Light] etc, and that worship is to honor. Then, if God is spirit and can only be manifest in us, we as individuals must come under the influence of that Spirit that works jointly in all who obey. We can see the necessity of meeting together that the same spiritual influence may cover each one, and under that covering an unselfish desire to honor that good, divine, holy Spirit by making his works honor him, and, forgetting self as far as we can, devote our minds to thoughts that will tend, as we live them out, to make the little world we live in happier and better because we are living in it. There may be vocal exercise, there may not; the highest form of spiritual worship is silence. Ministry can suggest, encourage, persuade, but when we have reached the highest ideal there will be but little need for it.

I leave these thoughts with you, dear Friends, with the earnest desire that they may simplify that which has been hard for so many of us to understand.

EDWARD COALE.

Holder, Ill.

## LETTER FROM THE SOUTH.

No. 1.

FOR YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW:

This is First-day morning in far-away Texas, where my mother and I have gone to spend the winter. We are now deprived of our Meeting and First-day School, but your interesting little paper reaches us in this remote corner.

The climate here is delightful, while the country is very monotonous in its appearance. We had a cold snap a week or more ago; that is, the nights