

Israel was divided, and came near being forever destroyed by the lack of harmony among the people of Israel. Sin is, indeed, a reproach to any nation, and does cause the downfall of nations, but the result is not brought about by the direct intervention of God, or His inspiration of some great military leader. But righteousness is in accordance with the law of development, which underlies the order of the universe and rules in it by the will of the Creator. Thus when a people aspire to attain righteousness the nation is exalted, because such aspirations effect a fellowship and common interest, and consequent unity of opinion that must underlie all substantial government. When we reach an intelligent judgment of the character of the true worship of God, we shall know that it consists in our being faithful to our noblest impulses, and our highest conceptions of duty. It was not the sins of Israel that they worshipped a god not named Jehovah, nor at some other place than Jerusalem. It is not the name of our God, nor the place of our worship, nor the time nor frequency of our religious meetings, but it is the sincerity and nobility of our purpose, the purity of our life, the steadfastness of our effort in maintaining the law of righteousness implanted by God in the human soul that exalts.

The prophets with keen spiritual perception recognized this divine law as regnant in the affairs of men, but not yet had the minds of even the most righteous men been expanded to the recognition of the deeper truth revealed to the world by the latest and greatest of all prophets that God is a God of love and peace, and never an inspirer of hatred and war.

WM. M. JACKSON.

New York, 1st mo. 16th, 1896.

It is often those things which appear most excessively plain and self-evident to ourselves, that are for that very reason, the most difficult to explain to others.

FOR YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW.

THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF FRIENDS.

To Clear Creek Monthly Meeting of Friends, to be held 12th mo. 7th, 1895.

Dear Friends,—The Committee appointed to prepare a history of the early settlement of Friends, at Clear Creek, Putnam Co., Illinois, and the establishment of the Meeting for Worship and Discipline at that place, submit the following as the result of their labor:

"It is due to those who have endured the hardships and privations of pioneer life, as well in relation to members of the Society of Friends, as to others, that a record of their labors and trials be kept, and the circumstances attending them for the benefit of posterity; and the labors of the following named Friends, we believe, merit this recognition: In 1834, Joseph and Ruth Hoyle and their children, Sabina, Mary Ann and Hannah S.; also, William and Edith Hoyle and their children, Elma, Lindley and Edward, emigrated from Smithfield Monthly Meeting, Jefferson County, Ohio, and settled near Clear Creek, Putnam Co., Ills. In 1835, Jehu Lewis and wife, Rachel, and their children, Samuel R., Joseph, Elizabeth and Matilda (the latter a daughter of a former wife), from Westland Monthly Meeting, Washington Co., Penn., settled within the limits of Clear Creek, Ills. In 1836, William and Lydia Lewis and their daughter, Mary Ann, with Esther and Benjamin Lundy, jr., a niece and nephew of theirs, children of Benjamin Lundy, the philanthropist, who departed this life in the fall of 1839, at Lowell, LaSalle Co., Ills., his remains being interred in Friends' cemetery, at Clear Creek. The same year, viz., 1836, George Griffith and wife, Sarah, and their children, namely, Isaac, Martha Jane, George, John, Sarah and Ruth Anna, settled in the vicinity of the location before mentioned, from West Grove Monthly Meeting, Harrison County, Ohio. In 1837, Sarah Wierman and