

Light, indicates the impressions made on the feelings and emotions, or the untrained sensibilities and impulses.

The consciences of the majority, perhaps of even the cultivated classes, determine their decisions as to what they think is right and proper for them to do, more than the convictions formed by the inshining of this divine Light. This accounts for the many mistakes and positive injuries perpetrated in the name of charity and benevolence, which too often rather injures than benefits the recipient.

The excellence of this divine principle none know except those who confide in and enjoy it. It lifts the soul or life into a spiritual atmosphere above all the low and grovelling pursuits of those who dwell in darkness.

It places our inmost being in proper and harmonious relations with all things around and above us. It is the highest aim to which human beings can aspire, and the most sublime altitude they can ever reach in this mortal fallible, fitful life. Not till it is accepted as our surest guide can we realize the possibilities of attainments that will redeem us from the many mistakes and melancholy afflictions that characterize our existence as fallible, finite human creatures.

Man being the temple of God, the temple of the Holy Ghost and the Spirit of God dwelling in him, it is that element or spirit of goodness in man that prompts him to exert himself to get a true Inward Light of his own to guide him, instead of depending on the external or the borrowed and uncertain Light of others.

When guided by this Light superstitions lose their power over the mind and feelings. The terrors of wrath and revenge, the pictures of eternal torments, the vengeance of an offended Deity vanish with the ghouls and ghosts that dwell with the bats and owls of legendary lore.

It is important that we as Friends should faithfully maintain this only true foundation principle for which so much suffering and sacrifice were en-

dured, and in which we profess our faith to stand. It is surely the only true basis of all that is pure and best in the name of religion. It is the Light of life. It is through and by it alone that we can be lead into that absolute truth, which can make us free. It alone can lead us into the spirit of truth, that which will guide us into all truth, when we can realize the force of the sentiment of Jesus, "To this end was I born, for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth."

T. E. LONGSHORE.

Philadelphia, Pa.

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### RELIGION.

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Religion appears to be undergoing a transition from forms and ceremonies and established creeds as a positive necessity for the performance thereof, to a more practical way of life that will cause mankind to be more practical in righteousness and consequently more happy and enjoyable when mingling together either socially or in their dealings with each other, as righteousness always enhances the well-being of those which it affects, and there is a universal principle by which we may be influenced so that we will grow in favor of our Heavenly Father and of one another, independent of church forms and ceremonies and established creeds, which have proved to be insufficient to establish truth and righteousness and peace on earth and good will among men. The law, the outward or written law, never made anyone perfect, but the Spirit of Christ ruling our actions and causing our physical nature to be subjected thereto, and instrumental only to practice the dictates thereof, will cause us to live acceptable to our Heavenly Father and with one another. For the Spirit of Christ is the spirit of love and kindness practiced one towards another which causes us to endeavor to benefit each other and consequently cause a happy relation to exist as far as prac-