

fruits and grains; (4) the Handwork Age, when man learned to make by hand with simple tools the things to satisfy his ever-increasing needs; (5) the Machine Age, when man invented machinery and called water, wind, steam and electricity to help him in his work.

THE OLD ORDER CHANGES

Each of these ages has produced its own ideas and institutions, its own laws and customs and codes of morality and religion. As one age runs into another, so old ideas and institutions are not suddenly and absolutely changed, but are modified and transformed and, then, parts of them incorporated into the new.

CHANGING IDEAS OF GOD

Take the idea of God. The hunter thought of a great spirit—a shadowy life that always escaped him—a mightier hunter than himself. The shepherd caring for his flock exclaimed, concerning his tribal God: "Jehovah is my shepherd." The farmer thought of a great Husbandman who sent the rain and fruitful seasons. The hand worker conceived of a great architect of the universe who had admirably planned this world for the needs of man. What of the machine worker? Is not the world to him more or less of a vast machine, with each wheel coggling into the other? He takes it as it is and yet — ? Yes, there is something more. He is becoming conscious of a determination to understand and control the machine and to determine his destiny. This great new Life Force that is pulsating in his own veins and through society—is this not his idea of God?

As with the idea of God, so with the idea of worship. If God is conceived as an oriental despot, He may be placated by sacrifices, human animal or symbolical. If He is a Righteous Judge than He is pleased not with burnt offerings, but with a life of righteousness. If He is an Ecclesiastical Potentate, then He will expect an elaborate ceremonial. If He is a "Our Father in Heaven," then He will be satisfied with nothing less than the love and service of His children. If it is in Him that we live and move and have our being, then worship of an external Deity will be replaced by Spiritual Communion and co-operation.

IN THE TRANSITION PERIOD

Through the history of Christian doctrine we might trace the changes that have been occasioned by the changes