

of the soul into the Divine Spirit, growing in union and harmony and partaking in nature of the Divine. This we regard as essential, nothing outward can accomplish it. It was only for a type; and signs and types are to pass away. When Jesus sent forth His disciples to baptize all nations, it was to so present the truth, so cover them with the love of the Father that they would attend to what He would unfold through His grace in the heart.

So too we reject music as a part of worship. We recognize the harmony of sounds, and do not condemn it in its right place, yet in worship it attracts from the spirit, it interferes with communion, and has not power to communicate a knowledge of the law; needful to obey. There may be seasons when the soul may praise in song, but formal when done at set times, by those chosen on account of their voices, with perhaps unregenerate hearts. We esteem such not a proper form of worship. We do not want anything to come between our hearts and our God, but always have them in the most favored condition to receive immediately from God. Some of the teachings of Jesus corroborate these views. "The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth." Worship shall not be in mere forms, but in the heart, when the spirit of man is given wholly up to the Divine Spirit. True worship calls for honest motives and integrity of heart, and needs not the cunning invention of man. So in the restoration of the prodigal son, no matter how far man may go, even into the lowest depths of sin he can never go beyond the reach of the Father's love, which recalls to him his Father's house. Here is seen the grace of God calling him and enabling him to form the resolve, and to return. He passed through a state of deep humility, all the powers of the will had to be laid aside, ere he could return; but he was rewarded by the Father's welcome,

while yet a great way off, and his embracing arms, the feast, the fatted calf, and the best robe. It was simply a restoration. The lost was found again. No price to be paid. Simply a ceasing from wrong and striving to do right. The spirit had done its work. I am a firm believer in Christ as an intercessor, but not away in the other world to entreat for man with God, but here in the heart to entreat with man for truth and righteousness and God. When we come to know God better we will find He has been and ever is seeking for our good no matter how low we have fallen or how far we have strayed away. To say that He is ever angry or wrathful is a misrepresentation. Is the mother angry with the daughter or son that has left home and is leading a life of degradation? Does not her love ever go out, does not her prayers ever ascend through long years for the wanderer, does not her heart ever yearn for her return? Is she not more anxious for that one than for those who remain at home? Would she not throw her arms around that daughter at her return to the family circle once more, and manifest her unceasing love by tears of joy and rejoicing? Can we believe God who gave the mother that love, is less loving than she? Is He angry? and does He need the sacrifice of an innocent being to appease His wrath? No! my friends. God is love and the sacrifice He requires is within the sinning soul, that it turn from its sin, that it forsake its evil ways. It will find that God is near, that His love is around about, manifesting His presence by light. For God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

I hear an inquiry: "Has Jesus no part in it?" I do not discard the work of Jesus. His mission was to see a perfect example of just such a life as God would have us lead. In Him dwelt the Christ power in its fullness. He ushered in a new period. He came to a people who were bound up in traditions to lead them to a higher life.